



OUR LADY OF SORROWS
PRE K-8 CATHOLIC SCHOOL

"Our Lady of Sorrows Elementary School provides an atmosphere rooted in the Catholic faith, dedicated to individual academic excellence while preparing life-long learners and responsible Christian adults."

December 2, 2022

Dear OLS families,

Welcome to December! We begin the month with report cards, which will be available on the Parent Portal in Genesis this afternoon after 3:00 PM. Please access and review your child's report card over the weekend and let him/her know how proud you are of their effort (or maybe provide some encouragement if needed!). This is the perfect time to take stock of what habits are working or which ones could use an adjustment and then start the new trimester on the right foot. I am proud of the work the students are doing, and I hope you are too.

I sent out an email earlier this week regarding various illnesses in the school. We have been hit hard, with an average daily absence at about 20% of our student population. Please continue to watch and listen to your child. We are seeing headaches, fevers, coughs, congestion, stomach issues, and fatigue. These symptoms fit the three most "popular" illnesses reported to us: the flu, a viral infection, and Covid. Please have your child tested for the flu and Covid if a fever is present since that appears to be the leading symptom of both. If positive for either the flu or Covid, please send Mrs. Foley an email or call her to keep her updated. We have the windows open (school sweaters or school fleece are a good idea!) and are wiping down desks daily, so please help us and keep your child home if he/she is not feeling well. Maybe we can slow the spread of all these illnesses.

Cash calendars were sent home on Wednesday with your youngest child. The PTA is encouraging each family to sell 6 of them to family and friends. They are a great Christmas gift, and when someone wins, it is fun to receive a check in the mail (I know because I did win one time in 3 years)! I have attached a letter to this email that you can give to the calendar recipients that explains the rules. Good luck to all!

The PTA is excited to announce they will be bringing back the "Christmas Shop" for Pre K 3 - 5th grades during the week of December 12th! This is a "shop" set up for the students to do Christmas shopping (during school hours) for their families. Prices range from \$.25 to \$9.00 and the gifts are all kid-friendly. If anyone would like to volunteer to

help in the shop during school hours, please email the PTA at olspta@gmail.com. Specific information will be sent home from the PTA next week.

The Our Lady of Sorrows Honor Society is currently sponsoring a Toy Drive for Mount Carmel Guild. If you would like to send in an unwrapped toy so a local child has something under the Christmas tree, please send it in by Tuesday, December 13th. We have some wonderful gifts underneath our tree already!

The countdown is on for our annual Christmas Show which will be held on Thursday night December 15th in the Gym. Pre K3 through 4th graders have been practicing for several weeks, and based on what I am hearing, it will be wonderful night! The show will begin at 7:00 PM and will last approximately 1 hour. All families and parishioners are invited to the show, whether you have a child participating or not. It is such a fun and joyful night, so please join us!

The Diocese of Trenton has produced a monthly resource called "Faith At Home" as a way to assist families in the growth of their faith. They offer simple and practical ways to share faith, and the link is below if you would like to learn a little bit more about the program. Advent is a time of reflection and growth, so this might be the resource needed to get started.

<https://dioceseoftrenton.org/faith-at-home>

Thursday December 8th is the Immaculate Conception, a holy day of obligation, and the school will be closed to observe this day. I encourage you to attend mass with your child to honor our school's patroness.

Lastly, I send a HUGE thank you for your generosity on Pajama Day. The kids looked very comfortable (as did the faculty and staff) and it was a great day. The donations from our school totaled \$950.0!!! You have made a difference in the lives of children, without any doubt in my mind. I pray that your generosity comes back to you this Christmas season. Thank you so very much!

We begin the second week of Advent this weekend, and I hope that the week's theme of "peace" settles around you. Enjoy your weekend, and hoping for good health for all.

Be well,

Mrs. Maureen Tuohy, Principal