

PCRS WEEKLY PRESS

DECEMBER 1, 2011

www.portsmouthcatholic.net



Dear Portsmouth Catholic Regional Families,

Every day I am inspired by the generosity of our PCRS faith community. This beautiful living out of God's commandment to care for our neighbors was again witnessed in the generous donations for turkeys for Oasis. I am so proud to tell you we collected \$200 dollars and many bags of much needed groceries. Parents, you are modeling your faith in action to our students with your wonderful generosity! Thank you so very much! I know we were able to make a difference in the lives of others.

Happy Advent! We begin each Monday of Advent gathered together in prayer as a school lighting the candles of our Advent wreath in our main hallway. We are focused on praying and service to others in preparing our hearts for the birth of our Savior. Enclosed in today's envelope is a beautiful "Family Advent Checklist" which was shared with me by one of our PCRS families. It is so easy to get caught up in the commercialism of Christmas that we can lose our focus on the meaning of Advent. The Family Advent Checklist includes great suggestions which I am going to add to the Paul family Advent traditions. As a school we began our December Outreach Project of "Bibs, Bottles, and Booties" this week. In honor of the Holy Family and in remembrance of the birthday of the Christ Child we are participating in an Advent Baby Shower supporting Catholic Charities. Each week of Advent, we will focus on a different need and respond with prayer as well as a baby item. During this first week of Advent we are cleansing our hearts of selfishness and greed. Please help keep babies clean, which is no easy task and requires many items. Please consider donations of wash cloths, towels, baby wash, shampoo, lotion, wipes, and diapers. In honor of the feast of St. Nicholas, the patron saint of children and givers, our focus during the second week of Advent is baby shoes, booties, or socks. The baby items decorate the Christmas tree in our main hall. I think our tree is one of best decorated I have ever seen when it is covered with all the amazing baby items! We are partnering with the Cluster Parishes in our ADVENTURE. Our Advent Outreach of providing items for newborns enables us to focus on JOY this Advent season – Jesus, Others and Yourself.

We are so pleased we will have Mass for the December 8th Holy Day of Obligation at PCRS in our gym next week. All families and PCRS friends are invited to our Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Liturgy which will be celebrated by Fr. Jim Connolly at 9:00a.m. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us.

It seems so hard to believe that two weeks from today is our 3rd Annual School-Wide Christmas Program. Please mark your calendar now to attend our 3rd annual school-wide Christmas program on Thursday evening, December 15th at 7:00pm. Following our program we will share cookies and punch. Our PAT (Parent Advisory Team) will provide the punch. We are asking all PCRS families to bring one dozen delicious cookies to share. Our Music teacher, Mrs. Butler, and our students have been working very hard practicing for our Christmas program this year. This program is our Christmas gift to our parents from our students. PreK3 through 8th grade students are requested to please wear Church Christmas dress up clothes for the program. All boys should wear red, white, or green shirts and dark pants (black or navy). All girls should wear holiday, red, or green dresses, or red, white or green shirts with dark skirts or pants. Boys and girls who are shepherds will be wearing shepherd costumes. We are requesting no jeans, no sweat pants and no sneakers. Please do not feel you must purchase new clothes for our program. Students may wear their school uniform navy blue pants if you do not have black pants/skirt already. I'm looking forward to what a wonderful night this will be for our Portsmouth Catholic Faith community! Please plan on being there.

In Christ, Mrs. Mary Ellen Paul

Put a Song in Your Heart **and Find that Christmas Spirit!**

Families and students are invited to participate at
The Ladies of St. Therese annual Christmas Party
at Bon Secours Maryview Nursing Care Center in Suffolk on
Saturday, December 10th at 10:00am.

Please plan to participate and give the gift of love, happiness
and music to those residents.

Please see flyer in today's envelope with all the details.

Last Call for

Parent's Night Out Reservations
Our PCRS PTO is sponsoring a "free"
evening of babysitting for all our families.
December 2, 2011 6-9p.m. at PCRS
Please feed your child dinner before.
Snacks and entertainment provided.
Last opportunity to register by
3:00p.m. today. Call the office.

PCRS Basketball Season Opens This Weekend

Come one, come all to support your favorite Pirates! Our grand opener this Saturday, December 3rd begins our basketball season! Come cheer for one team or cheer for them all!

Go Pirates! We are PROUD Of You!

Midgets play at 10:00am, followed by Junior Boys at 11:00am and Senior Boys at 12:15pm.

Your Pirate basketball teams are ready to play and they need their fans to be ready too!

See you at the court this weekend!

Scrip Tip # 10

Only 24 Shopping Days Until Christmas!!!!

Does your place of business use gift cards as incentives or rewards around the holidays? Consider purchasing your cards from our Cash and Carry Inventory. We can order large quantities of Amazon.com cards, grocery store cards or any other Scrip card!! Just call Diane Bailey at 538-3245 or the school office and we can order your cards this week.

Once ordered, the cards will be available for pickup within three days.

The SCRIP volunteers are available EVERY morning (7:45-8:30) from now until Christmas break to handle your SCRIP order. Our Cash and Carry Inventory will be fully stocked through the last week of school before the Christmas Break. Buy SCRIP Cards at PCRS and avoid the crowds at the malls while helping raise money for our tuition fund!!!!

Feelin' Good Mileage Walking Club

We are continuing with our Wellness theme for this year and focusing on physical wellness. We are continuing our "Feelin' Good Mileage Club". The aim of the "Feelin' Good Mileage Club" is individual performance and physical wellbeing, as well as helping our students to gain an appreciation of walking as a lifetime exercise. Please have your student join our "Mileage Club" of walkers after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning December 1st. Please note a permission slip must be returned for your child to participate after school in our "Walking Club".

SAC Sponsored Skating Party

Come join the fun on Saturday, Dec. 10th from 5:15p.m. to 7:15p.m. at Smithfield Skating Rink. Tickets must be purchased in advance through PCRS.

Tickets are \$5 per skater.

No tickets will be available at the skating rink on the night of the party.

PCRS Christmas Craft Fair

on December 10th

from 9:00a.m. – 3:00p.m.

in our gym.

Great gifts, crafts, Santa, and food!

Mrs. Paul's Principal Wish List

Wanted: Volunteers needed to assist with the mailing of our 2011-12 Annual Appeal. This would include stuffing envelopes, addressing envelopes and preparing the mailing. Great way to complete Volunteer Hours! Please call PCRS office with name. Thank you!