

SAINT MARY STAR OF THE SEA SCHOOL
16 HUNTINGTON STREET
NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT 06320
(860) 443-7758

January 7, 2009

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers:

Happy New Year! The faculty and staff at St Mary's welcomes back all our students. As we begin the new calendar year, we will continue to strive to create a school that stimulates our students' minds and demands academic excellence. We will continue to make our school a safe haven for students and teachers.

Thank You!

A big "Thank You" goes out to Mrs. Connors, Mr. Jose Escobar, all the teachers, and our students for all their hard work on the Christmas presentation. The children were exceptional! They were absolutely wonderful in the show and they all looked beautiful. We know that this would not have happened without parents' help, so "Thank You" for helping making this Christmas presentation a memorable one.

Catholic Schools Week

The 34th annual National Catholic Schools Week is January 25th through January 31st. It is a national celebration of the important role Catholic elementary and secondary schools across the nation play in providing values. There will be a Pancake Breakfast, sponsored by the Parent's Guild, following the 9:45 Mass on January 25th. The School Mass is at 12:00 on January 25th to kick off Catholic Schools Week. Immediately following the 12:00 Mass, the Parents' Guild will also be sponsoring a Spanish Food Sale in Assumption Hall. We will have activities for the students throughout the week. The Parents' Guild will then sponsor a Spaghetti Dinner and basket raffle on January 31st. Please contact the school to volunteer for these events. Remember, every family needs to have a minimum of 10 volunteer hours by May 31st.

Reminders

January, February, and March means cold, nasty weather. Please remember to make sure your children come to school dressed for the cold weather. They need a jacket that can be closed (no broken zippers), a hat, and gloves. If there are no puddles on the blacktop, we go outside for recess.

Students should not be wearing sweatshirts other than the St Mary's sweatshirt in school.

I'm sure that we will be getting snow throughout the remainder of the winter. Please remember to check the local stations for information regarding school cancellations. St. Mary's follows New London Public Schools regarding cancellation of classes.

Tuition is due the first of the month. For those families paying monthly, 60% of your tuition should be paid by January 9th. It is essential that your tuition be paid on time because St. Mary's primary source of funds is tuition from our families.

All families are required to volunteer at the school or at Parents' Guild sponsored events. Parents must volunteer a minimum of 10 hours by the end of May. In addition, families are required to raise \$100 in fundraisers. If these requirements are not met, families will be assessed an additional \$100 to be paid before the last week of school.

Some important dates to remember:

- January 9th – 12:30 Dismissal
- January 19th – Martin Luther King Day, No School
- January 25th – Pancake Breakfast
- January 25th – School Mass at 12:00 and Spanish Food Sale
- January 31st – Pasta Dinner and Basket Raffle
- February 6th – 12:30 Dismissal

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me 443-7758.

God bless you,

Regina Ferrante
Principal