

Greetings Holy Name Community,

Let us prepare for His arrival as we move into the third Sunday of Advent. On this third Sunday of Advent, we light one more candle on our wreath: the pink candle that represents joy. There is much joy in the halls of Holy Name as our primary and FDK students prepare for the upcoming Christmas concert, and all our students partake in many Christmas activities to remind each of us that we are preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Breakfast With Santa:

Our Catholic School Council put on a wonderful event for our families on Saturday morning. Everyone arrived with eager faces for the arrival of Santa and a hungry belly for all those delicious pancakes. There were many activities to keep everyone busy and lots of photo opportunities. The Starr Magic show took our breath away with his feats of magic! Thank you to all the parents that helped organize and execute such a beautiful event. Your efforts did not go unnoticed and we definitely appreciate all you did to bring our school together as a Catholic community. The food donations brought will also help many families in need during the Christmas season and beyond.

Spirit Wear:

Our *Holy Name Spirit Wear* store continues to be open for business. All items sold in our digital Spirit Wear store are part of the daily dress code for Holy Name and can be worn on a regular basis. Holy Name track pants and sweatshirts are great ways to stay warm over the winter months, while still staying in dress code. We encourage you to check out our Spirit Wear store to top up any items you may need to round out your child(ren)'s closet. The digital store will be open for the remainder of this week, with orders closing on December 16th. All orders will be shipped to the school. Please see the [Spirit Wear letter](#) for instructions on how to access the digital store.

FDK & Primary Christmas Concert:

There is much excitement building for the upcoming Christmas concert. Kindergarten and Primary classes have been busy preparing and rehearsing for the big event. The Christmas Concert is scheduled for **Wednesday December 14th, 2022** with the FDK & Grade 1 performance running from 10:45 - 11:45 a.m., and our Grade 2 & Grade 3 show running from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Our junior and intermediate students will be treated to a dress rehearsal on December 13th, so that they can watch their siblings perform and catch a little Christmas spirit. We respectfully request that all families limit their attendance to **2 family members** to help us stay under our fire code capacity limits. We also ask parents who attend to stay for the entire performance, to limit distractions in the audience for our young performers. No siblings will be called down for the performance since they had the opportunity to enjoy the show during the dress rehearsal.

Christmas Spirit Week:

We will be hosting a Christmas Spirit Week **December 19th - 23rd**. We know everyone will be bubbling over with excitement and ready to join in the fun as we get ready to celebrate Christmas. Please see the [attached schedule](#) so everyone can prepare to show off their Christmas spirit during the last week of school before the break.

Holiday Heroes Campaign:

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! There is not much more we can say to express our gratitude for the overwhelming response and outpouring of donations to help children in need have a beautiful Christmas. Your generosity speaks to the Gospel values alive and well in your hearts and homes!

Intermediate Photo Retake Day:

The intermediate photo retake day and intermediate class photo day have been rescheduled for December 13th. Due to labour disruptions and volleyball tournament days being shifted, this is a long awaited event, but we know everyone will bring their best smile!

MYSP Parent Survey:

Our school board is in the process of developing the next multi-year strategic plan (MYSP). We have been working diligently to gather feedback from parents, students, staff, and all community stakeholders to help inform and make our new MYSP the best it can be for our students and communities. To date, our responses from our parent community have been unusually low. We understand that you are likely overwhelmed by the sheer volume of requests you receive, but we know how important your child's education is to you. We know that our parent community always shows strong interest in their child's education, which is why we are reaching out one more time. When a strong school-home relationship exists, our children will be happier and achieve well at school. Thank you for sharing your children with us every day, and thank you for taking the time to complete this short survey to help inform us about your child's education and the strategies that will make a difference in Catholic education for student achievement and well-being.

This is an anonymous survey to ensure privacy and confidentiality are maintained. The survey will take as little as 5 minutes to complete. Please submit your response by the end of the day on **Friday, December 16**. Survey Link:

<https://forms.gle/XdEvQVxmfpbNHWg9>

EQAO:

Please see the [attached letter](#) for an overview of the achievement levels of last year's grade 3 & grade 6 students who participated in EQAO.

Busing:

As we enter the winter season we recognize that buses staying on schedule may be a bit of a challenge for the bus companies which are still experiencing driver shortages. Please continue to regularly check www.schoolbuscity.com for late bus alerts.

Safe Arrival Reminder:

Parents and guardians are required to report their child(ren)'s absence or late arrival in advance, or before bell time for the current day by accessing the Elementary Safe Arrival Program using any of the three methods below:

- Toll Free Safe Arrival Phone Number 1-855-856-7862
- The Safe Arrival SchoolMessenger website: go.schoolmessenger.ca
- The SchoolMessenger App from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store

Parish News:

For Sacred Heart Parish news please see the Church [bulletin](#).

Upcoming Events:

- Tuesday December 13th: Intermediate Class Photos
- Wednesday December 14th: Catholic School Council Meeting @ 7p.m.
- Thursday December 15th: High School Registrations Due
- Christmas Spirit Week: December 19th - 23rd
- Thursday December 22nd: Advent Mass @ 9:30 a.m.

Wishing you a blessed Advent season,

C.Zorzi
Principal

D. Casullo
Vice Principal