

Bulletin #15-16

December 1, 2016

ADVENT:

Advent is a time of quiet, joyful preparation for the celebration of Jesus' birth and also a time to remember that we wait for Christ to come again at the end of time. Last Sunday marked the first Sunday of Advent. Each week, the light increases and this coming Sunday, we will light the second candle. Please take some time this weekend to join in prayer at home and at Mass. The following Advent prayer will be recited each morning at school during this special season:

Father in Heaven, our hearts desire the warmth of your love; our minds are searching for the light of your word. Increase our longing for Jesus and help us grow in love that we may rejoice in His presence and welcome His light in our lives. We pray in the name of Jesus the Lord, Amen.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES:

Parent-Teacher conferences are tomorrow, **Friday, December 2nd**. Conference times, which are 15 minutes in duration, were sent home with the report cards at the beginning of the week. Conferences for Primary students (Kindergarten - Grade 3) are Parent/Teacher only. Intermediate students (Grades 4-7) should attend the conferences with their parents and should wear their full school uniform. Please bring your child's report card, signed cover and envelope to the conference. **Please note that this is not a regular school day for students. Intermediate students are only to come to their scheduled conference time.**

LOST & FOUND:

A table with lost and found items will be set up in the entrance outside **tomorrow** so that parents attending the parent/teacher conferences can check for lost items. Any unclaimed non-uniform items will be sent to a charity.

FIRST COMMUNION FAMILY TABLECLOTH:

The deadline to reserve the tablecloth is **Monday, December 5th**. Please return your request forms ASAP.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL:

This year during the Advent season the students of St. Pius X will "Care For Our Common Home" by donating the following items to families in need by the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Items are due back to the school by **Friday, December 9th**.

Kindergarten:	Breakfast foods
Grade 1:	Breakfast foods
Grade 2:	Lunch items
Grade 3:	Lunch items
Grade 4:	Dinner items
Grade 5:	Dinner items
Grade 6:	Desserts
Grade 7:	Staple food items

Thank you for your help and for your generosity.

LIBRARY BOOKS:

Please return all library books by **Tuesday, December 6th** so inventory can be completed before the holidays. If your child has lost or damaged a book, a note will be sent home for reimbursement. Thank you for your cooperation.

ART CLUB:

The Grade 7 Art Club will meet again on Tuesday, December 6th from 3:00 to 4:15 pm.

RESERVED PARKING SPOT:

On the evening of **December 8th**, please remember that the parking spots immediately to the right of the handicapped spot in the main parking lot is RESERVED for the *Cormack/Schuss families*. This spot was auctioned at the Social last spring.

PRIMARY & INTERMEDIATE CHOIR NEWS:

There will be no choir on **Thursday, December 8th and December 15th**, for Primary and Intermediate Choir students.

PAJAMA DAY:

Student Council is proud to present "Pajama Day" on **Friday, December 9th**. What a great day to roll out of bed and come to school wearing your comfortable pajamas! Robes, slippers, stuffed animals and messy hair are all welcome! If you would like to take part in this special day, please bring \$2, which will be donated to charity.

GRADE 7 OUTDOOR SCHOOL DECEMBER 12th -16th:

All Grade 7 students are reminded to meet in the Grade 7 classroom with their bags for Outdoor School promptly at **7:45 am on Monday, December 12th**. Students will be attending the 8:00

am Mass as a group prior to the departure. Please ensure you bring all your required belongings for the week as well as your “Secret Santa” gift. Students will arrive back at the school at approximately **1:30 pm on Friday, December 16th**.

CONFESSIONS:

In preparation for the celebration of Jesus' birth at Christmas, students will have their individual confessions on the following date:

- **Monday, December 12th for Grades 3-6**

Please help your child prepare by reviewing the format for confession as well as the Act of Contrition prayer.

GRADE 1 PARENTS:

A Christmas card sale will be held for the Grade One parents on **Tuesday, December 13th** from 2:40 - 3:00 p.m. in the Grade One classroom. You can purchase your child's handmade cards and the monies collected will be donated to Holy Childhood Association.

PARENT STANDING COMMITTEE:

Our next PSC meeting will be held Wednesday, December 14th at 2:00p.m. In the Parish Meeting Room. All are welcome to attend.

READERS ARE LEADERS:

Students from Grades 5, 6, and 7 should have received commitment forms this week. Interested students will be meeting on Wednesday at 10:30 recess in the library. Books and teams will be assigned on this day.

GRADE 2 PIONEER SCHOOL DAY:

On **Wednesday, December 14th**, the Grade Two class will be participating in its annual “Pioneer School Day”. The children are to come dressed as children of the era and are to line up at the front of the school. Please send a labelled potato peeler to school on this day. Lunch is provided, but please send a small snack.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS:

St. Pius X School will close for Christmas holidays on **Friday, December 16th, at NOON**. School will re-open on **Monday, January 3rd, 2017 at 8:50 a.m.**

HOLY CHILDHOOD ASSOCIATION:

Once again this year, the students of St. Pius X School will be supporting the Holy Childhood Association by raising donations for St. Joseph's Catholic School at the Chiriaco Mission, located in Peru. This year, students from Kindergarten through Grade Seven will participate. HCA is a worldwide club that connects elementary school children in Canada with children and youth in developing countries. The motto is, "Children Helping Children". Students in K to Grade Seven will receive a collection box for their offerings on Tuesday, November 22nd. Children are encouraged to make their own small monetary contributions and sacrifices. Boxes are to be returned to school by **Monday, January 9th**.

