



LOYOLA
CATHOLIC
SCHOOL

December 9, 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The children are enjoying our new playground equipment...it is all white, very inexpensive, and very versatile! **Ask your child if his/her boots are waterproof...some children come in from playtime with damp, soggy, or even soaking wet socks. Try sending an extra pair of clean socks in your child's backpack. Use a Zip-lock so your child can "switch" and bring the wet pair home in the bag.**

'Tis the season for many musical gifts! Our **6-12th grade band's** Christmas concert was Monday, and we look forward to the **gr 6-8 choral concert** and the **high school choir's Advent song/prayer** this coming week. Our PS and K-3 programs on December 20 also promise to be wonderful ways to celebrate the birthday of Jesus!

I was so proud of our kids on Tuesday, as I brought a Mom from south Texas around to get acquainted (her whole family visited during MEA, but of course the building was empty then) *every* child in *every* class was so welcoming. When we stopped in to meet Mrs. Campbell and her class, we told them that her twin daughters would be joining their class in January, and watched the whole room "light up" with smiles and cheers. As she left she remarked, "I feel so good, so comfortable, knowing our girls will be with y'all. They're going to be very happy here."

Saint Nicholas made his rounds on Tuesday, his feast day. (Father Ted Hottinger always enjoys visiting with children on this special day.)

On Thursday, we celebrated the feast of the Immaculate Conception at Mass with our whole school family. Bishop Quinn asked all Catholic schools throughout Diocese to join in praying the rosary at 2pm on Thursday, so our high school gathered in chapel, Fitz campus gathered in SSPP church, and our primary students prayed in our classrooms.

Many thanks to our **Loyola Parent Association** and all their volunteers for organizing and providing a scrumptious **luncheon for our GC campus staff** on Thursday! (They treated the Fitz campus staff on Wednesday.) The entrée, salad and bread were catered by "*The Lakes*" *Sports Bar and Grill* (the Gasswint family) and other treats were donated by many, many thoughtful families. To make it relaxing and unhurried, parent volunteers did our recess/lunchroom supervision.

This morning Mrs. H's PS class, all in "Reindeer" shirts and paper antlers took the tunnel (an adventure in itself) to the Sisters' house, singing and bringing joy. I understand their song, "Whisper a Prayer in the Morning" was a real hit.

Advent prayer this afternoon focused on "bringing the Light—being Joyful and Happy!" Ask your child how Mrs. Willaert and Mr. Stack taught us about happiness and joy.

😊 A Kindergarten student told me he played with his sister over the weekend. "But you don't have a sister," I said. "Oh, yeah...she's my cousin or my neighbor or something like that," he replied. "You have two little brothers, right?" I asked. "Yeah," he said, "but my Mom and Dad can't keep track of them!"

😊 A little preschooler literally did a spread eagle freefall out of her car one morning. She had barely landed when she yelled, "I'm OK! I'm OK!" and came up smiling.

😊 Two kindergarten boys were stretched out, making "Snow Angel" motions on the carpet at dismissal time. "Look at us," one said, "we're making "Carpet Angels!"

Blessings!
Sister Mary Beth

Discover the Difference

spirit and pride...peaceful environment...academic excellence...a culture of service...

Loyola Catholic School

- **LOYOLA DAY at BARNES & NOBLE-**The Loyola Parent Association is partnering with Barnes & Noble on Saturday, December 10 for the annual holiday book fair! The hours are 9:30am-10:00pm

All books, toys, (Barnes & Noble has a large selection of great toys!) gifts, Starbucks treats, and Nook purchases are included so you can cross many off your list on one day and in one place! Loyola receives a percentage of sales when each shopper mentions **LOYOLA** at the registers.

Schedule of events:

- 10:00am Story time in the Children's section
- 10:30am LCS Primary students sing Christmas carols
- 10:50am LCS Violin students perform
- 3:00pm Loyola Band performs
- ** Free gift wrapping of B&N purchases All day

Please stop in to shop and stay for the entertainment. Be sure to come by the wrapping table to say hello!

