

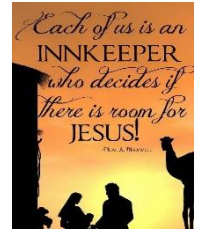


A MESSAGE FROM YOUR HSA PRESIDENT

Judith Kopp

Dear Families,

It's the busiest time of the year, right? How will we ever find enough time to make all of the cookies? Send the Christmas cards to our family and friends? Buy all of the presents and wrap each one in a more spectacular way than last year? Cook the Christmas meal? Attend the Christmas show? We then need to determine which Christmas Mass we will attend? There are so many "things" to do that we sometimes lose sight of preparing for the best gift of all – Jesus! Without Jesus and our Faith, nothing is possible. We need to take the time and focus on Him and all of the gifts He gives us every day. When attending Christmas Mass this year, give yourself a present by being fully present at Mass – truly listen to how the words of the hymns, readings, and homily are touching your heart; your "things to do list" will still be there when Mass is complete. And on Christmas morning, relish the early morning wake-up call by all of your children, no matter their age, as on this morning, the love of Christ can be seen on each of their faces and felt in the endless hugs (even from our teenagers!) they give!



The HSA and dedicated chairpeople have been busily creating opportunities for family memories on campus this year! A huge thank you goes out to Deanna Townsley and the volunteers who created a hauntingly ghoulish good time at this year's Trunk or Treat! The children (and parents) had a wonderful time trick or treating in a safe environment. Our students were so polite as they went from car to car gathering their treats! Deanna did a great job of ensuring everyone who wanted to attend was able!

November brought our first Parent Social at Boordy Vineyards. Gail Rohleder jumped into action and planned a wonderful and relaxing evening for approximately 150 of our parents. The wonderful music of Chris Zorn could be heard throughout the warm, rustic barn. Pasta La Vista's food truck provided overly-generous portions of food to go along with Boordy's delicious wine. Thank you, Gail, for a wonderful evening and kick-off to the Thanksgiving break! We are planning more social events in the coming months!

Our first Spirit Wear order of the year was placed in November. The team worked endlessly with All Pro Team Sports to bring new items to you in the new web-based store. All orders will be delivered to the students in non-see through bags before the Christmas break. The next "store" will open in January with new items as well! Please feel free to email me at smhsapresident@gmail.com if you have any suggestions for items and we will see what we can do!

Can you believe that we will be entering a new decade on January 1?! Colleen Grayson and her team are planning a Father Daughter New Year's Celebration on January 11 in the ES gym. This year's semi-formal dance is open to all of our daughters from grades Pre-K to 8th! Flyers have been emailed home and can be returned to school at any time. Please note the \$20 admission fee is for the entire family and includes music, dancing, a photo booth, crafts, light refreshments, desserts, a 5x7 photo, and more! If you would like to help with preparations for this evening, please contact Colleen at thegraysonfamily@verizon.net.

Before we know it the Adult Designer Bingo will be here! This sell-out event will take place on February 7 in the ES gym! Tickets are available on line at www.smsbingo2020.eventbrite.com. There are individual tickets, full table (10 individual tickets) tickets, and player's packages available. Sponsorship information is available in the email and flyer that was sent home. This is our second largest fundraiser which would not be possible without each of you and our wonderful chairpeople, Melissa Reuter and Gail Rohleder! Spread the word and bring your friends for an enjoyable evening. Hors d'oeuvres are included and Conrad's Crabs will have additional dinner options, beer, wine, and soda available for purchase. No outside alcohol is permitted. If you would like to help with this event in any way, please reach out to Gail or Melissa at smbingochair@gmail.com.

I hope you and your family take time this Christmas season to enjoy each other, do something kind for those less fortunate, and remember the famous words of the Grinch as Jesus warmed his heart..."Maybe Christmas doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas...perhaps...means a little bit more!

Christmas Blessings,
Judith
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