



THE ACADEMY OF SAINT MATTHIAS THE APOSTLE

BRIDGES

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DECEMBER 2, 2021



PICTURE DAY

Portrait photographs will be taken of PK3-Grade 8 students on Monday, December 6 beginning at 8:30 AM. All children may be out of uniform on that day. We encourage all families to consider purchasing a photo of their child. They are a wonderful keepsake and make great Christmas gifts for grandparents and relatives. The portraits will be available before Christmas. The students may wear their Christmas clothes. Be sure to send their school shoes for recess.

DEADLINE FOR ADW AIDE

The deadline to request tuition assistance from the Archdiocese of Washington is tomorrow, Friday, December 3 at 11:59 PM. We are pleased to share that 83% of the families who are currently receiving tuition assistance have completed their applications. Families who anticipate a change in financial circumstances that may result in the need for tuition assistance in order for a child to remain at St. Matthias, are strongly urged to complete the financial aid application in TADS immediately. Be sure to indicate it is for the 2022-2023 school year. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. O'Hare right away. No applications for current families will be considered after the December 3 deadline.

SPREAD THE WORD

There are currently 187 students enrolled in our school. We have now exceeded our pre-Covid enrollment and are closer to our capacity target of 215. If all current students enroll, we are looking at adding no more than 2 or 3 students in every grade. The school has many inquiries already, which is great news! Please note that re-enrollment in TADS will open on January 1. The re-enrollment fee of \$200 per family will remain the same. Tuition cost is still under advisement. Please encourage your friends, neighbors, and relatives to consider St. Matthias for their children's school experience. As a token of our appreciation, families who refer a family that completes one school year receive a \$500 credit toward tuition. Word of mouth is our most effective way to market our school.

PJS AND PANCAKES

The children are looking forward to the annual PJs and Pancakes on December 21. Please see the attached Home and School Association flier.



Monday, December 6

Picture Day

Tuesday, December 7

Student Council Meeting

Wednesday, December 8

Principal's Coffee

School Mass 9:45 am

Thursday December 9

God's Rods

IXL CHALLENGE WINNERS

Students in grades P4-8 were challenged to work on math in IXL from November 24 through December 1. Congratulations to these class champions who completed the most math. First place winners are listed first: Gr. P4, Ava-Naomie Makanjuola, Gr. K Chizarum Ibetoh, Harmony Brewer, Gr. 1, Bless Asangmbeng, Arian Calderon-Ramos, Gr. 2, Zugo Udebuala, Chelsea Esene, Gr. 4 Isatuh Conteh, Anthony Ekong, 5, Stephanie Oben, Bezankeng Khumbah, 6, Betselot Kassaye, Chijioke Akunwafor, 7, Malick Myrville, 8, Carlos Botts, De'Niza Myers. The top three winners were Staphanie Oben, Chizarum Ibetoh, and Bezankeng Khumbah.

LUNCHES

The number of children who are coming to school without a snack and lunch is increasing! There is very little food available to feed multiple children with something healthy to eat. As your child leaves home please be sure that he or she has a full lunchbox. Also, before driving away make sure that a lunchbox is not left in your car. Your children and the teachers thank you for our assistance with this request.

COAT DRIVE

One of our Christmas service projects is supporting the annual Catholic Charities Coat Drive. New and gently used, clean coats for adults and children are needed. Please be as generous as you can. If a coat is not within your means, new hats and gloves are also greatly appreciated. The last day to donate a coat is December 17.

PROGRESS REPORTS

On December 8 we are halfway through the second quarter. Progress reports will be distributed on Monday, December 13. Please encourage your child to complete all schoolwork and homework. Children in all grades should be reading or read to daily. Practice of math facts is also very important. All children should have addition and subtraction facts memorized by the end of second grade and all multiplication facts through 12 x 12 by the end of third grade. If your child is beyond these grades and still does not have math fact fluency, please encourage him or her to keep working to learn them.

CLUB REMINDERS

We are thrilled that the students in grades 3-8 have the opportunity to participate in drama and God's Rods (grades 6-8). However, younger siblings must be picked up at the regular dismissal time. Parents are encouraged to reach out to others in these clubs who have younger sibling to arrange car pools.

PRINCIPAL'S COFFEE

All are invited to coffee and tea with our principal, Mrs. Schratz on Wednesday, December 8 from 8:30-9:30 in the Hughes Center. Topics are determined by the parents. This is a great opportunity to meet other parents and to share your ideas for our school. All are welcome!

RAFFLE TICKETS

The school raffle tickets sell well to our parishioners. They love supporting our school! To sign-up for one or more masses, just call the school office. The drawings are held twice a month from February through May and people have multiple chances to win.