



SAINT RAPHAEL PRESCHOOL

Weekly Memo: December 7, 2016

Dear Parents,

What a fun filled, busy month December is! Evidence of the upcoming holiday can be seen all around the Preschool. The Extended Day students decorated our Christmas tree near the entrance, and many classes have created their own Christmas trees that adorn the hallway walls. In the classrooms, children are busy making gifts for their families, reading stories about Jesus' birth, acting out the Nativity, and doing service projects to help those less fortunate. The 4s and 5s classes are preparing their costumes for the music program next week and can be heard practicing their songs as they walk through the hallways. What joyful noise! Many of our Preschool families also enjoyed the parish Advent Festival last Saturday. No matter how you prepare for Christmas, I hope your heart is filled with love and the true spirit of the season!



Many blessings,

Molly DeAngelo

Calendar Change!

Father Phil is planning a spiritual retreat for all parish staff (schools included) on March 9th. Because of this, we will be changing the Preschool Teacher Work Day that is currently on the calendar from March 24th to March 9th. We hope by giving plenty of notice this change will not be inconvenient for our families. **So please note on your calendar that there will be no school on Thursday, March 9th but that the Preschool will be open on Friday, March 24th.** Thanks for your flexibility!

Free Classes for Prospective Preschool Students

We had a great time with Ms. Susan at our free music class last week! Mark your calendar for our free Creative Movement class with Ms. Sadler coming up in January. This parent and child class is open to children ages 18 months- 4 years who will be preschool age for the 2017-18 school year (ages 2-5 by 8/31). Younger siblings of current Preschool students are welcome to attend! Please RSVP at least one day prior to the class by contact our marketing and enrollment coordinator, Sarah, by phone (919-865-5725) or e-mail (srapp@saintraphael.org). Please share this opportunity with your friends!

- Tuesday, January 10th: Creative Movement with Ms. Sadler (time of class depends on age of prospective students, as they will join in a 2, 3, or 4 year old class with current students)

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception, a Holy Day, occurs this Thursday, Dec. 8. *The Preschool is not in session on this day.* Masses will be held at 7am, 9am, 12:10pm and 7pm in English. There will be an Immaculate Conception Vigil in Spanish on December 7th at 7pm.

4s and 5s Christmas Music Program

The 4 and 5 year old classes will perform a Christmas Music Program for families on Friday, December 16th at 11:30am in the church. All are invited to attend!

Easy Ways to Benefit Our Preschool

Christmas is almost here! All that special cooking and baking will mean more trips to the grocery store. Your normal purchases can benefit your children. Link your Harris Teeter VIC card to our school's number (3865) and the Preschool will receive a percentage of your purchases. Just register your VIC card at your local Harris Teeter or online at www.HarrisTeeter.com. If you shop at Kroger you can earn great educational materials for the Preschool. Our school will receive award points every time you shop. You can link your Kroger Plus Card by going to www.krogercommunityrewards.com and selecting St. Raphael Preschool (NPO #87151). Please, ask your relatives and friends to link their cards, too! Thanks for your support!

Preschool Registration for 2017-18

Registration for the 2017-2018 school year will begin in January. Current Preschool students and their siblings will have first priority for choosing classes for next year. Parent-Teacher conferences will be held in mid-January and will offer an opportunity to discuss your child's placement for the upcoming year. Child care will be available for a nominal fee during conferences.

SRCS Kindergarten Registration for 2017-18

Rising Kindergarten Parents: Applications for kindergarten at SRCS are available now. **The deadline to apply for kindergarten is January 31, 2017.** Contact Mary Morgan at mmorgan@saintraphael.org or 919-865-5754 for more information and to receive your kindergarten application packet.

Ignatius Fund Update

Thank you to all who have already contributed! Every donation to the Ignatius Fund is tax-deductible and goes to where the need is greatest. Please support the fund that supports your child! **For all donations between now and December 31st, an anonymous donor will match the amount up to \$3,000!** Learn more about the Ignatius Fund and donate on-line through our website: <http://straphaelpreschool.org/ignatius-fund/>



Their future is created by what we do today.

Goal: \$75,000 with 100% participation by SRCS and Preschool families and staff

Raised to date: \$26,499

Important Upcoming Dates

December 8: Preschool closed for a teacher work day

December 16: 4s and 5s Music Program at 11:30am in the church

December 20: **Noon dismissal for ALL classes- no Extended Day or Lunch Bunch**

December 21-January 3: Preschool closed for Christmas break



"Each one of us is an innkeeper who decides if there is room for Jesus." ~ Neal A. Maxwell