

## **Principal's Corner**

### **Leadership Spotlight:**

The question for today is how do you determine your own priorities for the day?

I don't know about you, but at the end of each day, I make a list of what I need to do for the next day. There are times when I walk in and I can go down that list without a problem and accomplish each item on the list. Other days I start off with a bang, there might be a parent at my door, a student who needs tending to, or a teacher requesting a listening ear. These situations come first for a principal!

It is important for leaders to prioritize their actions for each day. One of the things I learned early on in leadership is that the "in box" is rarely empty. (And that's okay!) Learning to prioritize our work is one of the most important things we do.

I always think...I must get the things that involve the children and teachers accomplished first, because at the end of the day they go home and I cannot speak with them face to face! Paperwork I can do on my own or with Mrs. Brouch's assistance! How do you prioritize your work?

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### **Spotlight on Students:**

Today I watched the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade Christmas Rehearsal in the gym. These students were SUPER cute during the rehearsal and sang their hearts out as they practiced for the Christmas Program! Every grade level has been working hard for their Christmas Concerts on December 13th at 1:30 and 6:30 p.m. The "precious littles" have also been working hard trying to memorize their words with their teachers!

Remember to tell grandparents that we have a show in the afternoon that day so that they do not have to drive at night if that is difficult for them! Last year, we packed the gym with people for both concerts. Please join us once again! It is going to be fantastic!

Mrs. DeMar

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Annunciation School Newsletter  
December 6, 2023  
Annunciationbvm.org

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TONIGHT IS Dine Out Night at Chipotle on Kirk Road from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. You know you are too busy to make dinner. So make your life easier, your kids happy, and help your school at the same time. Get Chipotle! There is more information at the end of the newsletter.



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There was no all-school Mass today because the students will attend Mass on Friday, December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Mass will be held at 11:00 a.m. Parents are welcome to attend Mass and sit in the back, behind the students.

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This Friday, December 8, Annunciation School will hold its annual toy collection. If possible, each child should bring an **UNWRAPPED**, new toy to school that day (**No stuffed animals, please.**) The students will bring their toy to the altar during a procession at the all-school Mass that day. Please consider toys for children of all ages. The toys will be donated to Toys for Tots. Please call the office if you have any questions and thank you in advance for your generosity.



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**This year's Christmas Concert will be held on Wednesday, December 13th. There will be two performances; one at 1:30 and one at 6:30 that evening. (Preschool will not take part in the 6:30 p.m. show.) Tickets are not required for either show. Doors for the afternoon show will open at 1:00 p.m. and at 6:00 p.m. for the evening show.**

**At the end of the afternoon concert, all students will return to their classrooms. Parents may sign out their children early and not wait until 3:00 p.m., if they wish, but not until students have returned to their classroom.**

**For the evening concert, all students in grades K – 8 should report to the upper building. Students should arrive by 6:10 p.m. Primary building students will have an assigned meeting room and there will be teachers and staff members on duty to assist them in getting there. Parents of primary building students should keep the coats of their students. Primary building students will be dismissed directly to parents after the concert and will not return to their previous meeting room. Students in the upper building will go back to their classrooms to get their coats and will leave from there.**

**Students should wear their Christmas dress-up clothes for the concerts. Girls may wear dresses or slacks. Students should not wear jeans, flannel pants or Christmas pajamas!**

School has received a generous donation of boys and girls winter coats, sizes 10/12, 14/16, and 18, from the Knights of Columbus. If you would like a winter coat for your child, please call the office ASAP. The coats will only be available through this Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>.



Student Council will be collecting food **December 11-15** to donate to the Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry.

Please consider donating the following items.

