



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10 - K-8 CHRISTMAS CARD MAKING ACTIVITY

The students and staff will bring Christmas greetings to the residents at Holy Family Home by making Christmas cards for them! All the students and staff will gather in the gymnasium on Tuesday morning to decorate Christmas cards. The cards will then be delivered to the residents at Holy Family Home wishing them a peaceful and joyful Christmas season. Holy Family Home is a ministry of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate caring for the elderly. Immaculate Heart of Mary School is as well a ministry of the Sisters educating and developing the unique talents of children from nursery school to Grade 8.



DECEMBER

- 10 K-8 Christmas Activity for Holy Family Home
- 12 Hot Dog Lunch Day
- 12 2:00PM EARLY DISMISSAL - Staff Meeting
- 13 Kernels Popcorn Pick Up
- 18 K- 3 Christmas Concert - 1:30PM & 7:00PM
- 19 4-8 Christmas Concert - 1:30PM & 7:00PM
- 20 Last day of classes before Christmas Break

*December 23 - January 3
Christmas Break*

JANUARY

- 6 Classes Resume
- 9 2:00PM EARLY DISMISSAL - Staff Meeting
- 9 7:00PM Parents' Guild Meeting (Online)
- 15 3:00-5:00PM Uniform Shop Open
- 31 NO CLASSES - Professional Development Day

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12 - HOT LUNCH DAY

Hot Dog Day Order Forms were sent home last week and were due by 12:00PM, Thursday, December 5. Late orders cannot be accepted. If you missed this Hot Dog Lunch, please keep checking the calendar for future dates! Thank you to the Hot Lunch volunteers.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12 - EARLY DISMISSAL AT 2:00PM / STAFF SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT



Please remember, after school supervision is not provided on Early Dismissal Days and all children should be picked up promptly at 2:00PM.

The IHMS Staff will be visiting Holy Family Home, one of the ministries of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate (SSMI). The Staff are continuing their spiritual journey this year by learning more about the SSMI ministries and learning by the Sister's examples.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

A few volunteer opportunities will be available on Monday, December 9 at noon. Click [here for the link.](#)



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13 - KERNELS POPCORN FUNDRAISER DISTRIBUTION

Thank you to all the families that were able to order Kernels Popcorn in support of the IHMS Parents' Guild and all the good work they do to support children's programs at the school. For those that ordered, popcorn will be available for pick up on Friday, December 13 from 3:00PM - 4:00PM in the school gymnasium. Please pick up your orders promptly!! Kernels offers a coupon on every bag. Look carefully before you throw it out.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION OUTSIDE

For the rest of December, Physical Education classes with Mr. Dedio will be outside as the gymnasium transforms into a theatre to prepare for the Christmas Concerts.

All students will be expected to go outside during Physical Education classes and should be dressed appropriately for the weather conditions: ski pants or splash pants, toques, waterproof boots, waterproof gloves or mittens, scarves or neck tubes are some examples.

During the winter, the students stay inside only when the windchill factor is -27 degrees Celsius or colder.



MUSIC TALENTS

THERE ARE STILL SPOTS AVAILABLE!!! During the week of December 9-13, enjoy the musical talents of IHMS students performing singing or instrumental Christmas carols in the front foyer of the school. Performances will take place at arrival and dismissal times. Please call the office to reserve your spot!



ST. NICHOLAS VISITS IHMS

Congratulations to the students on a wonderful performance for St. Nicholas on December 6th. Thank you to Mrs. Paches & Ms. Bezhenar for preparing the children with all the beautiful songs, poems and greetings. Always very thoughtful and generous, St. Nicholas left the staff and children with special treats and donated to our Pylypivka christian service project. Thank you to the Sister Servants of Mary Immaculate for also providing the children with delicious treats!



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13 - MARY'S ANGEL ORNAMENT ORDERS DUE

During Pylypivka, the school is offering 'Mary's Angels Ornaments' for sale. The Angels are a keepsake of remembrance for deceased loved ones or someone who is very ill. When an individual purchases an Angel, a prayer card is filled out at the school with the loved one's name. The cards are attached to an Angel ornament and placed on the 'Mary's Angels Tree' in the school's front foyer. A Divine Liturgy will be celebrated by the students and staff on Friday, December 20, for the intentions of the loved ones. Before the Christmas break, the angels will be sent home with each family that purchased an angel.

A sample of the Mary's Angel ornaments is pictured to the left.

The proceeds from this project go towards Marion Hour Centre, Radio Rosary on CKJS.

Each Mary's Angel can be purchased individually for \$5.00.

See the below order form to share with your family and friends.

All orders are to be submitted by Friday, December 13.



PLEASE PRINT

Purchaser's Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Seller's Name: _____ Seller's Grade: _____

Number of Angels Purchased: _____ Amount paid: _____

Name of deceased, or ill, loved ones (please print name): _____



'PYLYPIVKA WITH THE SAINTS' ... A SCHOOL-WIDE PROJECT

This year, during Pylypivka, students will spend time with the saints as they walk with those who have provided ideal examples of how to live in faith. Ordinary people like these saints have become extraordinary through their love of God. Students will meet six saints who can help prepare their hearts during Pylypivka and celebrate Christmas this year. Ask your child what Saint they are working on!

IHMS CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

SAVE THE DATE! Join Immaculate Heart of Mary School for delightful children's Christmas Concerts to get into the spirit of the Christmas season. Students are preparing to share the real meaning of Christmas with TWO musicals for everyone to enjoy!

