

SAINT IGNATIUS LOYOLA WEEKLY

**Saint Ignatius Loyola School
48 East 84th Street
New York, NY 10028-0806
212.861.3820 Fax 212.879.8248
Web site: saintignatiusloyolaschool.com**

November 30, 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians,

So many exciting things happened the week leading up to the last Weekly. You may recall Father Witt, Ms. Savarese, Mrs. Abruzzo and I traveled to Washington, D.C. for the Blue Ribbon Ceremony. Prior to our departure, the e-mails I received from so many of you wishing us well on our trip meant so much. It was one of my proudest moments when Saint Ignatius Loyola School's name was announced and the plaque was presented to Father Witt and me. The plaque now adorns the vestibule of the school. You may have also noticed the official Blue Ribbon flag hanging outside of the school. I also look forward to sharing the picture they took when it is sent to me.

Our Blue Ribbon week did not end when we returned from Washington. On Friday, November 18th, we held our First Annual Music and Art Expo. The look of pride and even tears were on so many of your faces as the children performed and the artists presented their work. Watching as our young servers passed caviar, cookies and flutes full of cider reminded me yet again of how blessed we are at Saint Ignatius Loyola School. No matter what the occasion or event, our school community comes together to celebrate the children's accomplishments.

This past Sunday we celebrated the First Sunday of Advent and the change to the New Roman Missal. We have been working with the children in Religion class for several weeks familiarizing them with the new responses. We will continue to work with them so, with time, the responses will become second nature to them at Mass.

As a reminder, I strongly encourage you to attend Father Witt's meeting this evening at 7:00 p.m. in McKinnon Hall, regarding Saint Ignatius Loyola School and the Archdiocese of New York's Regionalization Plan. Attending this meeting is the best way to have the most accurate information regarding how the Regionalization Plan will impact our school.

I look forward to seeing you this evening and on Saturday at the Christmas Cocktail Party or on Sunday as you browse the Fair or enjoy your Brunch with Santa.

Sincerely,

Mary E. Larkin
Principal

Attached to the Weekly are the following:

- Yearbook Flyer – Grade 8
- Christmas Fair/Santa Brunch 2011 Volunteer List – Grades K-8
- Bracelets for Brunch with Santa – Reservations Only

Please review these materials and promptly return those that need to be returned.

***Important to Note:**

- **Wednesday, November 30th – Father Witt's Regionalization Meeting, McKinnon Hall, 7:00 p.m.**
- Thursday, December 1st – **Kindergarten Parent Conferences and Grades 1-8 Report Card Conferences.** Conferences will be held from 3:15 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. There will be **NO BAND, ORCHESTRA, VARIETY CLUBS OR AFTER SCHOOL CARE.**

OVER

- Friday, December 2nd – **Dismissal 12:00 p.m.**
- Friday, December 2nd - **Kindergarten Parent Conferences and Grades 1-8 Report Card Conferences.** Conferences will be held from 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. There will be **NO ORCHESTRA, VARIETY CLUBS OR AFTER SCHOOL CARE.**
- Tuesday, December 6th - **Advent Prayer Service** Grades K-4.
- Wednesday, December 7th - **Advent Prayer Service** Grades 5-8.
- Thursday, December 8th – **Feast of the Immaculate Conception** Liturgy Grades K-8 at 1:30 p.m. in Church. Parents are welcome to attend.
- **Friday, December 9th – Professional Day No School.**
- Tuesday, December 13th - **Advent Prayer Service** Grades K-4.
- Wednesday, December 14th - **Advent Prayer Service** Grades 5-8.
- Wednesday, December 14th – **Pageant Practice** for Grades K-8 from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Thursday, December 15th – **Pageant Practice** at 9:30 a.m.
- There will be **no Weekly** on Wednesday, December 21st due to the Christmas Holiday.

***Eighth Grade Information:**

- Monday, December 5th - **Pageant Practice** from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, December 12th - **Pageant Practice** from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, December 13th - **Pageant Practice** from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

***Parent Information:**

- Friday, December 2nd – **Christmas Fair Set-Up, 8:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**
- Saturday, December 3rd– **Special Event: Christmas Fair Set-Up, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**
- Saturday, December 3rd – **Special Event: Parents Only – Christmas Fair Cocktail Party** from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in McKinnon Hall.
- Sunday, December 4th – **Special Events: Christmas Fair** from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in McKinnon Hall. **Brunch with Santa - 3 Seatings - reservations only. TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR.**
- Thursday, December 15th – **Christmas Pageant** at 6:00 p.m. in Church.

- **Kindergarten Conferences and/or Report Card Conferences**

All Kindergarten parents or guardians are required to attend a teacher conference this week. Additionally, parents or guardians in Grades 1 – 8 are required to meet with their son's or daughter's teacher this week for the first quarter report card. Report cards will not be given to any child in the absence of a report card conference.

- **Ronald McDonald House**

You may recall that in October you donated various sundry items to the Ronald McDonald House. The outpouring of appreciation from the representatives of the Ronald McDonald House has left me beyond words. Before we went on Thanksgiving break, I asked The House if they needed Saint Ignatius Loyola School to be Christmas Angels to the children. The one request they had is for towels. The parents and students of Saint Ignatius Loyola School have given so much already but, if you are so willing, we will be collecting new towels - wash cloths, face cloths and bath towels from Grades K – 8 through Friday, December 16th. Your child should bring the towels to his/her classroom.