PRIMARY SPEECH ARTS:

Speech Arts provides a wonderful opportunity for student's to develop their public speaking and performance skills. This year's Primary Speech Arts Festival will be held from Monday, January 23rd- Friday, January 27th, 2017. Students should be starting to memorize their poems.

SAVE THE DATE:

On **Friday, February 17th, 2017** we will be having our "Pub Night" social. Details to follow in the next few weeks.

SNOWY DAYS:

In the event of a school closure due to snow, all families are asked to listen to CKNW Radio 980 AM and check their website for information. Every attempt will be made to get this broadcast to you as early as possible in the morning (approx. 7:15 a.m.). This is your most reliable source of information. Please do not contact the school, as every effort will be made to email families regarding a school closure.

LABEL, LABEL, LABEL:

Please take some time to ensure that all items (uniform, jackets, water bottles, shoes) are clearly labeled with a permanent marker or label. We have many new uniform items (pants, shirts, sweaters) that are not labeled and therefore, it makes it very difficult to return these to the original owner.

HOT LUNCH:

Thursday, December 1st- Subway & Smoothies- Volunteers: Linda

Friday, December 9th- Hotdogs & Frozen yogurt-Volunteers: Leigh, Susan, Regina

Thursday, December 15th- Pizza & Smoothies-Volunteers: Neema, Krista

BASKETBALL UNIFORMS:

Basketball uniforms have been handed out. Please ensure that your child keeps his/her team uniform in the same condition that he/she received it. Your child will be responsible for their uniform throughout the season. If the uniform is lost or damaged beyond repair, you will be required to replace the uniform at a cost of \$50. **Please wash uniforms in cold water and hang dry. Do not place uniforms in the dryer.** Thank you for your support.

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE:

Monday, Dec 5th Grade 5 girls 7:45-8:30a.m.

YARD DUTY VOLUNTEERS-Dec. 5th – 9th

Monday – Aga Marzec

Thursday – Soo Cho

Tuesday – Leroy Dullemond

Friday – Roz Phipps

Wednesday – Christine Kramer

CROSSING GUARD SCHEDULE –Dec. 5th – 9th

Monday a.m.-Kathy Cole

Monday p.m.-Aga Marzec

Tuesday a.m. - Hélène McLewin

Tuesday p.m. – Gina Wall

Wednesday a.m.-Ileana Torres

Wednesday p.m.-Carmen Grigoruta

Thursday a.m. – Kathy Cole

Thursday p.m. – Elizabeth Hewitt

Friday a.m.-Kathy Cole

Friday p.m.-Rachael Monteith

2017 DONATION ENVELOPES:

Parishioners are asked to pick up their 2017 donation envelopes from the boxes at the back of the church. This is the best way to ensure families maintain their category 1 status. Thank you!

SPX PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT: Christmas Hamper Project

In the spirit and tradition of giving we are collecting new toys, books, games, kitchen and bathroom towels, children/adult pyjamas, gift certificates for Safeway, Tim Hortons, Superstore, movie passes or any place a single mother or father and children would need and love to have. Starting next weekend there will be a big labelled box in the vestibule for your gifts. We and our children and grandchildren have so much and there are many who have so little. Please be generous. (No used toys, clothing and no expired items)

PETITION TO THE B.C. LEGISLATURE TO KEEP HOSPICE & PALLATIVE CARE CENTRES SEPARATE FROM THOSE OFFERING EUTHANASIA & ASSISTED SUICIDE:

Please sign this very important petition, which also asks for respect of Freedom of Conscience for all Healthcare Workers and Administrators. This petition is part of a province wide initiative by the Catholic Women's League and members will be meeting with our MLA, Jane Thornthwaite, on December 7th to deliver petition. They will be asking her to present it to the Legislature early in the New Year. Copies of the petition will be available for signature at the school office until Christmas break. The school liaison for the CWL is Michelle Cox. I appreciate your help in this regard. Please contact Michelle Cox or myself if you have questions or concerns. Anita Park, Legislative Chair St. Pius X Catholic Women's League

If you wish to sign the petition please come by the school office

STA ANNOUNCEMENT:

On **Thursday, December 1st** STA participated in a school wide Penitential Service. Our North Shore priests generously spent their morning in the school gym, and all STA students and staff had the opportunity to go to Confession in order to ready themselves for the upcoming Christmas season. Thank you to all of our priests for administering the Sacrament to our STA community.

On **Monday, December 5th** our Concert Bands and Jazz Ensembles present our annual Christmas Concert in the school gymnasium. Students performing will be required to arrive in full school uniform at 6:00 P.M. The concert begins at 7:00 P.M. We hope you can come out and join us for this festive evening of traditional Concert Band arrangements, Christmas music, and jazz.

On **Monday, December 12th** our Concert and Chamber Choirs will be performing at our annual Fine Arts Evening in the school gymnasium, which includes an exhibition by our Art students and performances by our Drama students.