

January 20, 2012

Dear Parents and Guardians,

During the week of **January 29 through February 3, 2012**, Holy Family Catholic School will join in the national celebration of Catholic Schools Week. The theme for this year's celebration is "**Catholic Schools: Faith. Academics. Service**". The Student Leadership Board has planned a week of enriching and enjoyable activities. Please keep this letter handy for reference, and try to join us for as many of the activities as you can. **Kindly complete and return the last page by Monday, January 30, 2012.**

#### **Friday, January 27—Kickoff Assembly**

At 2:20 p.m. we will have an assembly in Room 121 to kick off our Catholic Schools Week celebration. Members of the Student Leadership Board will describe the activities that will take place each day during this week of festivities. We will also hear information about the "Pasta for Pennies" contest and Blood Drive, sponsored by Olive Garden restaurants and Florida Blood Services, which benefits the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

#### **Saturday/Sunday, January 28 - 29 –Parish Celebration/ Faith Day**

At all masses this weekend, students will greet parishioners at the church doors. At the end of each mass, a student representative will read a statement of thanks to the parishioners of Holy Family, and the student greeters will distribute "Thank You" bookmarks at the exits. At the 9:00 a.m. mass, the school Music Ministry will join the Folk Group in leading music for worship. The annual NCEA Distinguished Graduate Award will be presented to Bobby Angel, Class of 1999. The Home and School Association will host coffee and donuts in the school after the 9:00 and 11:00 Masses, and the teachers and staff will be present for Open House. We hope this Sunday Open House will allow all parents, friends, and parishioners the chance to tour the building and see the examples of the wonderful work our students have produced!

**\*\* All HFCS Students are encouraged to wear their uniforms to masses this weekend as a sign of school spirit and pride.**

#### **Monday, January 30 — Class Theme Day/Service Day**

This year, once again, Holy Family will be participating in the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's annual **Pasta for Pennies** campaign. The students will be collecting pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters (**no bills please!**) beginning Monday, January 30, and continuing through Thursday, February 2.

The class collecting the most change during those four days receives a delicious "pasta party" from Olive Garden restaurants. Parents wishing to make their own donations should make checks payable to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. These parent donations will be kept separate from the student donations, so that the top contributing class will reach that goal through the generosity of the students! So, start saving your change, and plan to give from the heart.

A new feature of our drive this year will be a blood drive for adults. In the Friday folders on January 20, a form from Florida Blood Services explains that when

adults complete the form and donate blood at the locations indicated before February 2, 2012, \$3.00 will be given to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society for each pint donated! What a great opportunity to give the gift of life and support a great service organization!

Monday is also Theme Day --a time for each class to show its pride, unity, and creativity. Each class will choose a theme for dressing out (no pass needed!) on that day. **A list of class dress-out themes and guidelines will go home on Friday, January 27.**

Finally, on Monday afternoon, students will show that "service begins at home" by doing a variety of clean-up and reorganization activities inside and outside the school. By working in teams, they will also build school spirit!

### **Tuesday, January 31—Students-as-Teachers Day**

On Tuesday, January 31, the 8<sup>th</sup> graders will turn the tables and serve as teachers for the day. They have been planning for classes with the "real" teachers, who will be present in the classrooms to see how well the "student substitutes" perform!

### **Wednesday, February 1—"Let's Do Lunch!"**

On Wednesday we invite parents, grandparents, and other special family friends to visit with students during lunch time. To accommodate the larger lunch groups, **first lunch will begin at 11:45 a.m., and second lunch will begin at 12:35 p.m. Weather permitting, we encourage you to bring a blanket and picnic outdoors.** As a special treat, the faculty will provide desserts for the adult visitors!

**\*\*If you plan to eat lunch with your child(ren), please indicate this on the form at the end of this letter.**

### **Thursday, February 2—Blue-and-Gold Day/ Academics Day**

On Thursday the school community will exhibit its school spirit by dressing out in our school colors, **navy blue and gold**. Students may wear all manner of blue and gold (**while keeping within NUT day guidelines!**). It's a day to show our school unity and pride, so we hope all will participate enthusiastically.

On Thursday afternoon, from 1:30 p.m. to 2:50 p.m., we will hold our annual Academic Bowl in Room 121. Blue and Gold teams made up of student representatives from grades 1 through 8 will challenge each other in a show of academic excellence. It is a real treat to see and hear! We invite all parents to join us in this exciting event for Catholic Schools Week.

**NOTE: Pasta for Pennies will end on Thursday.**

### **Friday, February 3 -- Faculty-Staff Appreciation Day**

We will gather to celebrate Mass at 8:30 as a culmination of our week-long observance of Catholic Schools' Week. During this time, we will also offer our appreciation to the faculty and staff of Holy Family Catholic School. Parents are encouraged to let their child(ren)'s teachers know that their dedication and care for the children they teach is appreciated by sending them a note or a card.

To involve the students in the final day of the week’s festivities, (and to thank them for wearing their uniforms to mass on Jan. 28/29) **Friday will be a dress-up day!** Students may follow NUT day guidelines, with the additional requirements of collared shirts for the boys, and no jeans for either gender.

**There is a noon dismissal on Friday.**

Holy Family Catholic School is not only an **academic** institution—it is a true community of **faith** and **service** as well. We hope as you will join us in celebrating our Catholic identity during this festive Catholic Schools week!

Sincerely,  
Brenna Garcia  
Communications Chairperson,  
The Student Leadership Board

*Please return this form by Monday, January 30, 2012!*

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**I have received and read the CSW information letter.**

Parent signature\_\_\_\_\_

Child(ren)’s name(s)\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Feedback (optional)**

Holy Family Catholic School incorporates Faith, Academics, and Service by:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**I /we plan to have lunch\_with my/our child(ren) on Wednesday, February 1.**

**Note:** On this day, no school lunches will be served. Please choose to either bring a special lunch treat for your child(ren) and yourself, or “brown bag” it from home.

\_\_\_\_ **Number of guests coming to first lunch (Grades K – 3, 11:45 a.m.)**

\_\_\_\_ **Number of guests coming to second lunch (Grades 4 - 8, 12:35 p.m.)**

**(Please give a number for each lunch you’ll attend!)**

