



Catholic Schools

December 1, 2011

Dear SEAS Family,

I hope everyone had a very blessed Thanksgiving and a great start to Advent. The prophet Isaiah reminds us that Advent is the season when we are to commit ourselves anew to God, to lay ourselves before him in humble availability for service. Just as Jesus Christ came to serve humankind, we are able to serve God as his agents of love and service here on earth.

Speaking of service, our annual Bedlam Food Drive is wrapping up and although the final numbers have not been tallied I do know we have had a great outpouring and considering that the real winner is the Samaritan House we have called it a tie and both OU and OSU colors may be worn tomorrow. St. Elizabeth's is the biggest supporter of the Samaritan House and we thank you all so much for giving. The food raised from the "Hope for the Homeless" campaign got them through Thanksgiving and hopefully the donations from this food drive will last through Christmas. There are also several other service projects going on this month through individual classes so please read your email and newsletters for information about your child's class.

On the athletic front, there were four SEAS alums named to the All-City Volleyball team last week. This is a direct reflection of the hard work of our Volleyball Coordinator, Teddi Roy, and all of our volunteers who coach and work with our Athletic Commission. Our coaches and commissioners are doing God's work with our children. They are not only developing their God-given talents but teaching them important life lessons such as responsibility, respect, fairness and sportsmanship.

There will be a flurry of activity this month so please mark your calendar and check it twice. Tonight is our Family Night for the Book Fair in the Library from 6pm-8pm. The Parish Penance Service is scheduled for December 6th at 6:30 p.m. and there will be a change to our usual Thursday Mass schedule as we celebrate the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary, Thursday, December 8th at 9:00 a.m. We will have an All School Rosary on Tuesday, December 13th at 8:30a.m. Our annual Vocal Music Christmas Program is on Thursday, December 15th, 6:30pm and the Christmas Band Concert will be held Tuesday, December 20th in the gym. We end 2011 with a Red/Green Spirit Day and Christmas Parties on Wednesday, December 21st before leaving for Christmas Break.

With the threat of inclement weather always an issue at this time of year, check local television stations and websites for closing information. The automated online system makes information almost instantly available. As you do your shopping this season, please keep Scrip in mind. A list of participating retailers and order forms can be found on the website, and there's always the ever popular "Scrip of Choice." It is an easy way to support our school.

Throughout Advent there are many things you can do that will bring special meaning to your family. It might also be fitting during this time of hustle and bustle, that we, like John the Baptist, go to the "desert" and contemplate the coming of Jesus Christ, wherever your "desert" might be. In a season that is often stressful, and overflowing with activities, it might be helpful to spend time in quiet reflection, utilizing it to consider the infinite love of God. The true gift of Christmas is Christ. Have a wonderful Advent season!

God is Good!

Mrs. Howard

Serving others with love by Embracing our differences while seeking Academic excellence all in the Spirit of Jesus Christ

December Newsletter



Dates to remember:

December 2-4 - Poinsettia pick-up after school on Friday in Seton Hall and after masses all weekend.

December 5 - Parish Penance Service 6:30 pm

December 8 - SCHOOL MASS today. Immaculate Conception mass 9:00 am.
Wear dress uniform.

December 15 - Christmas Program PK through 5th Grade 6:30 pm in the Church

December 20 - Christmas Band Concert Grades 5 – 8 at 7:00 pm in SEAS Gym

December 21 - Classroom Christmas Parties

December 21 – Wear **Red** and **Green** Day!

December 26 – Johnnie’s Night benefits SEAS

December 22 to January 3- Christmas Vacation

Classes resume Monday, January 4

Christmas Program

Grade PK through Gr. 5

Thursday, December 15th, 6:30 p.m. in the Church

Students in grades 1-5 need to report to their teacher in the Great Hall between 6:05 and 6:15. (Children will not be supervised until after 6:05).

Pre-K and Kindergarten students will meet in the Daily Mass Chapel and parents will pick them up there after the program.

No Nursery Available.

All students are to wear dress clothes (no jeans, shorts, t-shirts, short skirts, cargo pants, or unbuttoned loose shirts).

Christmas Band Concert

Grade 5 through Grade 8

Tuesday, December 20th

7:00 pm in John Paul the Great (SEAS) Gym

All students wear dress clothes

(No jeans, shorts, cargo pants, t-shirts or unbuttoned loose shirts)

No nursery available

Recycle bins on West parking lot!