*** All students are required to attend both performances for their respective age group ... the afternoon show, and as well the evening show.

Wednesday, December 18 - Grades Kindergarten - Grade 3 will present *God's Colourful Promises of Christmas* at 1:30PM & 7:00PM .

For *God's Colourful Promises of Christmas* music and lyrics click [HERE](#)

Thursday, December 19 - Grades 4 -8 students will present *The Christmas Chronicles* at 1:30PM & 7:00PM.

For *The Christmas Chronicles* music and lyrics click [HERE](#)

Please follow the links above for music and lyrics which can be used for practicing at home.

Important information about Christmas concert costumes is forthcoming.

The Grades 4-8 Christmas Concert cast is continuing to rehearse every morning beginning at 7:45AM. Attendance at rehearsals is very important. A reminder email was sent on the evening of November 29th.



CHRISTIAN SERVICE FOR THRIVE COMMUNITY SUPPORT CIRCLE



Immaculate Heart of Mary School's social justice team, "Students Making A Change", are enthusiastic about their Christian service project during this Pylypivka season. A donation box for non-perishable food items is located in each classroom to collect items for Thrive Community Support Circle. There is an inner-city community organization that supports disenfranchised adults and youth, specifically women in a variety of ways. Some of the items that are being collected include: dried pasta, canned goods, granola bars, rice, cereal, coffee packets, or any other non-perishables.



IHMS BOOK FAIR

The Book Fair is wrapped up for another year! Thank you to all who supported "Book Joy is in the Air" Book Fair!! Thanks to you, this year's fair was a resounding success! We raised \$1703.31, which will be used to purchase new books for the classroom libraries and IHMS library. Our hearts are full of gratitude!! THANK YOU!

A special acknowledgement to the following volunteers who gave of their time to help at the Book Fair: Liette Kelsch, Alana Chernecki, Eleanor Valenciano, Lakshveera Baidwan, Jeffrey Roque, Maria Liubinets, Olha Drogalchuk, Liezl Dela Cruz, Ivanna Hamkalo, Svitlana Horulko, Alina Spinul, Evette Tadrous, Olha Horshynska, Iryna Postoliuk, Galyna Basarab, Inna Akhmenko, Myron Radawetz. Thank you also to IHMS alumni Miguel Dado and Vlad Trokhanowski for assisting at the Book Fair as part of their Ignatius service hours from St. Paul's High School.

The Book Fair offered several opportunities for students to win prizes. This year's lucky winners were:

Nastya Tymoshchenko (Grade 2), winner of the Golden Ticket (\$25 to student/\$25 to classroom teacher); Cassandra Chubala (Kindergarten) winner of \$8 coupon, Anna Tovarnytsky (Grade 1) winner of \$8 coupon, Sofia Spinul (Grade 2) winner of \$8 coupon, Marta Dyda (Grade 3) winner of \$8 coupon, Deanna Zhukov (Grade 4) winner of \$8 coupon, Anthony Cruz (Grade 5) winner of \$8 coupon, Milana Moncrief (Grade 6) winner of \$8 coupon, Ivanna Cruz (Grade 7) winner of \$8 coupon, Elise Luczak (Grade 8) winner of \$8 coupon.

Winners of the "Guess How Many" contest were:

From Grades K-3, Hunter Yambao (Kdg.) - guessed '50', Tsion Tekleab (Kdg.) - guessed '52', Lev Khilkevych (Kdg.) - guessed '52', Noah Garachshenko (Gr.1) - guessed '50', Thea Micklash (Gr.3) - guessed '52', Tomas Tewelde (Gr.3) - guessed '50', Sylvie Gillies (Gr.3) - guessed '50', Liza Konieva (Gr. 3) - guessed '50'.

From Grades 4-8, Mia Chernecki (Gr.6) - guessed '121', Myroslav Buduykevych (Gr. 7) - guessed '117'

The Grades K-3 challenge was to guess how many wood cubes were in the jar. The correct answer was 51. The Grades 4-8 challenge was to guess how many origami paper cranes were in the jar. The answer was 119 (current age of our school!). No one guessed the exact total, however there were many close guesses. Congratulations to all the winners!!

Finally, a huge thank you to IHMS staff for their support before, throughout and after the Book Fair. Of special note, thank you to Mr. Trokhanowski and Mr. Fil for assistance with the set-up and take-down of the Book Fair. Also thank you to Mrs. Wozny and Pani Dudych for their assistance with administrative tasks! God bless you all!

Yours in reading,

Book Fair Chairpersons

Natalia Radawetz (Librarian) and Marilyn Pohl (Resource Teacher)



VACATION DURING SCHOOL

The school recognizes that upon rare occasions families take trips / vacations during school time. IHMS also recognizes that regular attendance is a necessary condition for success at school and that students who attend school on a regular basis generally achieve greater results. Since each school in Manitoba is responsible for the attendance of their students while school is in session, it is the responsibility of the student's parent/guardian to inform the school of the dates that their child will be away from school on trip / vacation.

For planned absences longer than 3 days, an ABSENCE REQUEST FORM FOR FAMILY TRIP / VACATION must be filled out and handed into the school office or emailed to attendance@ihms.mb.ca at least two weeks prior. For further information including policy on missed work or tests, please see [Family Vacation Protocol & Form](#).

