



December 11, 2009

Dear Parents,

Congratulations to Miss Baldus and our K-3 students on an outstanding **Christmas concert** last Monday evening. The church was filled with singing voices as our students gave "The Best Present of All".

The **Band and Choir Christmas Concert** is scheduled for Tuesday, December 15 at 7:00 pm. The students will watch the dress rehearsal performance at 2:00 pm.

There is **no school** Friday, December 18 through Friday, January 1 for Christmas vacation. Students will return to school on Monday, January 4th.

Wednesday's **unexpected snow day** served as a good reminder about our snow day / closing procedures. Anytime District #197(West St Paul - Mendota Heights - Eagan) is closed, we are closed, even if you don't see St. Joseph's School listed.

The snow and ice bring new challenges with our **drop-off and pick up** procedures. When dropping off in the morning, please allow cars to pull away from the curb and then pull up as far as possible. We remind you to turn right at the end of the block. At the end of the day, parents **MUST** get out of the cars and escort children back to the vehicle - even when it's cold! In fact, the cold weather, packed snow and slippery spots add to safety concerns. Your help is necessary to keep our kids safe!

**Exciting Opportunity Alert!** We are redesigning our school's website and are excited about a new look and user friendly format. The site organization plan and design work is ready to go, but we need some technical assistance to move forward. We need someone who is familiar with the Dreamweaver program, and specifically the CSS format to assist us. This is a short-term commitment and does not involve committee work. The school has an in-house web master who maintains the web site, so you will not be needed after the initial launch. This opportunity to share your expertise could be on a volunteer basis or a stipend. Could you help us out or do you know someone who could? Interested, but have some questions? Contact Annie Broos at 651-789-8300 or [anbroos@stjosephwsp.org](mailto:anbroos@stjosephwsp.org).

Mrs. Herndon will be accompanying a team of eighth graders to the **Archdiocesan Quiz Bowl** on Monday, December 14.

A flyer is coming home today regarding the **Teacher Gift Program** sponsored by the Home and School Association. Donations should be made by Monday, December 14.

**Swim Team registration** materials are coming home today and should be returned by Thursday, December 17th. The practice schedule and order forms for suits and goggles may be found on the school's athletic website. There will be a short informal meeting in the Parish Great Room (prior to the Band/Choir concert) on Tuesday, December 15 from 6:00-6:45 pm. A representative from Elsmore Aquatic will be present to assist with swim suit purchases.

Youth Frontiers will again be working with the **6th graders** for their retreat day on Thursday, December 17. Home and School helps sponsor this great opportunity.

The **Preschool Program** will have their Christmas Concert on Monday at 7:00 pm in the church followed by a reception in the parish's Great Room.

Please join us for our next school **mass** on Thursday, December 17th at 9:00 am in the church.

Jane E. Nordin, Principal