

Under the guidance of Saint Joseph, Patron Saint of the Universal church, Saint Joseph School endeavors to achieve academic excellence in a faith-filled and safe environment. School staff and parents collaborate to develop students' spiritual, intellectual, emotional, and physical well-being in a traditional Catholic setting.

December 14, 2022

Dear Parents,

This past Sunday we celebrated Gaudete Sunday which notes that we are half-way through Advent, a time of joy, of waiting for Christmas. And so we pray, "O Lord, we beg You, incline Your ear to our prayers and enlighten the darkness of our minds by the grace of Your visitation. Through Christ, Our Lord. Amen."

What a wonderful Concert and Art Display that we had on Saturday!!! Our students did an outstanding job on stage and had a very nice art display! Congratulations to Miss Haley Stoliker for her wonderful work with our lower grade students. Congratulations to Mrs. Kaitlin Cassidy for a lovely art display, and thank you for your donations to our art department which totaled \$136.00. In addition, the eighth grade class made \$741.00 in their bake sale and ornament sale. Many thanks to our eighth grade mothers who assisted this class with their fund raiser. I must also say hats off to the Academy of the Holy Family Concert Choir which did an amazing performance. Lastly, thank you, our families, for your support at this event and for being such a supportive and gracious audience!! There were some last minute changes when our first "Baby Jesus" (Damian Rosa) became ill, but thanks to Santiago Yahuaca who was able to step up to the plate and do an great job playing the part of "Baby Jesus", the star of the Nativity Tableaux! Also, many thanks go to Rad Tanksley who replaced Laura LaCasse, our percussionist, who became ill.

Thank you to all of you who donated food for Haiti. The Haitian Health Foundation is very grateful for you spirit of generosity! Also, thank you to all of you who have donated clothing and toys for needy people. We greatly appreciate your generosity!

Yesterday, the Sunshine Club gave all of us with a treat of cookies and candy in honor of the Feast of St. Lucy. What a thoughtful and delightful surprise! Thank you so much!

Although our Christmas Concert was excellent, I must point out that the dress code that was given to the students and you, our parents was not observed by some students. Some dresses

were way too short, and for the boys, some did not have ties. Since there were very different interpretations of “mini,” **I would like to clarify this for all future formal events this year and beyond (Christmas and Spring Concert, Class Night, and Graduation and any other formal event). For the girls, the hem of the dress or the skirt must touch the top of the kneecap. This should also apply to the uniform skirt or jumper. For boys who do not have ties (regular or bow tie), this would be an ideal Christmas gift.**

As your email stated, we cancelled Ugly Sweater Day today. First of all, this was an eighth grade fundraiser. With such an amazing bake sale and Christmas ornament sale, I didn’t think that it was necessary to have this fund raiser at this time. There will be opportunities in the future to have some fundraising for our eighth grade class to help them with all of their expenses for the class trip, Class Night, and Graduation etc. Secondly, there were a number of students who really didn’t follow the dress code on Monday. We will be having a free “Dress Down Day” on Thursday, December 22nd. On that day students may dress down with the usual “dress down” code or choose to dress in a Christmas fashion – with nice or ugly sweaters, Santa hats, Christmas outfits, etc. However, students may not wear flip flops, open-toe sandals, slippers or pajamas.

Enclosed is a form for our upcoming Talent Show which is scheduled for Saturday, January 14, 2023. This is the same evening as the Bonfire. I realize that some of the parents would also like to be a part of this show. If you wish to participate, simply let me know what you are doing by Friday, January 6, 2023.

Overall, we are really trying to keep the spirit of Advent from now until December 22nd.

LOOKING AHEAD

Thursday, December 15th	NO HOT LUNCH
Friday, December 16th	The Student council will be serving hot cocoa to all students
December 19th, 20th, 21st	NO HOT LUNCH
Thursday, December 22nd	La Posadas at 9:00 a.m. Christmas movie and pizza party (No lunch from home is necessary). 12:30 p.m. Dismissal NO AFTERCARE

God bless you and have a wonderful week!

Sincerely in Jesus and Mary,

Sister Mary Patrick, SCMC

Principal