



NEWS FROM THE GOOD SHEPHERD

"IT'S ALL ABOUT S.U.C.C.E.S.S.!"

Time continues to march on and anticipation of the holidays is mounting. However, we need you to help your children remain focused on their work. Homework is a major part of your children's grades. If homework is not done, it will impact their grades negatively. Please question your children daily about school and make sure that they complete their homework and any projects they have. They should be **reading every evening** for at least **thirty minutes**. This includes on the weekends. Remember to be diligent and consistent in requiring your children to do their best daily in their academic studies. Also remember, to hold high expectations for your children and set the best examples that you can as their primary educator. Please continue to help us instill in your children: **"HARD WORK + CONSISTENT EFFORT = LIFE-LONG SUCCESS!"**

CELEBRATING THE SEASON OF ADVENT

We have begun the season of Advent, which is a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the birth of Christ at Christmas. The Advent wreath is one of the most popular symbols used by Christians during the season of Advent. It consists of a circle of evergreen branches set around four candles, three purple and one rose-colored or pink. The evergreen circle stands for the eternal life that Christ has won for all believers. A candle is lit on the first Sunday of Advent, with another one lit on each succeeding Sunday. Each week of Advent has a theme, beginning with Hope followed by Faith, Joy, and Peace. Jesus once said to his disciples: *'Be constantly on the watch! Stay awake! You do not know when the Master of the house is coming.'* Each week, we will have an Advent prayer that will be recited at morning assembly. **Our Advent prayer for this week is:** *O Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, come and dwell with us. Come, make your home with us. People are waiting for you. Jesus, come to us. Amen.* We invite you to pray this prayer with your children this week.



T.I.P. [The Informed Parent]

Instill a Love in Learning

Children who have a broad foundation of knowledge and background on a variety of subjects will find school and learning easier and more interesting than those who do not. Parents have the privilege and responsibility to share the world with their children.



Talking with your child about life's everyday experiences will help each of you understand the others' viewpoints, values, dreams, and interests. Parents need not only talk, but also listen to their children. Answering questions, or helping children find the answers, will help your child develop a sense of value and self-respect.

Here are a few suggestions for activities to enjoy with your child:

- Watch news and documentaries on TV.
- Rent or buy educational videos.
- Visit natural history museums, science museums, art museums, children's museums, zoos, botanical gardens, and historical sites.
- Experience national or state parks and forests. Sign up for a tour.
- Read articles in the newspaper, news, and magazines together.
- Go to the public library.
- Make vacations learning experiences.

The important thing for parents to remember is that they are the most important teachers in their child's life. Children are born eager to learn, but parents need to help them channel that learning. Talking with children before, during, and after any activity helps them learn the steps involved in learning.

This conversation also will improve your communication and in turn, your relationship with your child. The more you talk with each other, the more rewarding your conversations will be, and the better you will get to know your child.

DECEMBER 2011						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

MONTHLY CALENDAR

- 3 Saturday Class (9–12 Noon)
 7 Early dismissal at 1 p.m.
 12-13 End-of-Quarter Reviews
 14-16 **Benchmark Tests**
 17 Saturday Class (9–12 Noon)
 19 Second Quarter Spirit Day
 Christmas Parties
 Dismissal at 3:00p
 20 Christmas Mass/Program
 Dismissal at 12:00 Noon

**21-1/3 Christmas Break
NO SCHOOL**

**Note: Students return to school on
January 4, 2012.**

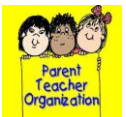
Uniform Reminder

All students are required and expected to wear the correct uniform every day unless otherwise noted. Students may wear their sweat shirts or navy blue sweaters. Only white T-shirts or camisoles are to be worn under the uniform shirt or blouse. Any other color is not permitted. The school shoe is solid black or navy blue. We appreciate your continued cooperation.



PARENT/TEACHER ORGANIZATION MEETING

A very important component of our school is a strong association between home and school. It is our sincere hope that on **Saturday, December 3rd, at 9:00a**, we will renew that relationship and set some realistic goals and plans for the second semester. We need all room parents to attend and encourage other parents to join us. We will also decorate the tree and the first floor. There will be refreshments and door prizes. Come out and be a part of something special.



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"Life is a constant Advent season: we are continually waiting to become, to discover, to complete, and to fulfill. May this Advent season be a time for bringing hope, transformation and fulfillment into our lives."

Emily M. Paul, Principal