



THE ACADEMY OF SAINT MATTHIAS THE APOSTLE

# BRIDGES

WWW.STMATTHIAS.ORG

DECEMBER 14, 2023



## CHRISTMAS SERVICE PROJECT REMINDERS

Tomorrow the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students will be making sandwiches for quests of Warm Nights at Mt. Calvary Catholic Church. Thank you to all who purchased ice pops to raise money for the lunch items. The fifth graders will be assembling the lunches.

All classes are collecting toiletries and new socks to give as Christmas gifts to these people who do not have permanent shelter. Although classes were assigned specific items, **all** donations are appreciated. Please send small to medium-sized toiletries. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade will be assembling these bags.

## IXL CHALLENGE

The students will receive the details about the IXL Winter Challenge on Monday. Please look for this information and encourage your child to participate. MAP tests in math will take place in January. Help us celebrate growth for every child (grades K-8). IXL is a very robust learning tool. There are thirteen days of grade specific skill challenges. Students who complete 10 to a smart score of 80 or for 40 minutes each will be recognized as IXL champions and receive a prize. If a student is having difficulty with a specific skill, they can ask for instructional examples or watch a video explanation. Your help, encouragement and support are vital to the children's growth and success. If you need a device, contact Mr. Loughner at [gloughner@stmatthias.org](mailto:gloughner@stmatthias.org).

## LOOKING AHEAD

The Christmas break begins at noon on December 21 through January 1. On Tuesday, January 2 classes will. If you know your child will not be in attendance due to travel, please contact the teacher or Mrs. Blackburn. It is important that all students return to school rested and ready to learn. There are less than three weeks remaining in the second quarter so it is important that the students are diligent about their studies to do well on their report cards which will be distributed on January 25.



### Monday, December 18

Mini Dance Ministry  
3:00 - 4:15 pm  
Title I Tutoring - Reading

### Tuesday, December 19

Dance Ministry  
3:00 - 4:30 pm  
Title I Tutoring - Math

### Wednesday, December 20

Title I Tutoring - Reading  
Christmas Program 6:30 pm



### Thursday, December 21

Pj's & Pancakes  
Noon Dismissal

### Friday, December 22

School Closed

## THANK YOU

The children and staff are grateful to those who donated pinatas for the Las Posadas celebration that will take place tomorrow afternoon. The service, which recounts Mary and Joseph's search for shelter on the night of Our Savior's birth, will take place in Friendship Hall at 2 PM, followed by each class breaking the pinata and enjoying lots of candy.

## PJS AND PANCAKES

On Thursday, December 21 the students may come to school in their pajamas and enjoy a breakfast of pancakes, sausage, and applesauce. [Students may not wear gowns](#), see through, tight fitting, body suits or slippers or bathrobes. The classes will meet in small groups in Friendship Hall. Christmas crafts will take place in the classroom. A very special guest will be visiting the classrooms and reading to the children. **Dismissal is at noon. Please be on time to pick up your child.** The teachers' Christmas luncheon begins at 12:15.

## HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION NEWS

Helpers are still needed for PJs and Pancakes. Please check out the Sign Up Genius that was emailed on Tuesday. You still have time to sign up. We need a couple more folks.

We are compiling a list of tasks to beautify and improve our school building and campus for the second annual Martin Luther King Day of Service. Parents are invited to donate their time and labor on January 15. Look for a Sign Up Genius the first week of January.

## SAVE THE DATE

All parents and guardians are invited to the HSA General Meeting which will take place on **Tuesday January 30**. This meeting falls within Catholic Schools Week, which is an annual celebration of the contribution Catholic schools make to our church and society. Look for details regarding the program, guest speakers, and fellowship.

## HELP WANTED

St. Matthias is in need of volunteers to staff the Health Room. Ideally, a parent who is a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse could volunteer once a month to help out for the school day. We need 4 volunteers so that we have coverage once per week from now until the end of the school year. Of course, volunteer service hours will be given. To help, please call or email Mrs. Blackburn or Nurse Self ([dself@stmatthias.org](mailto:dself@stmatthias.org)).

## BRIDGES

This is the last edition of our school newsletter for 2023. Thanks to all who read it thoroughly and faithfully.

Merry  
Christmas

