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December 5 - December 9

First Grade Parents,

 Welcome to the first full week of December and the second week of Advent!

 This week we will have both a spelling test and a Bible verse test. Our spelling words have the digraph “ch” in them. The 12 words are written in your child’s agenda and will be posted on my website shortly. We are on letter “I” for our Bible verse, and that will be posted shortly, as well.

 This week we are blessed to be able to attend Mass twice. We will attend the school Mass on Wednesday, as usual, and we will attend Mass on Thursday for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. Students need to be in Mass uniform both days. Both Masses are at 8:00 AM; we would love to have you join us!

 I do have information about our Christmas gift exchanges – there are two and they both happen on Pajama Day, December 20th. (We are having a “Happy Birthday, Jesus” party that day, as well.) If your child will not be here that day, he or she can still participate in both.

* Our first gift exchange will be with our 7th grade buddies. That will take place at about 9:30 AM. An appropriate gift for this exchange would be something in the $5 range. If you have trouble thinking of something for your child’s buddy, gift cards bought from the Scrip program with a nice, homemade card would be perfect! The big kids really wanted to do this exchange because they said they remembered how much fun it was when they were in first grade. Buddy gifts should be brought in on this day.

Our second gift exchange is a class gift exchange. We will do this gift exchange at about 11:00 AM. Our second gift exchange is a class gift exchange. We will do this gift exchange at about 11:00 AM. These gifts should be valued somewhere in the $5 - $10 range. It works like this:

 Boys will bring in gifts for a boy. The tag will read:

 To: A Boy

 From: (Your son’s name)

 Girls will bring in a gift for a girl. The tag will read:

 To: A Girl

 From: (Your daughter’s name)

These gifts will be chosen at random, so your child should not bring in a gift intended for a specific friend. Part of the fun is NOT knowing who will be receiving whose gift. Our Christmas tree is up, so these gifts can be brought in at any time.

If participating in either of these is a financial hardship, please let me know. I want all children to be able to participate, but I do not want this to be a burden for anyone. We are part of an amazing Catholic community that can help out.

 Don’t forget about the Scholastic book order that is open. Books are fantastic Christmas presents!! Book orders went home last week. There are some special catalogs available this year with religious and holiday choices. If you are ordering online, look under the Special Collections tab. If you need me to, I can pass any orders along to Santa. Just let me know which books those are and I will be sure that he gets that list. You can access Scholastic through the Parent tab on my website. The order will close on Thursday, December 8th.

 Finally, with the cold weather here, please take a minute to label sweaters/sweatshirts and review our CTK Dress Code. Some violations I am currently seeing in the classroom pertain to sock/tights/leggings and jackets. Socks must be plain navy, white, or black. Tights must be plain navy, white, or flesh-colored. Leggings and leg warmers are not allowed. Sweaters and sweatshirts worn in the classroom must conform to the uniform dress code. Hooded jackets, sweaters, or sweatshirts are never allowed. Winter coats worn to and from school can be of any color and can have hoods, but they cannot be worn during the school day. School sweatshirts/sweaters must always be worn under a winter coat. (Trust me – the teachers like dealing with uniform violations as much as all of you…ugh!!)

 Thank you to the Berryman Family for providing snacks this week. The Cortes Family will be providing snacks next week.

 May God Bless You,

 Mrs. Stevason