

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that it is already December, and the first trimester is over. Your children have been hard at work learning so many new concepts. First-trimester progress reports (what we used to call report cards) will be available online on **Friday, December 8**. We will continue the practice of sending home the report card envelope, which will include instructions on how to access the progress report on Toddle. We kindly request your signature and its return.

Our classrooms have been buzzing with excitement this week. Our IB unit is ending, and students are eagerly completing their final projects. Projects are **due on Monday, December 4th**. Students will be presenting them to the class starting Monday. All information, including a rubric for the assignment, can be found on Toddle.

As one science unit ends, another begins. In this unit, students investigate and predict the weather through careful observation of the clouds and wind. Students also learn to differentiate between weather and climate and use models to reveal global climate patterns. Also included in this unit is a study of climate change and global warming. We will again use our voices to take action in our homes, schools, and communities.

Our writing publication party will be on Tuesday. Thank you for all the excitement in listening to your children's stories. We will gather in both third-grade classrooms for this celebration. Each child will be reading their story to a small group of classmates and a couple of adults. If you have volunteered, please make sure to check in at the office for a visitor pass.

Given the forthcoming events over the next few weeks, our spelling classes will be put on hold until we reconvene in January. We will incorporate the Christmas theme into our reading sessions through a variety of fiction and nonfiction reading activities. Moreover, each child will receive a script for a readers' theatre, which they will take home for practice next week. Memorization of the script is not required, however, rehearsal is encouraged to enhance their fluency.

In Mathematics, the children are currently exploring the use of patterns to facilitate multiplication by 0, 1, 2, 5, and 10. They will be provided with flashcards to take home for practice on each of these tables. These tables will form the basis for a memorization test, so regular practice is highly encouraged.

Attached is our letter about the classroom Polar Express Christmas Party and Book Exchange. Please read through and let us know if you are not able to send in a book for the exchange.

Important Dates

12/4 - All-School Advent Prayer Service in the auditorium (8:35 am)
12/8 - Progress Reports shared in Toddle
12/8 - All-school Mass (9:30 am) Feast of Immaculate Conception
12/11 - Advent Prayer Service in the auditorium (8:35 am)
12/13 - Mass grades 3-8 (8:45am)
12/13 - Christmas Program (6:30 pm) (students arrive in classrooms by 6 pm sharp)
12/14 - Polar Express Classroom Party/Book Exchange
12/15 - Advent Prayer Service in the auditorium (8:35 am)
12/15 - FREE DRESS FRIDAY-School Family Caroling competition-indoor snowball fight
12/15 - NOON DISMISSAL
12/18 - 12/29 - NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break
1/1 - NO SCHOOL - Happy New Year!

Thank you again for all your support,

Valerie Sheehan and Susan Smith