

St. Patrick School

At A Glance – December 2009

Mass and Adoration Days

Wednesday, Dec. 9 – Adoration at 8:30 a.m. (Grades 3-5 attend)

Friday, Dec. 11 – No School Mass

Wednesday, Dec. 16 – Adoration at 8:45 a.m. (Grades K-2 attend)

Friday, Dec. 18 – Mass at 9:30 a.m. (Grades 6-8 plan)

Tuesday, Dec. 22 – Mass at 9:30 a.m. (Grade 5 plans)

Early Dismissal Days

Wednesday, Dec. 9 – 2:15 p.m. dismissal for Professional Development

Wednesday, Dec. 16 – 2:15 p.m. dismissal for Professional Development

No School Days

There is no school at St. Patrick's from December 23 through January 3. School resumes on Monday, January 4.

No After School Child Care Program

There will be no after school child care program on Tuesday, December 22 to allow teachers and staff the opportunity to attend their annual Christmas party.

Jeans and Out of Uniform Days

Wednesday, Dec. 9 – Jeans Day. Bring \$1.00 in order to wear jeans.

Tuesday, Dec. 22 – Out of Uniform Day for the food pantry. Bring an item for the food pantry in order to be out of uniform this day.

**Please note: Students must be dressed appropriately as we have Mass. This is an optional out of uniform day. Students are always correctly dressed when they wear their uniform.

Preschool Christmas Program

The preschool Birthday Party for Jesus Celebration will be held Thurs, Dec. 17 at 6:00 p.m. Preschool children should be there at 5:40 p.m. Birthday cake and ice cream and juice will be in the cafeteria for all kids after the program with cookies and juice for adults as well.

Christmas Giving Project

Our project to help some families have a merrier Christmas continues. There are still a number of items from which to choose. If you are interested, please stop in the office and make your selection. We would like to have all items here by Friday, December 18 so we can organize them for distribution. Please make sure you wrap the package and attach the tag so we can get the gift to the right family. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Make a Plan

Please make sure you have a plan in place should school dismiss early due to the weather. Discuss with your children what they should do in this situation. We are usually pretty fortunate and it is unusual for bad weather to sneak up on us. We usually know in advance and that can give parents a chance to discuss with their children what they should do should school dismiss early due to bad weather. Likewise, if you know that school is cancelled, delayed or dismissing early, make some phone calls to friends to let them know also. **Note: There is no afternoon childcare on the days that school dismisses early due to bad weather.**

Weather Related Dismissals and Closings

If school is to be canceled or starting late due to inclement weather, this announcement will be made by 7:00 AM if possible. You should tune to the following broadcast stations for cancellation information.

AM Stations

KDLS	Perry	1310
WHO	Des Moines	1040

TV Stations

WHO	Des Moines	13
KCCI	Des Moines	8
Pegasus	Perry Cable	12

Your Family's Take Home Envelope

Please make sure you return your family's take home envelope right after you receive it from your child. We have had to make quite a few duplicate envelopes, which is not only time consuming but an expense. By reusing the envelopes twice a month we not only save time and money but it is also our way of knowing you received the information we sent to you. Thank you for your help.

Absent and Tardy Students

Please make sure you call by 9:00 a.m. and let us know if your child is absent or tardy. We have to make sure students are safe, whether they are home or at school. We've had some problems with disconnected or incorrect phone numbers when trying to call parents to check on students. Please make sure you call us and tell us if your phone number has changed or you need to give us an alternate number. We need to have current emergency information on each student.

Dress Warmly!

Please remember that we go outside as long as the temperature is above 0°. Please make sure your child has a heavy coat, hat, mittens, snowpants and boots, when applicable. We feel it's beneficial for the students to take a break outside during the school day.

Friends of St. Pat's

Looking for a tax deduction for 2009? Becoming a Friend of St. Pat's allows you to support all the educational activities of this parish along with claiming a tax deduction for a charitable contribution! Inserted in this newsletter is a form explaining how you can do this along with a list of our current sponsors. **Please consider being a Friend!**

Raise the Roof

Raise the Roof, an upper unit project of St. Pat's students, raised \$300 for the new church roof. 25 children enjoyed a play day Saturday, December 5th., giving their parents some extra time to themselves during this busy holiday season. Thank you to Tyson who provided meat for lunch, Wanitta Hick of Rowley Masonic Home for the use of their activity games, Jeanne Hill for craft materials and Regina Guild for bars and cookies. The students, parents and confirmation sponsors who provided supervision (you know who you are!) were super play pals. And, of course, many thanks to the parents who patronized our service!
-Dariel McNamara

January Newsletter

Watch for your family's take home envelope to come home during the week of December 21.

God's Blessings to You!

We would like to take a minute to wish you the blessings of this Advent season as we await the celebration of Jesus' birth on Christmas. This is a time of waiting, anticipation, hope and reflection. What a beautiful, exciting season it is! As we reflect and thank God for His gifts we ask for God's blessings for you. How He has blessed all of us by making you a part of our St. Patrick School family!