- **Mercy Center**

Beginning Monday, December 5th through December 15th, we will be collecting canned goods for the Mercy Center. Donations should be left under the prayer table in McKinnon Hall.

FORWARD

- **Altar Servers**
If you have any questions regarding altar servers, you may contact Mr. Gilbert Stockson, S.J. at gstockson@gmail.com.
- **Smart Tuition**
As a reminder, the front office will no longer be accepting tuition payments. If you need to contact Smart Tuition, their phone number is 888-868-8828. If you have any questions regarding Smart Tuition, you may also call Ms. Larkin.
- **Attention Strings Program Parents**
Due to report card parent conferences, there will be **NO Orchestra** lessons on Thursday, December 1st.
- **News From The Music Department:**
Attention 5th-8th grade students!
You are invited to audition for this year's musical, Fame, Jr.
From the hit motion pictures, television series, and international stage success, FAME is nothing short of a global phenomenon!

The musical is set during the last years of New York City's celebrated [High School for the Performing Arts](#). FAME, JR. is the inspiring story of a group of students who commit to four years of artistic and academic work.

AUDITION INFORMATION:

What you need before auditioning:

- * General Rehearsal Schedule.
- * Parent Information Packet.
- * Parent Permission Form/Auditioning Information Sheet.
(These will be available by Friday, December 2nd, in the music room.)

*Auditions will be held on Friday, December 16th at the following times:

(Only auditioning students should attend these auditions):

- 12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. 5th grade (begins during recess)
- 1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. 6th grade
- 1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. 7th grade
- 2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. 8th grade

*There will be make-up auditions for students who are absent. Only students who are absent from school will be eligible to audition on Tuesday, December 20th at 8:00 a.m.

*Students must come prepared with a short song or excerpt that demonstrates vocal and acting abilities. Students will sing A Capella for the audition.

*Students must bring the following to the audition:

- * Lyrics to his/her song of choice, if not memorized.
- * Parent Permission Form and Audition Information Sheet – The sheet must be completed and signed in order to be admitted to the auditions.

* Production Fee Check should be made out to "Saint Ignatius Loyola School."

*Callbacks- The callback list will be posted on Monday, December 19th.

Callbacks will take place on Tuesday, December 20th from 3:15 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Audition tips:

- ▶ Prepare!
- ▶ Choose a song in advance and practice alone and in front of people.
- ▶ Choose a song that displays high and low notes, and shows off acting.
- ▶ Memorization is not required, but often lets us see more acting.
- ▶ Sing strongly and with enthusiasm.

- **Christmas Fair and Brunch Updates**

Just a few quick reminders:

- ❖ The donations for the gourmet baskets have already started arriving...thank you!
- ❖ The committee will begin assembling the baskets on Friday. If you have not yet done so, please drop off your items in McKinnon Hall.
- ❖ Please remember that the Cocktail Party is for Parents/Guardians only.

- ❖ Bracelets for the Brunch with Santa are going home with today's Weekly. If you did not receive yours, please first call your child's teacher.
- ❖ If you are attending the Brunch, entrance to the event will be through the Park Avenue doors.
- ❖ Attached you will find the volunteer assignments for both events. As you will note, we can still use a few volunteers. If you have any questions please call Sheila Vestergom. If you have not yet volunteered but can lend a hand, please call!
- ❖ There is no Granny's Attic at this year's Fair so, regrettably, we are unable to accept donations of this kind.

New This Year: The Saint Ignatius Loyola Girl Scouts will be hosting a booth at this year's Christmas Fair! The Girl Scouts will be selling Holiday Gift Tags and Gift Bows, which they have designed and created themselves. Gift tags will be sold for \$1 each or 6 tags for \$5. Bows will be \$2 each. All are one-of-a-kind, handcrafted and ready to be used for your gift giving needs. The Girl Scouts will also be hosting a craft table for children of all ages; offerings include a Design-Your-Own-Gift Bag craft and Gingerbread Cookie Decorating. Both crafts will be offered at \$3 each. We look forward to seeing everyone at the Fair!

- **Teacher/Staff Appreciation Christmas Gift**

If you have not already received it, please check your mailbox for information about this very special Christmas gift for the teachers and staff. We're hoping all families will participate in some way. Please remember that the deadline for the gift collection is Friday, December 16th. If you have any questions, please call a committee member: Lucille Adamec, Myriam Berardino, Catherine Frank, Patty Ptucha, Judy Taylor or Jennifer Volpe.

- **Thank You**

Our first Music and Art Expo was an amazing evening and would not have been possible without the generosity of time from our 8th grade student volunteers. Thank you to our Servers: Julia Goetz, Isabella Jurcisin, Mikaela O'Sullivan, Madeleine Proctor, Gabriella Batista, Zoe Diflo, Natalie Vestergom and Isabella Vincenty; Our Stage Crew: Katie Kelly and Sophia Zehler, and our Host MC, Christina Berardino. A special thank you to the Ciner family for providing the many tasty treats all the guests enjoyed.

Over fifty volunteers came out for our annual Christmas Fair Craft Night. A host of goodies was produced for everyone to enjoy at the Fair! Thank you to Co-Chairs Jackie Altruda, Sheila Vestergom and Valerie Webb for a great night!

All textual, graphical and other content appearing on the Saint Ignatius Loyola School website and in its directories, handbooks and Weekly publications are the sole property of Saint Ignatius Loyola School and shall not be copied, edited or reproduced without written permission from Saint Ignatius Loyola School.