



ST. SEBASTIAN SCHOOL

Celebrating Over 100 Years of Catholic Education

November 30, 2016

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Dear St. Sebastian families,

Happy Advent and welcome back from Thanksgiving break! Transition back to routine can be difficult, especially when it looks like "night" as we wake up these days! It didn't take long, however, to get back into the swing of things around St. Sebastian and St. Coletta Schools!

I wanted to first share with you an exciting communal success, that 100% of our students had a parent / teacher conference about his or her progress this fall! This is an expectation that is worth celebrating, as collaboration and communication are vital to the success of each child. Thank you - both parents and staff - for your dedication and commitment to ensuring this is a norm of who we are for our kids.

Another area for collaboration exists in our school-wide goal of increasing Math achievement, a focus I shared at the All Parent Meeting in September. One foundational area we are targeting with students is math *fluency*, which is about efficient and accurate methods for computing and more than simply memorizing facts and procedures. Perhaps as a child, you memorized math facts through time tests. Under the modern Math curriculum, for some students memorization "works" when learning basic facts, however, the goal is for all students to truly *understand* math concepts, being efficient, accurate, and flexible in their thinking. Part of your child's math curriculum involves learning a variety of strategies and methods to solve problems. In the coming weeks, we will be sharing strategies, activities, and resources for you to partner with us in helping support your child at home. As you shop for the holidays, consider games that promote math skills, logic, and critical thinking. From a simple deck of playing cards or math flash cards, to games like Legos, Chess, Othello, Checkers, and Mastermind, to high tech electronic resources - it all helps!

Finally, as we began our season of Advent this past Sunday, we pray together as a community this first week: "*Light in me a desire to prepare for your coming, Lord, to stand in the darkness, waiting, eager, and filled with joy! Amen.*"

God bless you,
Ms. Grams

REMINDER: AFTER SCHOOL CHESS CLUB BEGINS DECEMBER 1ST! - On Thursday, December 1st, the After School Chess Club will begin its 11th year at Sebs. The Club will be held every Thursday from 3:00 until 4:15 through the end of April. Students in grades 1-8 are welcome even if you don't know how to play chess. Students should bring a simple snack to eat in the cafeteria after school. Dues will be \$5 for the year and registration forms will be available at the first meeting.

More information about the Club will be given at a **Parent Information Meeting** which will take place on December 1st and again on December 8th in the Art Room from 4:15 - 4:30 pm. Please join us to learn about our plans for the year including the need for parent volunteers, upcoming off-site tournaments and more.

Please contact Jeff Klarer at (414) 339-8887 or jklarer@hotmail.com if you have any questions.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR - Rehearsal is cancelled for December 6 (3-3:30) due to the rescheduling of the School Christmas Concert later that evening.

ATTENTION ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS – There will be an informational meeting for all middle school students AND their parents that are interested in joining our award winning forensic team on Monday, December 5th from 7:00 – 8:00 PM in the church hall.

The forensic program and categories will be explained and most importantly, schedules of tournaments will be handed out. If you have basketball practice conflicts, please make sure to send a parent in your place to pick up materials and to get you registered. Rehearsals start in January, so you need to start looking for your program now in December. See you on December 5th.

CHRISTMAS SCRIP ORDERS – Orders must be turned into the school office by December 9th to assure delivery in time for Christmas. See the attached order form.

SCRIP ORDER FORM



SPIRIT WEAR ORDERS - The SPIRIT WEAR store closes in a few days so please place your orders for hats, shirts, scarves and so much more. These items make unique Christmas gifts and birthday presents your child's St. Sebastian friends will love. Order deadline: December 5. Delivery Monday December 19th. Click here now: <https://sebsgear.itemorder.com> Contact Rebecca Desch (deschjr@me.com) with questions. Thank you for supporting your St. Sebastian Home & School.

Holly Berry Gold Christmas Boutique-December 3-4 -It's finally almost here - the 50th anniversary Boutique. Be sure to drop your bakery off in the Church Hall on Thursday after 5 p.m. and all day on Friday. Shop the Boutique on Saturday from 9 a.m. - noon. You'll be sure to pick up some unique, hand-made gifts for Christmas gift-giving. Sunday from 9 a.m.-12 take your family to breakfast in the Church Hall and continue shopping. There will be special family activities including Santa's Workshop shopping for children and a visit from St. Nick. See the attached flyer for details.

Service hours are available to clean up following these events.

CITY TINS - City Tins have arrived. Please see attachments with all the details on our newest fundraiser. These make wonderful gifts and allow everyone to enjoy local restaurants, theatre, and brew pubs. Please order with the attached order form or order directly with Gloria Rios at Gloria_rios@yahoo.com. Please make all checks payable to St. Sebastian Home and School.

Tins will be on display in the school office so you can check them out.

Order now through December 10th or until they are gone – quantities are limited! Each Tin is \$30. Each tin houses 20 or more coasters, each worth \$10 off your tab at 20 iconic, locally owned venues. It is a \$200 value in every clever little tin for only \$30. These make the perfect Christmas gifts.

Tins are available for immediate delivery. Please use the attached order form or contact Gloria Rios at Gloria_rios@yahoo.com.

Make checks payable to St. Sebastian's Home and School. Return your order form to the office or use backpack mail attn: Steven Rios, Room 210.

City Tins

Family Name _____

Mail Carrier Room Number or Homeroom Teacher Last Name _____

Tins Available for Immediate Delivery:

Milwaukee Restaurant Edition _____

Milwaukee Bar and Lounge Edition _____

Milwaukee Performing Arts Edition _____

Please indicate which tin or tins you would like to order.

Other tins may be ordered and will be delivered.

Please make check out to St. Sebastian Home and School.

