

November 16, 2016

Dear St. Columbanus Family,

Thanksgiving is soon approaching, so I would like to take this time to wish you and your families a blessed holiday. We have so much to be thankful for at St. Columbanus as we wrap up our first marking period. At the end of this Jubilee Year of Mercy, we are praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy during our morning prayer for peace in our world. Advent Season is soon approaching, and we will be doing daily readings that will help us prepare to put Jesus at the center of our holiday season. If it is possible, come join us during morning prayer.

There is a lot of news from the Home School Association, as they collected over 300 pounds of candy to send to our troops along with letters of thanks from all of our students. The eighth grade class won the pizza party with over 100 pounds alone! The Wreath sale and the "Believe" fundraisers were both huge successes, raising thousands for our school. Thank you to all our volunteers. A special thanks to Mrs. DeNisco, our fantastic librarian, and the parent volunteers for their amazing pirate-themed Scholastic Book Fair which brought in over \$2000! Mark your calendars for upcoming HSA events including Trim-A-Tree on December 5, and Kids Korner on December 15 and 16. Expect letters home in backpacks explaining these events in further detail.

There are some quickly-approaching dates to put on your calendar. This Friday, November 18, is a half day for the students and will be a free dress-down day. There will also be a parent-run Fall Dance this Friday for grades 6, 7, and 8; it will run from 7 until 10 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, November 21 and 22, are also half days for the students so that we may conduct our pre-scheduled parent conferences. If you don't have a time slot yet, contact your child's teacher asap! Also on the morning of Monday, November 21, we will hold our awards ceremony in the gymnasium after morning prayer for the students who have made honor roll. Please come and join us if you can make it. If you are unsure if your child made honor roll, you can check in the office. Thanksgiving Break begins Wednesday, November 23, and school resumes on Monday, November 28.

Additionally, the next Children's Mass will be Sunday, December 11 and the Christmas Show will be on the Wednesday, December 14. There are so many great things going on here at our school. Many of you may have noticed the "Touring Tuesdays" banner in front of our school. These are the days we have to set up tours for new, prospective families to join our school. Please, get the word out and tell your friends about us because the best advertisement for St. Columbanus is the great stories you can share.

There was a huge turnout for the HSA Meeting last Wednesday, November 9. Many people showed interest in volunteering at our school, and we encourage *anyone* who has the extra time to volunteer because we could use the extra hands! In order to volunteer at St. Columbanus, one must complete the Safe Environment Class, and the next classes offered will be Thursday, December 1 at 7 p.m. and Friday, December 2 at 9 a.m. in our school library. Just show up at one of the times listed. Finally, two Iris Alerts were sent out as reminders within the past two weeks. If you are not receiving yours, please let us know.

If anyone has any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call the school. Otherwise, please have a Happy Thanksgiving.

Peace to everyone,
Bernadette Frohm