



Principal's Newsletter

Mrs. Cynthia Boyle, Principal

December 2011

**St. Mary's School
Melrose, MA**

www.stmaryschoolmelrose.org

Important Dates

	Veterans collection ends
11/23	
12/1	Report cards
	Christmas tree sale
12/2	
12/8	Immaculate Conception
12/20	Christmas pageant
12/21	Vacation begins at 2:30

Advent Begins

The season of Advent begins on Sunday, November 27th. We are called during the Advent season to be aware, to be awake, to recognize what is happening in the world and to have hope. In a difficult time we are challenged to see the good, to know the Kingdom of God is possible. To "prepare the way for

the Lord is to keep the faith so we can work for a better future for all human beings." Advent is a time for discernment as we wait, a time to practice "the awareness of the good of each persons and all people" to "clarify realities" so we can recognize the Signs of God when they appear. Wait and watch with hope this Advent. Each day of the month one class will at-

tend the 9:00 am daily Mass in the chapel. We hope this experience will help deepen their understanding of Jesus in the Eucharist.

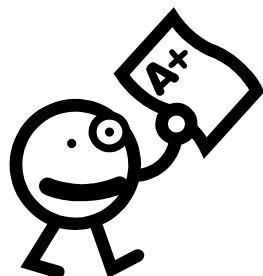


Report Cards

Report cards will be sent home on Thursday, December 1 for all students in Grades K-8. Parent Conferences will be on Thursday evening, December 1st from 6- 8:00 pm and on Friday, December 2nd from 11:30 – 2:30

pm. Forms were sent home last week for teacher appointments. Conferences for Grades PreK-4 are by appointment only and Grades 5-8 are on a first come basis. Teachers will have lunch on Friday from 11-11:30. It is important

that you meet with your child's teachers. Specialists are available by appointment during this time. Call the office or email directly to a specialist if you'd like to meet.

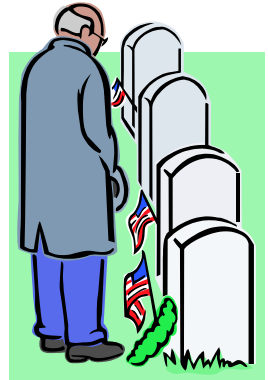


Picture Retakes

Picture retakes for all those who were absent or not satisfied with their photographs will take place on Thursday, December 1st. Students may wear their own clothes if they are having pictures retaken.

Veterans Collection

The student council is collecting toiletries, socks, tee shirts, toothbrushes, soaps and shaving materials for retired and injured men and women who have served our country. Please send in any donation to the main office by Wednesday, November 23rd. Thanks to all who have already supported this project.



Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is a time to praise and give thanks for the many blessings in our lives. I would like to thank you the parents for entrusting your children to our care. It is an honor to be part of such a support-

ing and faith filled community. May the blessings of this Thanksgiving season be plentiful for you and your families.

Ladies Night Out

The PTO is sponsoring a Ladies Night Out on Friday, December 9th from 7-10 pm at the Knights of Columbus in Melrose. Tickets are \$10.00 per person and are presently on sale. Check out the PTO page on the website for more detailed information.

**Support
your PTO**

Vacation Club Available

School will end on Wednesday, December 21st at 2:30 pm for Christmas vacation. Our Vacation Club is available for Christmas vacation. Half day and full days are available. Please visit the website to download the calendar. All vacation calendars are due by Friday, December 9th. Vacation Club will also be available during February and April vacation.

December Mass and Pageant

Our December Mass will be celebrated on December 8th at 10:15 am, the feast of the Immaculate Conception.

On Tuesday evening December 20th at 7 pm Grade 5-8 will be presenting our annual Christmas Pageant. We hope you will save the date and join us for this beautiful presentation.

Book Fair

Our annual Book Fair will be held on Monday, November 28 thru Friday, December 2nd. Students will have the opportunity to visit the Book Fair each day. Please stop by before or after school if you would like to

purchase Christmas gifts. It will be opened during Parent Conferences for your convenience. The Book fair will be held downstairs in the Art Room.

Christmas Tree Sale



St. Mary's 8th graders will be having their annual Christmas tree sale on Friday, December 2nd, 3rd and 4th. This is the only fundraiser the eight graders have to support their graduation activities. This will also be open on Friday during parent conferences.

Our newly formed Video Club created a 30 second ad for the tree sale that is now being run on Melrose TV this month. Check it out. They did a fantastic job!



"Children are made readers on the laps of their parents."

— *Emilie Buchwald*

Sacrament of Penance

Our second graders will be receiving the Sacrament of Penance on Tuesday, December 13th and Wednesday, December 14th at 11:00 a.m. Please keep these students especially in your prayers as they receive the sacrament of Penance for the first time.



Open House a Success

Our recent open house was a great success. Twenty three families visited St. Mary's School to find out more information and tour the school. Thanks for spreading the good news about the outstanding education the students receive here at St. Mary's School in Melrose.