See the attached flyer for more information. The flyer can be forwarded to all out of town friends and family to use at **ANY** Barnes & Noble on Saturday, December 10th only! Out of town shoppers must present the attached voucher for Loyola to get credit for their purchase. If you can't make it to the store on Saturday, you can use the code on the attached voucher for on line purchases through 12/15.

- Mark your calendars for the **Loyola Catholic Primary and Preschool Christmas programs!**

Primary school (grades K-3)	Tuesday, December 20	9:00am & 1:30pm	Gymnasium
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*Two show times are offered. Please plan on attending one performance in order to allow seating for all of our families.

Preschool (all classes)	Tuesday, December 20	10:30am	Gymnasium
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Children may be out of uniform on December 20, wearing clothing that you feel is suitable for the Christmas program.

- **ST. JOSEPH the Worker/ Loyola families:** While aware that play and concerts etc. will keep many of you occupied until after December 12 we at St. Joe's invite you to participate in your parish's 4pm Mass for Christmas. We need singers and musicians. Practices are on Wednesdays in the church 5:30- 6:15pm (K-8) & 7:30- 8:30pm (9-12) We also need little angels & shepherds for our Nativity mime so call Julie Roush at 388-2118. Let us be one in praising the Lord this Christmas. *Fr.W.*
- With the switch to the new LCS website, many are having difficulty locating the link to the **Accelerated Reading** program. From the LCS Home page, it is located under the tab "Loyola Life". If you have any further questions, please contact Mrs. Corcoran at rcorcoran@loyolacatholicsschool.org
- Loyola students will be working at the **Salvation Army** gift wrap on Dec 23. We invite all Loyola families to bring in all their last minute gifts to be wrapped. Gift wrap is \$4.00 per item. This is a donation and tax deductible. Let's support our students as they support our community. Gift wrap is located in the food court next to Subway.
- **VIRTUS Training workshops:**
 - * Tuesday, December 13 at 6:00pm St. Joseph the Worker Church, Mankato

The workshop is approximately 2 ½ hours in length. **Pre-registration is required** and is done online at www.virtusonline.org A worksheet to assist with the online registration is available in the office.

VIRTUS training must be completed by ALL Loyola volunteers.

- **Land Of Misfit Clothing & Goodie Sale!** The Spirit Shop and Playground Committee are teaming up on **Wednesday, December 21st**, to sell last minute Christmas items. Discontinued and slightly damaged Spirit wear will be offered at a discounted price just in time of the holidays. We'll also have a bake sale and stocking stuffers for that special Loyola student on your list!!! **Sale runs 4:00 - 7:30 P.M.** Don't miss out!!



Preschool news:

- Preschool students are **ringing bells for The Salvation Army** on Monday, December 12 from 5-7pm at ShopKo. Volunteer sign up sheets are located outside the classroom



LOOKING AHEAD:

Saturday	December 10	LCS Day at Barnes & Noble; 9:30am-10:00pm
Monday	December 12	McDonald's McEducator night 5-7pm, Madison Ave. McDonalds Preschool Bell Ringing; 5-7pm at Shopko.
Tuesday	December 13	District #77- 2 hour late start Loyola Primary 8:05am start No morning bus available December Birthday Mass, 1:45pm VIRTUS Training-St. Joseph the Worker Church
Wednesday	December 14	SPIRIT Shop open 7:30am-7:30pm Fitzgerald campus Girls Club 2:45-5:00pm
Friday	December 16	Advent prayer service Shine for Jesus day!
Tuesday	December 20	Christmas programs Kindergarten-Grade 3: 9:00am & 1:30pm Preschool: 10:30am
Wednesday	December 21	SPIRIT Shop open 7:30am-7:30pm Misfit sale and Goodies sale
Thursday-Monday	December 22-January 2	No School Preschool-Grade 12 Christmas Holiday
Tuesday	January 3	Welcome back to school!



SPIRIT SHOP NEWS:

EXTENDED SPIRIT SHOP HOURS – Announcing our extended Spirit Shop hours for the Christmas season! December 14 we will be open 7:30am–7:30pm.

All of our new items have arrived (“bling”t-shirts, three styles of zippered hoodies, youth sweatpants, winter beanie hats, travel coffee mugs and much more.) Please call Keri (340-6991) with any questions.