Please remember to recycle your paper goods and those *numerous* holiday catalogs you receive this time of year in the green and yellow bins on the West parking lot. We use the money we receive from the recycling bins to purchase grandfriend stamps. Thank You!

Christmas Attire

On December 21th, students will be allowed to wear red and green. Christmas sweatshirts can be worn with jeans.

SPECIAL THANK YOU

A special thank you to the following: Kristin Stahel, Kim Bouvette, Jody Cordeiro, Jan Foisy, Carrie Harkey, Alison Amick, and Julia Justine for the delicious November teacher luncheon.

AND...

Thank you to the following volunteers who spent time during the NJHS and Bedlam Food Drives cutting Box Top, Best Choice and Campbell's labels: Karyn Saucedo, Cindy Suenram, Monica Rosencrans, Tracy Gruenbacher and Julia Pippin. And the grandma and any others that helped that we have inadvertently forgotten to list. Your support was a great help in the success of the Food Drive. Thank you.

Congratulations to all volleyball players who participated in the end of the season tournament. 8th grade Red and Gold teams took 1st place, 7th grade girls took 3rd place, 6th grade girls took 1st place and 5th grade girls took 1st place. Great job representing our school!

Teacher Wish List

The teacher wish tree will be available the first week of December in the school, outside the office. It will also be displayed in the church foyer during the Christmas Program. Please check it out!! Don't forget SCRIP- there are gift cards to Office Depot, Staples, Barnes & Noble, target and Walmart too!



DECEMBER OUTREACH
All paper products.

The Samaritan House offers thanks to all of you who brought in food and money for the NJHS and Bedlam Food Drives. It allowed many families to have a healthy, full Thanksgiving Dinner. God bless you all and your generosity. Please continue to be generous with your food donations over the long winter months as well.

Reminder: Modesty shorts are always worn when skirts or jumpers are worn for Pre-K through 8th grade. With cold weather approaching, please send a coat with your child. Students will go outside most days for recess. Leggings are not an authorized uniform item. Tights can be worn in appropriate plain colors. Please see handbook.

Tuition Assistance envelopes are included in your monthly supply of church envelopes. These are distinguishable by the red border. Your monthly contributions make it possible for all who desire a quality Catholic school education to receive one at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School. One dollar, five, ten or more each month will enable us to continue to provide a Catholic education for those who desire it. Will you help? May we count on you? Thank you in advance for your help. God bless you for your generosity.

Snow Day Information

The following TV stations will have accurate school closing information: KWTW, KOCO, KFOR, and KOKH. Please do not call the school for this information. Additionally, if children are at school and weather conditions get bad, school will not be dismissed early. However, parents are welcome to come to get their children so that safe travel home is possible.

St. Elizabeth Faculty members would like to thank all persons who sponsored their attendance at the Fall Fantasy Auction by purchasing their tickets.

We appreciate your generosity.

SPORT JERSEYS

PLEASE return your soccer and volleyball jerseys as soon as possible. Please indicate your child's name on the bag when you return them. Thank you.

ATTENTION PARENTS AND STUDENTS **YEARBOOK WANTS YOUR PICTURES**

Get your pictures in the yearbook! The Yearbook Staff invites students and parents to submit photos for the yearbook. If you've got great photos of school events, we'd like to see them. Our photographers can't be everywhere. Help us get as many photos as possible to create a terrific book everyone will want to have.

Here is how you can submit photos online: please sent to tdamron@stjohn-catholic.org.
It's that easy! Submit your photos today! Don't wait until the last minute!
Thank you, and enjoy the rest of the school year!



Christmas for our Priests A SEAS Tradition

**Each year, we ask for a cash donation of \$5.00/Family for our Priests, and the amount is divided according to seniority.
(Larger amounts are always acceptable.)**

**Let's thank each of them for the marvelous service they provide
for our school and parish.**

**Just send \$\$ to school in an envelope marked "For the Priests."
Thank you in advance!**



Congratulations to the Vigil family on the birth of their new baby, Zachary. Olivia and Ava are proud big sisters. Welcome to the SEAS family.



WHAT? SEAS Trivia Night.

WHEN? Friday, February 3, 2012.

WHY? To raise funds.

All proceeds go to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Tuition Assistance Fund.

-Red Envelope Fund.

