

SHS: HOME/SCHOOL CONNECTION

SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Ms. Abigail Akano - Principal

Mrs. Patricia Maldonado - Assistant Principal

Fr. Joseph Franco - Pastor/Administrator

JANUARY



Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope everyone had a restful vacation and a happy New Year. I wish you and yours all the very best in 2012

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the faculty,

staff, students, volunteers, and parents who helped to make the holiday season of 2011 so great.

SHS was blessed to see Santa not once but twice in December. Every student in grades pre-K - 4th was blessed to go home with a requested gift. For this we thank the kindness and generosity of Cathedral of St. Patrick's Young Adults and their Dear Santa Program.

The students of SHS exemplified the December value of in-

fusion by buying items to give to our less fortunate neighbors in Sienna House.

Mrs. Diana Rosario collected and donated coats to the school. We thank her and her organization for their generosity. We have several coats, suitable for very young children, available in the school office. Please see Mrs. Diaz.

In addition, our annual Christmas pageant was met with rave reviews. The students worked hard and the result was clearly evident in how

beautiful they looked and sounded.

With the start of the New Year, we are back in full swing. We look forward to a very productive and successful New Year.

January Values Infusion Theme:

FLEXIBILITY

Value Question: How can I STRETCH myself and be open to the needs of others?

Scripture: Mt. 7: 1-2

"Stop judging, that you may not be judged. For as you judge, so will you be judged, and the measure with which you measure will be measured out to you."

Calendar Updates/Changes

We apologize for any inconvenience these changes may cause. We ask to you bear in mind that calendars are created and sent for printing during the summer months. Life has a way of changing plans and reminding us that **"Man plans, God laughs."**

- Thursday, April 19th - Full Day
- Friday, April 20th - School in session, Noon Dismissal, Report Card Conferences 1-5pm
- Thursday, May 24th - School Closed (New Archdiocese Religion Conference Date)
- Friday, June 15th - 8th Grade graduation @ 6pm - Noon dismissal for all 8th grade students.



Pennies For Patients

As part of a continuation of the giving spirit of Sacred Heart, students will be participating in the Pennies for Patients campaign with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. We will have a kickoff assembly sometime in January and begin our coin drive February 1st and continue until the 29th. Students are encouraged to drop their spare change in a collection box located in their classroom. This fantastic service-learning project will promote caring, citizenship, and team work amongst our students. We're looking forward to helping a great organization that helps so many kids. If you would like more information, please visit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's School and Youth Programs website at:

<http://www.schoolandyouth.org/school/Controller?action=homepage>

Cold Weather Alert

It's that time of year again. PLEASE send your children to school dressed appropriately for the weather. The building is generally not open until 8:05am (Please see handbook regarding entry procedures). Students are outside before school and after school. Children who are not dressed properly, and whose skin is exposed to extremely cold weather, can suffer frostbite within minutes. Cold weather injuries can be prevented by following a few simple precautions.



January's Highlights

January promises to be a very busy month. Below are some of the highlights:

- Midterms begin (1/17-1/25) - See **insert** for schedule and study tips
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

"An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow

confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity."

Martin Luther King, Jr.

On Monday, January 16th school will be **closed** in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Take time to reflect on the impact that Mr. King's life had on all Americans.

- Science Fair Project

sheets sent home - see **insert** for planning guide

- Catholic schools week begins 1/29, with family mass @ 12pm. - This year's theme: **Faith. Academics. Service.**
- 1/29 SHS Book Fair begins
- 2nd Quarter end 1/30

Make a New Year's Resolution a READ-SOLUTION

Entering college or a career may seem a long way off for our children, but the foundation for life-long literacy begins in the elementary years. This includes increasing expectations for critical thinking. Critical thinking means to read and understand challenging texts with differing perspectives, as well as to judge the validity of these viewpoints based on evidence.

Last summer New York State adopted the national Common Core Learning Standards for Literacy, which are designed so that all students develop the 21st century literacy skills necessary for success in college, career, and life.

Exciting shifts in education, focusing on critical thinking, are occurring throughout our state and our nation. An increased emphasis is placed on having students:

1. Read more authentic informational texts.
2. Receive instruction in literacy skills while studying subjects, such as social studies and science.
3. Engage in a "staircase of text complexity;" in other words, read texts with complex ideas, sophisticated language, rich vocabulary, and a specific author's purpose.
4. Research and evaluate information from multiple sources.
5. Cite evidence from texts to support ideas, reasoning, and opinions.
6. Develop a broad knowledge of words used in academic tasks and subjects.

Sustained reading in school and at home is essential. Here are some tips for our parents:

Lead by Example

Whether parents read books, newspapers, magazines, or an electronic reader, they model for their children the value of reading. Going a step further, when parents discuss and critique what they read, children learn that reading is thinking! Expert readers formulate ideas and opinions based on what they read.

Read with Your Child and Share Ideas

As you read stories or informational texts together, discuss your reactions, questions, and interpretations. Talk about how re-reading clarifies confusions and deepens understanding. Explain what you have learned, or how a text has helped you. Encourage your children to share their ideas, too. Following your lead, talking about reading teaches children to be independent thinkers and critical consumers of information.

Be Sure to Find Time to Read

Help your child to plan time in his/her daily schedule for home reading. Some convenient times for reading may be after dinner or before bedtime.

Both student-selected and school-assigned readings are essential components in the development of literacy. By making sure that your child reads, you are supporting growth in reading fluency, as well as important critical thinking, vocabulary, and communication skills. Readers are successful in school and in life!

As a family, make your new year's resolution be a "read-solution" to increase home reading!

Educating The Whole Child

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Mission Statement:

Sacred Heart School shares the commitment of all Catholic schools to “the development of the whole person.” Its primary mission is to make sure each child has learning experiences that instill positive attitudes and provide knowledge and skills necessary for their intellectual, emotional, spiritual and physical development. Sacred Heart is determined to create an academically challenging environment that encourages students be excellent, to be respectful of others, and to be responsible members of the community.



STUDENT OF THE MONTH
 DECEMBER
 COMMUNITY

“Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together...but encouraging one another.”

**Hebrews
 10:24–25**

PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN

- Justin Irizarry
- Ianthy Fernandez
- Jaylyn Lopez (Art)
- Nathaly Rosario (Art)

FIRST GRADE

- Chanel Roman
- Aaliyah Cruz
- Bryan Contreras (Art)
- Antonia Kubanik (Art)
- Krismely Peña (Art)
- Joshua Ruiz (Art)
- Chanel Roman (Art)

SECOND GRADE

- Yarline Fulcar
- Persia Wilcox

- Joshua Alvarez (Art)
- Magdalene Aideyan (Art)

THIRD GRADE

- Natasha Guzman
- Ibrahim Adebisi
- Joselys Reyes (Art)
- Ibrahim Adebisi (Art)

FOURTH GRADE

- Genesis Espinal
- Nykara Agosto

FIFTH GRADE

- Christine Llanos
- Denise Rojas
- Orlando Mendoza (Art)
- Juan Ruiz III (Art)

SIXTH GRADE

- Jerry Beniakrou
- Alanis Hernandez
- Yennina Lora (Art)
- Euris Correa (Art)

SEVENTH GRADE

- Liz Marie Lee
- Danisha Phamphile
- Zuleika Rymer (Art)
- Fransheska Lopez (Art)

EIGHTH GRADE

- Winston Vasquez
- Ashley Sepulveda
- Favio Cruz (Art)
- Desiree Ortiz (Art)