Beans - canned, dried  
Boxed Meals  
Chili - canned, dried mix  
Cereals  
Fruit - canned, dried, squeeze packs  
Macaroni & cheese  
Meats – canned  
Peanut butter & jelly, jams

Pasta – cans, bags & boxes  
Rice bags & boxes  
Seasoning packets  
Soups, Sauces & Stews – canned  
Tomato Sauce  
Tuna – canned  
Vegetables – canned  
Whole Grains

Anyone donating at least one item will be entered into a raffle to throw a pie into a teacher's face. If any class has 100% participation, there will be an additional name drawn from the class. Please consider donating to help all families have a wonderful holiday season.



Dismissal on Thursday, December 21 is at **11:00 a.m.** There is no after school extended care on that day



Afternoon Patrol Schedule – Week of December 4

Patrick Bergeron, Kristina Harron, and Jackson Watermann

# DO GOOD WITH CHIPOTLE



## CHIPOTLE FUNDRAISER FOR ANNUNCIATION HOME AND SCHOOL

33% OF EVENT SALES GET DONATED TO THE CAUSE

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**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6TH | 4-8PM**  
**2902 KIRK RD STE 100, AURORA, IL, 60502**

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ORDER ONLINE FOR PICKUP USING CODE **T7MMA7A**  
OR SHOW THIS FLYER IN RESTAURANT



For online orders to count towards the fundraiser, they must be placed for pickup only from the restaurant location of, and during the hours of, the fundraiser. Delivery orders and gift cards do not qualify. \$150 minimum event sales required to receive any donation.

# Christmas Gift Program

'Twas weeks before Christmas  
And all through the school  
Not a teacher gift had been purchased  
What would parents do?

Decorations were hung  
In the hallways with care,  
In hopes that the Christmas spirit  
would be shared.

The children were studying,  
Struggling to stay awake,  
While anxiously waiting  
For a long Christmas break.

The parents were looking  
To spread Christmas cheer  
And thank teachers and staff  
Who in their hearts they hold dear.

So Home and School came up with a plan  
To make life easier on parents with so many demands.  
Don't spend your time shopping for trinkets galore.  
Send in a contribution and avoid the store!

Away with your worries  
Without further delay  
Decide on your cash contribution  
And send it to the office today!



Home and School is coordinating a voluntary Christmas Gift Program. This is a great alternative to purchasing traditional presents or gift cards for the faculty and staff to whom you would like to show your appreciation. If you would like to participate, please place your contribution in an envelope addressed to Home and School and enclose the donation form. Send the envelope to the office. Mark on the form the faculty and staff members you would like to include and the amount of the contribution for each person. **Return the form with CASH only.** Any checks will be returned. Home and School will distribute the money to each faculty and staff member along with a list of those families who contributed to the gift. Donation amounts will not be listed. Any amount you would like to give is appreciated.

The submission deadline for contributions is Friday, December 15 so gifts can be presented before Christmas break.

## Home and School Christmas Gift Program 2023

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (as you would like it on the gift.)

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Contribution Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions must be turned into the office by December 15. **ALL CONTRIBUTIONS MUST BE CASH**

**ONLY.** Checks will be returned.

Mrs. Bill - Preschool	\$
Mrs. Sojka – Preschool Aide	\$
Mrs. Kopin - Kindergarten	\$
Mrs. Jungels – Kindergarten Aide	\$
Mrs. Rizzo – First Grade	\$
Ms. Johnson – Second Grade	\$
Mrs. Ruffalo – Third Grade	\$
Mrs. Sweet – Primary Librarian	\$
Mrs. Hinterlong – Pri. Bldg Aide/ Morning Care	\$
Ms. Betlejeski – Fourth Grade	\$
Mrs. McCormack – Fifth Grade	\$
Mr. Litow - Jr. High Teacher, 6 <sup>th</sup> Homeroom	\$
Mrs. Eversole – Jr. High Teacher, 7 <sup>th</sup> Homeroom	\$
Mrs. Mazur – Jr. High Teacher, 8 <sup>th</sup> Homeroom	\$
Deacon Gay – Technology Coordinator	\$
Mrs. Vogt – STEAM Teacher, Technology	\$
Mrs. Swann – P.E.	\$
Mrs. Kubicek - Art	\$
Mrs. Van De Voort – Music Teacher P-5	\$
Mrs. Eilermann – Upper Building Aide	\$
Father Patrick - Pastor	\$
Mrs. Frieders – Morning Care	\$
Mrs. Amara Fata – After Care	\$
Ms. Ariana Schuster – After Care	\$
Mrs. Darlene Jimenez – After Care	\$
Mrs. Unruh – Joyful Noise Director and Organist	\$
Laura Valdez – Custodial, Misc.	\$
Mrs. DeMar - Principal	\$
Mrs. Brouch – Administrative Assistant	\$
Mrs. Becker – Office Assistant	\$