Planning Stage:

Help Wanted to develop, organize and implement a fun trivia evening for the whole Parish.

For more information:

Please email **Catherine Raj** at codonovan@cox.net OR call her @ (405) 923-7491.

SEAS Science Fair Results

Congratulations to all the students who participated in the science fair Thursday, November 10th. There were many creative topics and the judges were impressed with your scientific skill! The category winners are:

Behavioral & Social Sciences Group 1

1st place – Sarah Dwerlkotte
2nd place – Elizabeth Harjo
3rd place – Cayde Edwards

Behavioral & Social Sciences Group 2

1st place – Camryn Eby
2nd place – Sophie Bonadeo
3rd place – Averie Harkey

Chemistry Group 1

1st place – Julia Visina
2nd place – McKenzie Kalsu
3rd place – Ryan Kanaly

Chemistry Group 2

1st place – Alexis Sherwin
2nd place – Gage Williams
3rd place – Jack Leadbetter

Physics

1st place – Aiden Fierst
2nd place – Nick Kerrihard
3rd place – Logan Ressler

Plant Sciences

1st place – Kaitlin McAuley
2nd place – Nicole Albotros & Sophie Romano

Engineering

1st place – Jack Kaiser
2nd place – Zach Alleman

Animal Science

1st place – Chris Labarthe

Microbiology

1st place – Grace Tierney

St. Elizabeth's has a zero tolerance policy on Bullying.

If Your Child Is Being Bullied

- ✓ Talk to your child. Get as much information as you can about what happened.
- ✓ Let your child know that you understand that verbal bullying can be just as harmful as physical bullying.
- ✓ Don't blame anyone, including the bully or your child.
- ✓ Be a part of the solution, but also let your child contribute. Give your child healthy ways to deal with a bully, such as telling the bully to stop.
- ✓ Contact school officials to let them know what is happening.
- ✓ Role play different situations with your child. Help him/her learn to use assertive body language and respectful words to solve problems.
- ✓ Remind your child that the bully's problems are causing the situation, not your child.
- ✓ Avoid giving advice such as "Don't worry about it," "Don't let it get to you," or "Give her a taste of her own medicine."
- ✓ Talk about your own experiences with bullying, both as a child and as an adult. This de-stigmatizes the subject and assures your child that you understand where he's coming from.
- ✓ Talking about bullies isn't a one-time discussion. Once you break the ice, come back to the subject whenever you feel you need to "check in" with your child. Be prepared to review the points you've already made in earlier talks.

Please call the Bullying Hotline 348-0480 x3492, or contact your child's teacher, or the school office if you think your child is being bullied.

Source: Human Relations Media "The Bully Proof Kit" @2006

St. John's Extended Care

Do you need before or after school care for one or more days a week? Would it help to have your child(ren) in Extended Care while you take a child to an activity or lesson? New for Spring 2012, St. John's Extended Care is

offering before and after school care on a daily basis. Extended Care is available M-F 7:00am – 8:05am and 3:15pm – 6:00pm.

Enrollment / Supply: \$50

1 day per week: \$60 monthly

2 days per week: \$115 monthly

3 days per week: \$170 monthly

5 days per week: \$238 monthly

If you are interested, please call Eva or Lainie at 340-1789 or send an email to cdc@stjohn-catholic.org. Note: This is not drop-in care. This is for a SCHEDULED DAY, EVERY WEEK.

December Class News



PRE-KINDERGARTEN

Advent is a time to wait, not quite time to celebrate! During this Advent season the Pre-Kindergarten children will be picking the name of someone in their class to pray for during Advent. We will have a book exchange at our party on the 21st and the children will find out the name of their Advent Angel!

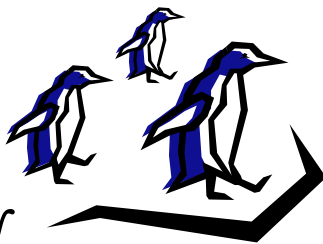


“Dads for Donuts” is our big activity for December. We will be creating lots of surprises for our dads during D week.

The Pre-K classes will be hearing stories about the birth of Jesus with our special Advent calendars, and learning about the Advent wreath.

Many blessings to all this Advent season!

Miss Nan, Ms Monica, Ms Julia and
Ms Tracy



KINDERGARTEN

This month's focus will be on learning about cold regions. The children will be learning about the north and south poles. We will center our art, math, language and science projects on this arctic theme.

