



St. Monica School

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Please see picture at right. Emma Dobson and her brothers, Brent and Brian at the Archdiocese of Boston. Emma won the Jesus is My Friend contest (Gr. 2 category) mentioned last week in the weekly reminders. We did not have this picture at that time.



Dear Parents:

I hope your family enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving break. It is wonderful to be blessed with the opportunity to share a meal and time with family and friends and reflect on all God's gifts to us. As a school administrator this extra week between Thanksgiving and Advent is especially significant as it allows for one more week of solid academic instruction prior to the excitement of the Christmas holidays comes swooping in!

Advent is my favorite season—so I can't even try to hide my enthusiasm! This year our students will be celebrating each week of Advent by gathering together on Monday to share in a special student lead prayer service. As a school community we will be collecting hats, gloves, and socks to donate to the Lazarus House. Each week we will focus on one item to don our Christmas tree outside my office. St. Nicholas will also visit on his Feast Day, December 6th to put treats in the student's shoes! We just have so many fun things planned to make this season memorable and meaningful for our school community. Please keep an eye out for weekly updates!

As you may recall our staff has grown! Our two newest members, Mrs. Roman and Mrs. Maniatakos have spent the last few weeks getting acclimated and observing classrooms to figure the best way to use their skills and talents to benefit all our students. The first criteria we are focusing on with Mrs. Maniatakos is the MAP scores. Students with limited growth in this first cycle will be targeted for intervention. Intervention will look differently for each student. It may be a quick fix or a tool builder lesson! Sessions could be as short as two weeks and others may continue longer. It's important that you know that these groups or lessons are not set in stone—rather they are more fluid—based on the need of the students and our developing curriculum. Our next MAP testing cycle is in late January and we are hoping to see a

Upcoming Events

November 28 – Spirit Day

December 4, 5 and 7th – Santa's Secret Shoppe

December 4 – Knights of Columbus Light up for Christ event, 7PM in school parking lot. Refreshments after in the cafeteria.

Jr. High Snow Ball (Grades 6-8) will be held on Saturday, December 8th. More info to follow.

Friday December 14th our sixth graders will be attending the North Shore Music Theatre production of "A Christmas Carol".

Important Announcement

NO Homework Club on Monday, December 10th.

NO afternoon buses on Thursday and Friday, December 13th & 14th.

Don't forget our Holiday Calendar Raffle!! These make great stocking stuffers or small gifts!

positive impact on these scores with this concentrated effort. Mrs. Roman has been reviewing all current IEPs and 504s that some of our students have. She is also working with all the faculty to make sure the implementing curriculum is accessible by all students. Her work will be right inside the classrooms helping with transitions and modifying lessons to ensure equity for all students. We are all very excited to offer these services here at St. Monica School. Our students will reap the benefits for sure.

Here's to a great week!

In peace,

Mrs. Henderson

CHURCH CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT

If your child is interested in being in the Church Christmas Eve Pageant at 3:00 PM on December 24th, please meet in the Chapel on Wednesday, 11/29 at 4PM for sign-up, costumes and parts. For more information, please call Carol Noucher at 978-587-5333.

SANTA'S SECRET SHOPPE

Students will be shopping with their classroom on the following days. Please send your child's money with them only on their shopping day (not before thank you). This is not mandatory.

Shopping Days:

Tuesday, December 4, PreK4A & B, Grade K, 1, 3 & 4

Wednesday, December 5, Grades PK3, Grades, 6, 7 & 8 (and MWF PK4 kids)

Friday, December 7, Grades 2 & 5

MORE UPCOMING DATES – Please also check the school calendar at www.methuencatholic.org/school

December 12 – Progress Reports

December 13 & 14 – No afternoon buses

December 14 – Gr. 6 to see "A Christmas Carol"

December 14 – 6:30 PM, Preschool and Kindergarten Christmas Show (Doors open at 6PM)

December 15 – Polar Express Night (More info will be coming home)

December 17 – 6:30 PM, Grades 1-8 Christmas Show (Doors open at 6PM)

December 19 – Spirit Day

December 20 – 11:00 AM Dismissal, NO BUSES AT DISMISSAL AND NO EXTENDED DAY

December 21- January 1 – Christmas Break

January 2 – Return to School