

Saint Therese of Lisieux

Elementary School

"Celebrate Catholic Schools"

November 24, 2008



Memo

To: Parents

From: Sister Helene

Re: Coming Events

Greeting: Happy Harvest Time! As we approach the end of the first trimester, I thank you for your participation and cooperation in the education of your children. While it is the commitment of the learner to his or her own development that takes pride of place in this most important endeavor, parents play a crucial role in instilling in their children a love of learning, and the desire to be good and do good. I ask you to reflect on the personal development section of the report card when you receive it. Habits of attention, cooperation, self discipline, perseverance, the constructive use of time, and the ability to assume responsibility for one's actions are qualities that we as educators, parents and teachers, must nurture in the children. Please make sure that your child understands that the personal development assesment section of the report card is very important to you since it is the bed rock on which genuine learning rests.

Appreciation: Congratulations and a great big Thank You to Careen Longo, Claire Saunders and their outstanding committee members who did such a phenominal job both in the preparation for and the execution of the Tricky Tray fund raiser. The packed hall was a testament to their indefatigable labor. Although the bottom line may not be definitive yet, I understand that the event met goal, yielding a figure in the area of \$20,000.00. Very well done. God bless each of you for your generosity and involvement.

Early on in the year, we want to commend and congratulate Kathleen Passano for the outstanding job she is doing with promoting the Food Certificate Program. We rejoice in the steady increase in income and in the much wider participation. Kathleen has brought her considerable expertise to bear in delivering a well organized program and in ensuring that each family is appreciated for their cooperation and involvement. Thank you very much, Kathleen.

Kudos to Marisa McPherson, Librarian, Tish Oates and their committee of parents, who have completed the automation of the school library. What an extraordinary achievement! It took two long years of patient, persevering work to catalogue the ten thousand volumes. The next step is to educate both faculty and students in the use of the program. A ribbon cutting ceremony is being planned for Catholic Schools' Week. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Providing two Book Fairs every academic year to our children is a gift beyond measure. Hours of planning and preparation are involved. We express our deepest gratitude to Mrs. McLaughlin for the time and thought she puts into this major educational event. The students delight in the Book Fair and this very worthwhile experience for them is an important part of their education.

Saint Therese School • 220 Jefferson Avenue • Cresskill, NJ 07626

Tel 201-568-4296 • Fax 201-568-3179

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Secret Santa's Shop is another exciting event in the life of the children. Jeanne Dewey, President of the Home School Association and her committee, leave no stone unturned in ensuring that the ambience and the shop reflect all the joy of the season. Thank you, Jeanne, and thank you to all the happy helpers.

We are particularly grateful to Patricia Van Tine for providing workshops for the faculty in CPR. Thank you, Patricia, for your generosity in sharing your expertise with us. The safety and well being of the children is always a priority. Kudos to Nurse Henry who is so vigilant and who consistently seeks out competent people to ensure that the best possible care is extended to our children.

When you read this, our first ever special Open House for Pre-K 3 through First Grade will have made history. Jeanne Marie Durkin-Sanchez, Chair of the Preparatory Committee, did a splendid job. Her eight person committee was outstanding. No detail was left to chance. To have leadership of this calibre is a huge blessing to the school. Our thanks and appreciation to each one of you for a job very well done.

Calendars and Schedules: In the interest of saving the trees, we have not published a monthly calendar this year. It is on the school website. The website is getting a face lift and for the present we are experiencing some lag time in posting changes so we will publish a calendar in December and January. Here are some important events:

- November 24: Open House for Pre-K 3 through First Grade.
- November 25: Reports Cards Distributed.
- November 26: Saint Jude Mathathon to benefit cancer research. Dress down day – Spirit Wear. Dismissal at 12:15p.m.
- December 1: Secret Santa Shop opens. Student of the Month Awards at 8:20a.m. School Advisory Board, Father Armand Hall, 7:30p.m.
- December 4: Academic Awards, Grades 4 – 8, at 2:30p.m.
- December 8: Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Children attend Mass.
- December 9: Executive HS A Meeting, Father Armand Hall at 7:00 p.m.
- December 17: Christmas Concert at 7:00 p.m.
- December 18: School Band performs at Garden State Plaza at 6:30 p.m.
- December 19: Faculty Meeting. Dismissal at 12:15 p.m. Choir entertains the Sisters at Knickerbocker Road.
- December 23: 8th and 1st Grade Christmas Party in Father Armand Hall. Dismissal at 12:15 p.m. Christmas vacation begins.
- January 5: School re-opens.

Happy thanksgiving to each of you. May God bless you for your generosity in helping other families to celebrate. The children reflect your goodness, kindness and compassion. Thank you.

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