



School of St. Philip

December 15, 2011

"The School of St. Philip is strongly committed to providing its students with a fundamentally sound education in a Catholic atmosphere which will enable them to carry their faith and learning beyond this school."

(School Mission Statement)

It's Concert Time! Tuesday, December 20 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. At St. Philip Church

- All families are asked to bring 2 dozen cookies for refreshments after the two concerts. Please bring them to school on Monday or Tuesday.
- All students must be picked up by the buses or parents at the church on both Monday, Dec. 19 (after practice) and Tuesday, Dec. 20 (after the matinee concert).
- After the 1:00 p.m. concert, your child may leave with you or a grandparent, but please send a note. As you know we cannot allow grandparents to take children home without your permission.
- All students should be at the church for the evening concert by 6:40 p.m. They will gather with their teachers in the social hall classrooms.

Concert for Ecumen Residents

We will be singing our concert for the residents of Gloria Dei and Emmaus Place on Wednesday, December 21, at 1:30 in the afternoon. Please have your children dress up for that day too. In the past years, we have performed as the entertainment after their holiday dinner in the evening. Because of their construction project that is being completed, the special dinner will not take place until January when all residents have moved back to Bethany. They still wanted us to share our music with them, and we are happy to do it.

Looking for One More Gift?

If you have not yet purchased one of our math game sets, that would be an excellent gift for your family. It contains over 300 fun math games for all ages (even parents will enjoy them) and all the manipulative you need as well as a DVD that teaches you how to play the games. The cost is \$40 and we have them available in the office.

Kindergarten Registration for 2012-2013

Registration for next year's kindergarten class opens to current school families and members of our Area Faith Community (St. Philip Parish and The Church of Our Lady, Manannah) on Tuesday, January 3. We reserve the month of January for these families. In February, we will open registration to the general public, if there are places left in the class. We keep our enrollment at about 20, so please encourage your friends and family to register early.

You know what an excellent education and growth in faith, character and virtue your child receives here at St. Philip School. Other parents need to hear this from you to encourage them to check out our school and see if it is the right match for their child as well. **Our very best advertising comes from you, our school parents!**

Helping Children Learn Newsletter

Have you checked out the December issue of "Helping Children Learn?" You will find the icon for it at the bottom of the School News page where you find our newsletter. This month there are some fun ideas for traveling with your children that you may find helpful during Christmas travels.

The Christmas Spirit is Here

We know that everyone is excited about Christmas and vacation. We appreciate any encouragement you can give to your children to continue behaving well in school, as you send them to school each day. We have some special things going on, but we are trying hard to keep learning happening each day. Yesterday, I heard some very well behaved kindergartners reminding others that "Santa was watching." They have definitely been listening to their parents.

Our Jesse Tree

Have your children been bringing home some of the Bible stories from our Jesse tree prayer time? Each morning I tell them a brief story from our Salvation History, and we put the new symbol on our tree on the assembly room bulletin board. So far we have done:

- Creation
- Adam and Eve
- Original sin (and the need for a Savior)
- Noah
- Abraham
- Joseph
- Moses
- Samuel
- David (Ask your children if they remember why our tree is called the Jesse tree.)
- Solomon

Today we heard about Elijah and the contest of this prophet with the prophets of the false god Baal (from 1Kings 3:4-28). See if your children remember what the contest was and how Elijah showed the people that God was the true God. Tomorrow we will hear about Daniel and next week we will move to the New Testament with the stories leading up to the birth of Jesus.

May God bless you and your family during this last week of Advent.

Mrs. McCarney