



ST. MONICA ACADEMY

5115 N. MONT CLARE AVE. CHICAGO, IL 60656
773-631-7880 • stmonicachicago.com

Parent Newsletter

November 30, 2011

Mr. Ray Coleman, Principal

Students Are Preparing...

Every year, we prepare for the coming of Jesus during the season of Advent. The values of hope, love, joy, and peace are represented by Advent wreaths. Students will participate in classroom activities and several school-wide prayer assemblies in the gym scheduled in December.

Christmas Program

We are looking forward to our annual

Christmas Program which will be held on Wednesday, December 14th at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. in the Church. This is a special time to share the spirit of the season. The Christmas Program will feature many of our 1st grade students with students in other grades narrating. Each grade level will be involved in retelling the "Story of Jesus" through songs of

praise. In this year's celebration, we will tell the story through various animals represented by our 1st graders. We hope you can share in this wonderful program presented to you by the school children. December 14th is also "Dress Up Day" and an opportunity for our school children to dress up in Christmas colors and their best Sunday clothes.

Speech Team Makes Strong Showing

In another contest, the St. Monica Speech and Drama Team competed in the Fenwick Speech Tournament last month. A special thank you is extended to junior high teacher, Julie Wiss and Michael Sheehan, who spent many hours working and guiding the students. The following students received 1st place awards: Sydney Ryan (7th gr.) in Prose Reading and Daniel Nieves (8th gr.) in Declamation. Claire Herrin (6th gr.) earned a 2nd place award in Poetry Reading. Other top finishers were Elijah Irizarry, Kevin Mack, Mary Kate Hogan, and Lexi Ippolito. Congratulations to all of our talented students!

Science Fair Offers Excitement and Learning

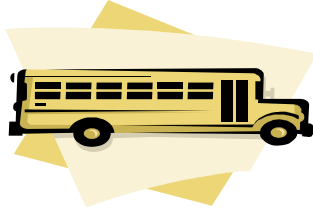
An important academic event will be held Tuesday, December 6th. The St. Monica Academy Science Fair in its 11th year is an opportunity for our 7th and 8th grade students to share and present their science fair projects. They have been working hard for months preparing their projects with a chance to advance to the re-

gional and state competitions.

The Science Fair challenges our students to pursue a topic that is all their own under the guidance of Mrs. Kiszynski, our junior high science instructor. The projects challenge our students to design an experiment, do research on a topic of their choice, create a

display board, and then present their work orally to visiting judges. Judges are represented by local grammar schools, high schools, area universities, local military personnel, and various industries and organizations. We are looking forward to this event.

Important Reminders



During arrival and dismissal times, we need your cooperation. Please refrain from walking through the building during these busy times unless you have a scheduled appointment with a teacher. All visitors are reminded to sign in at the office and log a destination or reason. Thank you for your cooperation.

Here are helpful tips to keep your children healthy during this time of year: wash hands to prevent the spread of germs (soap and water as well as hand sanitizer), cover coughs or sneezes with a tissue or sleeve, and clean table, desks, and other surfaces. Please remember to call in by 9:00 a.m. each morning, when your child is absent.

Upcoming Events



Holiday Gift Shop in Rzany Hall on Dec. 2nd, 3rd, & 4th

Lunch with Santa in Beyenka Hall on Dec. 3rd 1:00 to 4:00

All School Advent Prayer Assemblies in Gym on Dec. 5th & 12th at 2:15 p.m.

St. Monica Academy Science Fair in Beyenka Hall on Dec. 6th

School Mass in the Church on Dec. 8th at 9:15 a.m. - Immaculate Conception (Holy Day)

Jingle to the Mall Day in Beyenka Hall on Dec. 10th 6:30– 9:30 p.m.

Christmas Band Concert in Beyenka Hall on Dec. 13th at 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

School Christmas Program in the Church on Dec. 14th at 1:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

School Confessions on Dec. 16th for grades 3-8

Lunch with Santa and Holiday Gift Shop Opening Soon!

The 3rd Annual “Lunch with Santa” will be held in Beyenka Hall on Saturday, Dec 3rd 1-4 p.m. Pizza, salad, soft drinks, and dessert will be served. Come and say hello to Santa and get your picture taken with him.

On Friday, December 2nd, kids can shop at the St. Monica Holiday Gift Shop. Bring your money and get ready to do all your Christmas shopping in one convenient place!

Tell mom and dad to come get their shopping done too. The Gift Shop is open in Rzany Hall after school and into the evening on Friday, all day Saturday and Sunday, December 3rd and 4th.