Thank you for all of your support. We feel so blessed to have you. Please continue to work on sight words and read to and with your child daily.

Mrs. George and Mr. Joe Booker
Mrs. McCann and Ms Christy

FIRST GRADE

We are excited for the Advent season! We encourage families to use your Advent chains and prayers to participate with your child as we prepare for Christmas. We will be making our annual gingerbread houses the last week of school. A note will be sent home with more details closer to the date. The Christmas program is December 15th. The children are excited and working hard on their songs.

It is hard to believe we are almost half way through first grade! The Reading curriculum will be more difficult after Christmas. Please continue to read with your child at home. We hope you have a joyous Christmas break!

Mrs. Matthews and Mrs. Kennedy

SECOND GRADE

The anticipation and excitement of the Christmas season is already in the air. In the midst of the holiday preparation, please take a few moments to remember what the season of Advent calls us to do. "Prepare the way for the Lord" and share with your children the true meaning and spirit of Christmas. Remember the infant whose birth was the greatest gift of all.

We hope Reconciliation was a very meaningful experience for everyone. We believe the children feel closer to God and are looking forward to preparing for First Communion.

Mrs. Lieurance's class will host mass on Thursday, December 15th. We hope you will join us for this liturgy.

A very special thank you to the moms that worked on our auction projects!

We wish everyone a blessed Christmas and a joyous New Year. May the birth of the newborn King bring you peace. "Happy Birthday Jesus."

Mrs. Holmes and Mrs. Lieurance

THIRD GRADE



Greetings from 3rd grade! We hope your Advent season is filled with love, peace, and blessings!

We are moving and shaking in our Reading program! Very soon, we will finish our first reader and begin a class novel, *Stone Fox*. In Math, we continue to tackle times tables. In Social Studies and Science, landforms and human geography are our current topics. Overall, we are learning and growing so much with every passing day!!

Both classes will participate in a service project during this month to benefit the Children's Center in Bethany. We hope to provide many, many items to these seriously ill children, while considering how very blessed we all are.

Have a blessed Christmas.

Mrs. Medich and Mrs. Garrett

FOURTH GRADE

We would like to thank all of our chaperones and drivers on our recent field trip to the Oklahoma History center. Without your support it would not have been possible.

December is a busy month, so please check the weekly newsletters for updates on activities.



Our next book report is due January 20th and the theme is Mystery. Remember the book must have at least 125 pages.

Mrs. Schneider's class will be hosting the Feast of the Immaculate Conception mass on December 8th. All are welcome.

Don't forget our famous "Okie" projects are due on December 14th. We are looking forward to some great presentations!

A very blessed Christmas to all.

Mrs. Schneider and Mrs. Gorman



FIFTH GRADE

What do elves learn in school?

(The elf-abet)

How do sheep in Mexico say Merry Christmas?

(Fleece Navidad)

What Christmas Carol is a favorite of parents?

(Silent Night)

Just a little holiday humor for you to enjoy. Wow! Is it really December? My, how the time has flown!

We would like to thank you for sharing your most precious gift (your child) with us. We enjoy them so much and love watching them grow each and every day.

Please be sure to read the class newsletters and check your child's agenda for the many December activities/ projects.

May you and your families have a very blessed Christmas!

Mrs. Golshani and Mrs. Skolaut

SIXTH GRADE

November was certainly our month to be thankful! A big thank you to all the moms who helped with the cinnamon pretzel preparation before our Martinstag Mass on Nov. 10th. It was a very special German celebration enjoyed by all! We were so proud of all the hard work and effort shown by 6-K!

Students did an awesome job on their November classic book report presentations, as well as, their Ancient Greece presentations. The projects are on display in the middle school hallway. The next book report presentations will be in January. Students will be reading a biography or autobiography.

In social studies, we will be studying Greek gods and goddesses and looking at Greek architecture. Students will be searching the internet for pictures of Greek influences on today's architecture, and performing our own Greek myths in class in groups. Students will be responsible for obtaining props and the skits. In addition, we will be covering Ancient India. In science our focus will be on the changing surface of the Earth and will begin our study by mapping the surface.