Greetings, I pray your family's Advent season is off to a wonderful start.

Our snow boot drive continues. We have worked out some of the kinks in the setup and have actually gotten requests from local organizations, schools, and individual families.

So the team made the decision to **extend the drive through the end of January!**

I'm so proud and truly touched by the passion the class has shown. Their desire to succeed at this endeavor is grounded in their wanting to help others who have less than they do. I pray that you share my pride in these fifteen young adults, or as I like to say these young disciples. ~DKG

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Dear parents, the 4th-grade class has started a project called **FootSteps of Faith**. We are working to help people in need.

Our mission is to provide winter boots to kids who have none and can't afford to buy them. So please consider donating gently used winter boots, new socks, and gently used snow pants. Whatever you can help with would be very much appreciated.

If you don't have anything that you can donate, please consider making a small donation.

We are trying to help kids from pre-k to 6th grade in need of:

- **Snow boots**
- **Warm socks**
- **Snow pants**

Our goal is 100 of everything!! I know it is a lot but we want to help people in need. Thank you so much for your generosity!!!!

**God bless you!**

*Emma Whipple*

**learn more; [footsteps-of-faith.com](http://footsteps-of-faith.com) Email us: [fof@annunciationbvm.org](mailto:fof@annunciationbvm.org)**



*It's TLC time again!  
...Here's your Invitation to join  
our annual  
TLC Christmas Cookie collection  
at Annunciation Parish!  
**Please bring your favorite  
Christmas cookies  
to the parish patio on Sunday December 10, 2023.***



*Drop off should be between 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.  
One of our gracious "elf's" will happily accept them with a  
smile on her face! We will then box an assortment of all these  
wonderful treats in a festive box with beautiful bows, happily  
wrapped by one of the team of "elf's".*

*With the assistance of our wonderful parishioner volunteers we will deliver the  
lovely treats to parishioners that are homebound, or just might need a little TLC.*

***Most important,**  
they will hopefully feel the love of the Christ child during this holiday season,  
delivered specially from their fellow Annunciation parishioners.*

*If you have any questions please call:*

*Mary Moon 630-207-0454  
Trish Theriault 630-957-8020*



START HERE.  
GO FURTHER.

# WINTER 2023 MIDDLE SCHOOL NIGHTS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2023



## CHOIR

Sing and perform the National Anthem with the SFHS Choral program before the boys basketball game!



## PEP BAND

Rehearse and then perform with the SFHS Band before the boys basketball game and during halftime!



## BASKETBALL

### GIRLS

Game begins at 6:00 p.m.  
vs. Montini Catholic High School  
in Spyglass Athletic Center

### BOYS

Game begins at 7:30 p.m.  
vs. Montini Catholic High School  
in Spyglass Athletic Center

*Come 30 minutes before game time to enter a raffle and win prizes!*



**FREE ADMISSION**  
for middle school students!



Register today at  
[WWW.SFHSCOLLEGEPREP.ORG/VISIT](http://WWW.SFHSCOLLEGEPREP.ORG/VISIT)



**ST. FRANCIS  
HIGH SCHOOL**  
COLLEGE PREPARATORY