

The Principals' Page

St. Hilary School
December 2019

We hope you and your families had a wonderful Thanksgiving! It is hard to believe that December is here already! November was a short but busy school month. Thank you to all the parents who helped make our many November activities go smoothly - we couldn't do it all without you! Some of our activities in November included creating first grade Rudolph sweatshirts, the kindergarten Thanksgiving feasts, our school-wide food drive, and our version of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade featuring second and sixth grade STEM build floats, to name a few! A special note of gratitude to our Parents' Association for providing dinner for our teachers during conferences. We are also thankful for the time each of you took to meet with your children's teachers during conferences. Please remember that additional conferences may be requested and scheduled as needed at any time during the school year.



With the season of Advent upon us, we turn our thoughts to preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. This is one of the most important seasons of the church calendar, and we are honored to share this special time with your children here at school. In joyful anticipation, we pray together on the morning announcements each day. We continue to focus on our school theme, knowing that our students will truly grow in faith and service to others during Advent, as they develop the Courage to be a Saint.

Along those lines, we are proud to recognize the students who were named by their teachers to receive the Courage Award for the first quarter. This award honors students who exemplify the courage to be a saint, like Pier Giorgio Frassati. Our first quarter Courage Award recipients for grades K-8 are: Room 101 - Olivia Carducci, Room 102 - Marlowe Brown, Room 105 - Claudia Yant,

Room 104 - Audrey Varian, Room 106 - Ella Pfander, Room 110 - Cole Denholm, Room 103 - Colin McKee, Room 107 - Koen Latchaw, Room 108 - Reagan Heckman, Room 204 - Lauren Jackson, Room 208 - Gerald Prestier, Room 209 - Evelyn Wilkinson, Room 205 - Hadley Franjesh, Room 206 - Mya Vaselaney, Room 2017 - Benjamin Blevins, Room 201 - Emma Roke, Room 202 - Michael Mark, Room 203 - Olivia Horning, Room 111 - Ryan Mostoller, Room 113 - Lucy Winkelmann, Room 114 - Ben Goske, Room 115 - Lela Hoffert, Room 118 - Madison Orbovich, Room 119 - Brennan Albainy, Room 116 - Joseph Reese, Room 117 - James Collins, Room 120 - Cole Harvey, and Art - Grayson Donahue.

Congratulations also to five of our students who were recently recognized for their outstanding artwork. Our sixth, seventh and eighth grade students were among 1,200 students from across Summit County who competed in the 2020 Safety Kids Poster Contest, sponsored by Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh. Students designed posters to depict 12 rules of staying safe. Seventh grader Megan Umina won first place, eighth grader Anna Solomon and sixth grader Annie Sejba each won second place, sixth grader Jacob Bolha won third place, and eighth grader Audrey Sevald won honorable mention. The students were recognized at an awards ceremony on November 6.

During this especially busy time of year, we would like to call to your attention some important dates you may wish to take note of now. Our first and second graders will present their Christmas program in Horning Hall on December 11 at 6:30 p.m. Seventh and eighth grade students will have mid-term exams December 17, 18 and 19. December 20 will be our last day of school before Christmas Break. Christmas Break runs from December 23 through January 3. School resumes on January 6. The second quarter ends on January 10, and the third quarter will begin on January 13. Second quarter report cards will be available to download on Gradelink on January 14. Second quarter interim reports were issued on November 26. Please remember that student progress can be checked any time on Gradelink.

Please plan to attend the Parents' Association general meeting on January 15 at 7:00 p.m. in the Spiritual Center Gathering Area. Again this year, the meeting will be a combined meeting with our School Board. This meeting will feature an update from Mrs. Woodman with a look at the many exciting things we are doing here at school, and all parents are encouraged to attend. If you are considering kindergarten for your child next year, please RSVP by December 26 to 330-867-8720, ext. 343 for our Kindergarten Kaleidoscope event on January 9. This is a great way for parents and children to learn more about our kindergarten program! We

**Great Books Make
Heartwarming Gifts!
Principal's Picks**

Mrs. Woodman recommends *Blackout* by John Rocco. *Blackout* celebrates family and community coming together without distraction or devices. Don't forget to unplug over break!

hope to see all of you on January 26 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. for our annual Catholic Schools Week Open House. All current and prospective school families are invited to join us! Please watch for more information about all of these events.

With Christmas Break just a few weeks away, this is the perfect time to think about some books your child might like to read independently or with you during the time away from school. A book would be a great Christmas gift! Nothing fills a chilly winter afternoon or evening quite like a good book by the fire! We would like to offer some book suggestions that might be wonderfully received if they end up under your Christmas tree!

Wintry weather arrived early this year, so please be sure your child has a coat, hat, gloves or mittens, and boots for recess. Also, a special reminder for our 6th, 7th and 8th grade students that during the school day, only the school uniform sweatshirt or 3/4 zip pullover are permitted. Hoodies and outerwear may not be worn in school. As needed, school closings or two-hour delays will be announced by our One Call Now telephone notification system, as well as on Fox 8 news, the school website, Facebook, and by email. School closing or delay information will be issued via One Call Now as soon as a determination is made to cancel school. Because many of our families rely on public school transportation and Latchkey at the end of the day, it is highly unlikely that school would ever be dismissed early due to worsening weather conditions once students are safely in the building. However, because so many of our students do ride public school buses from Copley, Highland, Revere, and Woodridge, closings in these districts, as well as other factors, may impact our decision to cancel or delay school in the morning, or even the night before. Thank you for your patience as we consider the many factors that help us to make the best decision to keep our students and staff safe.

Winter brings with it the cold and flu season, so please take a minute to read the health policy in our Family Handbook. Please call the school office by 9:30 a.m. if your child will be absent or late, and request homework at that time. Please note that we cannot guarantee homework to be ready for pick-up before the end of the school day, particularly during peak times of illness. Students should be symptom-free for 24 hours before returning to school after an illness. Your cooperation helps us to maintain a safe and healthy environment for all students.

As always, we appreciate your continued support of our school and Catholic education. With our most sincere wishes for a joyful Christmas and a New Year filled with peace, health and happiness.

Mrs. Woodman

