



St. Francis de Sales – St. Stephen School

Family Memo – Friday, December 14, 2018

“Jesus came to us as a child so that we might come to understand not only that nothing we do is insignificant, but that every small thing we do has within it the power to change the world.”

~ Joan Chittister, OSB

Uniform Dress Code

Several of our students are not following our uniform dress code. We are seeing a variety of non-coordinating sock, legging, and tights colors and also many non-compliant headbands. Our policy states that when students are wearing the school uniform, they must wear **solid black white, red, or navy-blue socks** (boys and girls) or **tights** (we do allow girls to wear the same color **leggings** under skirts and jumpers as well). Girls may wear **bows, scrunchies, or headbands if they are uniform plaid** purchased through Stitchworks. **Solid navy, white, or red headbands** may also be worn. **No logos** are allowed on headbands. **Bandanas are not allowed.** We did adjust our policy about logos on sneakers to make it easier for parents to find footwear, but not for headbands. Girls not following the headwear policy will be asked to remove their headbands. Parents will be called for socks, leggings, or tights that do not comply with the dress code.

Let It Snow!

We believe that our students NEED outdoor recess whenever it is possible, and they LOVE to play outdoors. Our policy is outdoor recess every day that it is 20 ° F or above when factoring in the wind chill and not raining. Please send your child with boots, snow pants, winter jackets, hats, and gloves so that they may play in the snow if they wish to. They are welcome to leave a pair of snow pants here if you wish. Students who do not have snow pants and boots will not be allowed to play in the snow, but they will still go outdoors, perhaps for a walk around the church and school grounds.



Mila Grazie! Thank You to those families who had dinner at Bella's last Monday evening. Each Monday (except Christmas Eve) during the month of December Bella's will donate a portion of your meal check to St. Francis de Sales – St. Stephen School for our lunch program. Why not give yourself a night out of the kitchen and try the delicious Italian cuisine at Bella's. Tell them we sent you and please thank Richard and Tomás for their generosity and community spirit!

Mila Grazie!

Bella's
SICILIAN RISTORANTE



SCHOOL CHRISTMAS GIVING

It has been a **longstanding tradition** for our entire St. Francis de Sales – St. Stephen School community to “**adopt**” a family in our community for Christmas. This year, we have a **family of seven** that lives in our community who has fallen on hard times. We want to make this Christmas season bright for them. Our **EIGHTH GRADERS** have each selected a gift item from the family’s Christmas list, which they chose to do **in lieu of a gift exchange** this year.

There are still many items left to purchase and a nice holiday meal to provide. **If you are willing and able to help, please send a monetary donation of \$5.00 (or more if you wish) per school family so we can get our Christmas elves out shopping for this family!**

THIRD GRADE:

The third grade is learning about proper hygiene in Health class. In conjunction with this unit study, **we will be sponsoring a personal care product drive to gather items for local shelters.** These items are always in need, and what an extra special time of year to give more. The students have placed large Christmas bags in each classroom for other grades to put the donations in, and they gave a brief explanation of what the project is all about. **The collection period will be through December 18.** The class that donates the highest number of items per student will win a pizza party sponsored by Miss Williams. The list of requested items is: **tooth paste, tooth brushes, toilet paper, tissues, shampoo, body soap, hand soap, hair brushes, combs, wash cloths, and deodorant.** Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Sixth Grade:

Our sixth grade has also generously decided to forego a gift exchange this year. They plan to use the money they would have spent on a gift exchange to **purchase a goat for a needy family through Heifer International.** This is a wonderful program, because the family that receives the goat will be taught how to care for it and they will also be expected to give the first offspring of the goat to another family in need.

OUR STUDENTS CERTAINLY SEEM TO UNDERSTAND THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS – TO LOVE THEIR NEIGHBORS AS GOD LOVES US – AND TO SHOW THAT LOVE BY GIVING TO OTHERS, INASMUCH AS WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE GIFT OF THE CHRIST CHILD, AND THROUGH HIM ETERNAL LIFE.



Our P.T.O. is planning a gift for your students for Catholic School's Week. They have requested that you please send in your child(ren)'s tee-shirt size. Please send your child(ren)'s name(s), grade(s), and tee-shirt size(s) in before we leave for Christmas break. You may send them on paper or e-mail them to Miss Elaina at Elaina.Sindoni@dor.org

Our annual CHRISTMAS PROGRAM will be held on Tuesday, December 18th at 6:45 p.m. in St. Stephen Church. The two front pews at the concert will be reserved for the winners of the PTO raffle. Immediately after the two front pews, we will be reserving one pew for each of our eighth-grade families. We plan to do this annually, so that eighth grade families can get a good view of their student's last Christmas performance at SF-SS. All students are asked to arrive at school and report to their homerooms at 6:15 p.m. The doors to St. Stephen Church will also open at 6:15. **Please DO NOT reserve more than ONE PEW per school family in the sanctuary**, so that all families will be able to see the children perform. ALL students are asked to dress UP for the concert. Dress pants, nice blouses or sweater, skirts, or dresses are all fine. (Shorts under skirts and dresses are strongly encouraged.) **Grade six** is asked to wear black on the bottom and red on top. **Grade seven and eight** will wear their "ugly" Christmas sweaters for their performance, but not for the whole evening.

Next Week's Lunch Entrée Items (12/17 – 12/21)

Monday – Mac & Cheese
Tuesday – Taco Tuesday
Wednesday – Turkey or Veggie Sub
Thursday – Grilled Chicken Tenders w/ veggies & dipping sauce
Friday – Pizza (pepperoni or white garlic)



CYO Basketball

Come show your school spirit and support our SF-SSS Crusaders Basketball teams at this week's games. All three of our teams are playing at home. 10:30 a.m. boys 5/6; 12:30 p.m. girls 5/6; 1:30 p.m. girls 7/8. SF-SSS students who attend a game get a free bag of popcorn.

December/January Calendar

Sat. 12/15 - *CYO Basketball Games (see above)*
Tues 12/18 - **Christmas Program** - 6:45 p.m. St. Stephen Church
Wed. 12/19 - **Grades 3-8 Christmas Caroling at area nursing homes**
Fri. 12/21 - **School Mass - Advent - 8:30 a.m. - Please join us!**
12/24 - 1/4 - No School - Christmas Break
Fri. 1/11 - **School Mass - 8:30 a.m. - Please join us!**



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