May you enjoy a blessed Christmas and special holiday time with your families!
Frohe Weihnachten und Eine Gutes Neues Jahr!
Mrs. Krauss and Mrs. Tero

SEVENTH GRADE

Mr. Hoffhines' class

What a busy time we are entering into sometimes bringing frustration to some. Thanks be to God for the Church's gift of the season of Advent. Through the correct practice of this season of preparation we discover quiet in the midst of business and a shift of focus to a purpose that is fulfilling instead of frustrating.

Hopefully, our classroom Advent practices will in some way protect our students from some negative circumstances that sometimes occur this time of the year and provide a means to deal with most of the others. My homeroom will have a different set of morning, lunch, and dismissal prayers to use specifically for Advent.

By the time you read this, the class should have memorized the first thirteen verses to the prologue of John's Gospel and be working on memorizing verse fourteen which starts "And the Word became flesh..." just in time for Christmas. I also hope to have one of our priests visit our classroom this month to talk with them about the prologue and other key elements of John's Gospel.

This month we will be finishing the first unit in our religion book, *Jesus in the New Testament* which covers the Gospels and the Acts of the Apostles. In our book *Outlines of the Catholic Faith* we are just getting into the teachings of the Church contained in the Apostles' Creed, having completed the sections on Creation, Salvation History, and Revelation.

The other special activities for this month are preparing for the school rosary hosted by the 7th grade on Tuesday, Dec 13th. It will be on the Joyful Mysteries. My homeroom will also be preparing for our last classroom Mass of the year which will be held on the first day back from Christmas vacation Wed., Jan 4th. Hopefully some of you can make it to one (if not both) of these events.

Many of the other classes may be during their service project for the year sometime this month, but the 7th grade project will most likely be in either January or February. As soon as Ms. Miller and I have the details worked out, we will let you know.

And last, but not least, we will be having our Christmas party on Dec. 21st. So true to its calling, this month is definitely a busy one. Our goal is to come out of this semester with a sense of anticipation and joy for Christmas Day.

In closing I just want to express my sincerest thanks to all those who extended well wishes and prayers for my wife, Theresa, and our family during her recent surgery. Most especially I want to thank the students in all my classes. It went very well and we are expecting a minimal recovery time. She was even well enough to come back to work the first day after Thanksgiving break which I attribute to grace of God and your prayers.

Have a happy and peace filled Advent.

Mr. Hoffhines

Ms. Miller's class

The colder weather has finally arrived and so has the Advent Season! The classroom is undergoing some seasonal changes (we have our advent wreath out and a small tree and other decorations are on their way). Also for Advent, the 7th graders will have an opportunity to participate in "Advent Angels," where they will draw the name of a fellow student and perform random acts of kindness for them at least twice a week. There is a \$2 limit per gift. At the Christmas party, students may reveal who their "Advent Angel" is and may also bring a \$5 gift for them.

Thank you for your continued support and willingness to help! I truly appreciate it. Please ensure that students are keeping up with their assignments and getting enough rest during this busy season. I hope that you all have a blessed Advent and a Merry Christmas.

God bless,
Merideth Miller

EIGHTH GRADE



Our first semester will end on December 21st. This month the 8th graders will have Advent Angels beginning on December 5th, students will draw a name and secretly bring something in for that person at least twice a week for the next two weeks. Gifts should not exceed \$2.00 each time. When we have our Christmas party on December 21st, students will bring in one final \$5.00 gift to give to their Advent Angel. Thank you for your help in this Christmas activity. The students always enjoy it!

Our 8th grade t-shirts have been ordered and will arrive soon. 8th graders are allowed to wear this t-shirt every Friday with their uniform skirt/pants.

We hope you have a wonderful Christmas holiday. School will resume on January 4th.

Mrs. Makanani and Mrs. Harjo

CARDINAL BAND

Christmas Concert - Grades 5-8

Tuesday, December 20, 7 p.m.

In SEAS Gym

Meet at 6:30 p.m.

Dress- Sunday best

(No jeans or shorts; Mini or short skirts)

The last practice chart for this semester is due on Tuesday, December 13th.

Jazz Band will continue, Thursday, Dec. 1st, 8th and 15th **3:15 to 3:55 p.m.** There will be an extra rehearsal on **Tuesday, Dec. 13th, 3:15 to 4:00 p.m.**

School Christmas concert on Wednesday, Dec. 21st at 9:30.

We will resume on Thursday, Jan. 13th after Christmas break.
Have wonderful Christmas Holiday and God bless you!