



December 2011

Dear Parents:

Our days are shorter now, leaves continue to fall from the trees, and winter is looming ever closer. It is time to celebrate the beauty of God's earth. The Christmas season will soon be upon us with the first Sunday of Advent on November 27.

We welcome Tracey Gansenberg to our staff as our new art instructor. Tracey is a graduate of Salem State University with a degree in art and photography. We thank Mrs. Sandy Jesson for sharing her talents with us during her many years of service to our children.

Please remember to register for school email on the St. John the Baptist website: www.stjohns-peabody.com. There will be several important surveys and essential information that will be sent via email. Also be sure that you have registered with Honeywell Instant Alert. All no school announcements and important meeting and class information are sent by this method.

Morning valet drop off will begin on November 28. Please be sure to pull your car up to the sign to allow for several cars to drop off their passengers simultaneously. The doors will open at 7:50 am until 8:15 am. Any child arriving after 8:15 am will need to enter through the library entrance. Students arriving after 8:15 am will be marked tardy. If you need care before 7:50 am, please sign up your child in the early morning extended day program.

Remember the Calendar money is due December 16. All families are required to participate and return the proceeds for a minimum of 10 calendars. These would make a great Christmas gift!

We thank all for their generous donations to our food drive. Last Friday we gathered all the donations to fill requests to our parish and school for Thanksgiving food assistance.

Parent conferences for grades 1-6 will be December 9. The schedule is as follows: Grade 1(only), December 8 3 pm-5 pm and December 9 – 12 pm- 5 pm, Grade 2- 12 noon – 5 pm, Grade 3 – 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm & 3:30 pm – 5 pm, Grade 4 – 12:30 pm – 6:00 pm, Grades 5 and 6 - 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm & 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm

We will be having an Open House for prospective students interested in our Preschool Program through Grade 8 on Wednesday, December 7 from 9:30-11:00 AM. If you know anyone who is interested in Catholic education, I would appreciate it if you would let them know about our Open House.

Our Winter Concert will be Wednesday, January 11 at 1 pm at St John's Upper Church. The third grade recorders, school band, and grades 4-6 will perform. All are welcome to attend.

Our playgroup will begin the second session on January 11, 2012. The cost will be \$60 per session. Please call the school for more information at 978-531-0444, extension 340.

Have a joyous holiday season and as always we thank you for your continued support of the mission of Catholic education and St. John the Baptist School.

Sincerely,

Maureen J. Kelleher