



Notes from the Office

December 5, 2011

www.mmredeemer.org

www.gradelink.com - School Number 197

Attendance email: attendance@mmredeemer.org

Snow Closing Number 547 (KYW)

Dear Parents,

It only takes a child to put everything into perspective...and to put us in our "place". On the first Sunday of Advent, when the weather was unseasonably warm, I saw it as an opportunity to begin my Christmas decorating. At the very least, I thought, I could put some of the outside adornments around and save me from one of those teeth-chattering Saturdays that would inevitably come along. And so, the march from the basement up to the loading dock, otherwise known as my dining room, began.

Now I don't know how well others manage it, but I cannot avoid moving furniture from its permanent position so as to situate the tree, nutcrackers, wreaths, and other familiar mementos into their temporary home. When these items are moved, it means only one thing.....the dust has returned yet again. And so, while trying to be inconspicuous with batting down "Irish Lace" and "Swiffering" away gray clouds, it was a voice that usually melts my heart that put it all into perspective. "Hey Mom-Mom... Good thing Christmas is comin'. That way you get rid of all the cobwebs that built up so you can really be ready". Thank you.

Art Linkletter wrote a book entitled "Kids Say the Darndest Things". Actually, kids say the most profound things, all in the most innocent of ways. I could have become indignant and lectured on how doing everything for everybody keeps me from doing some of the little things I should. But that would have been too easy. Instead, somehow, I suspect by the grace of the Holy Spirit I chose to think about it in depth.

It is a good thing that Christmas is coming. Advent provides us the opportunity to balance excitement with preparation, joy with readiness. We can delight in the decorations but see through to their true purpose. It is in the coming of our Saviour, the Christ, that we look for the hope of all that can be possible. Blessings to you this Advent. Enjoy and Prepare. And take the opportunity to move some furniture and get rid of all the cobwebs so you can really be ready. May God Bless you.

Fondly, Mrs. Judge

Attachments this week:

- North Penn Lacrosse Club
 - HSA Christmas Collection
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Dress Down Day for Catholic Charities

Casual Dress Day Friday, Dec. 9th. Remember that 6th, 7th & 8th grade money (\$1.00) must be brought in by Wednesday, December 7th.

Student Handbook Update

The Gym Uniform section of the Student Handbook has been updated to reflect that white socks are the standard on gym day. Socks of any other color, including black, are not permitted. Socks on all days must be at least high enough to cover the ankle. Peds or 'no show' socks are a 'no go.'

Candy Cane Sale

The Confirmation class is hosting a candy cane sale to raise money for their service project, Building a Bridge to Uganda. Students will be selling candy cane grams for 50 cents each. Delivery of the candy canes will be Dec. 22. Students may purchase candy cane grams by visiting 6th grade during lunch on Dec. 13 – 16 or by visiting Mrs. Bull's forms page on the homework site. Thank you.

Beta Club Penny War

Don't forget, the Beta Club is sponsoring a "Penny War" this week. Each grade will have a container in the lunch room in which they will collect pennies throughout the week. The grade with the most points at the end of the week will get a Dress Down Day!

AM Car Line Reminders

In an effort to maintain a safe arrival for all, please be mindful of the following:

- Morning arrival time begins at 8:10am. Students must remain under the supervision of their driver until this time. **In no event should a parent drop off a child before the teachers have ascended the steps.**
- Children should exit the vehicle from the passenger side only.
- Drivers **MUST** wait their turn to exit the circle. **It is unsafe & unacceptable to pull around the left of the line to exit before those ahead you.**
- Children must be dropped off in the circle. Children may not be dropped off in the lot and told to walk through traffic to reach the building.

In an effort to keep the line moving efficiently:

- If you are first in line, please pull all the way up to the corner to allow for the maximum number of cars to unload at one time. Please **DO NOT** stop at the steps if open space is ahead of you.
- Please have your children ready to exit the car as soon as you stop. If you need to continue a conversation or unload from the trunk, please pull forward when it is your turn and into a parking space.

Thank you for your attention to the safety and welfare of our students.

Yearbook

Don't forget to order your yearbook at the discounted price of \$29 until December 15th. After this date, the yearbook price jumps to \$35. The order deadline is January 17th, 2012. Books can be ordered online with a credit card by using this link: <http://shop.balfour.com/smi122480/catalog/category/view/s/yearbooks/id/17/>. Each Thursday until the deadline, an updated purchaser list will be posted on the "News and Events" to confirm orders.



HSA News...

Shh...We are in the process of collecting funds for the MMR Christmas collection. Our teachers and staff do so much for our children this is our way to say THANK YOU over the holidays. If you are interested, please send money or a check (made out to Home and School) into school in an envelope marked HSA collection. The deadline is December 13th.

The MMR Home and School Association would like to invite all MMR K-8 families to the Winter Social on Saturday night, January 21st, 2012. We are busy planning the evening and need a head count. Please check your calendars and sign up to join our fun filled night. Details will be revealed soon. Your Home and School Association fee must be paid to attend this special event. [Winter Social RSVP](#)

A great big THANK YOU to Paula Jones and her committee for yet another wonderful Secret Santa shop. This year's shop was a big success! Thank you Paula!

Pre-School Press

The Preschool's preparations for Christmas are in full swing. This week we celebrate the second Sunday of Advent. The children will once again gather around our Advent wreath to light a candle and say a prayer. They are all busy making special presents for the arrival of the baby Jesus as we continue to rejoice in the season of His birth. We invite you to take a moment and visit our Christmas tree in the Preschool lobby which is decorated with beautiful handmade decorations made by all the classrooms.

Reminders

- ❖ 12/8 - No School - Immaculate Conception
- ❖ 12/9 - Dress Down Day
- ❖ 12/13 - School Mass 9:00am – St. Lucy
- ❖ 12/15 - Parent Band Concert
- ❖ 12/19 - Christmas Pageant
- ❖ 12/21- Pre-School Christmas Pageant
- ❖ 12/22 - Dismissal 11:30am
- ❖ 12/23 - Christmas Break
- ❖ 1/3 - Classes Resume