



Father Andrew White S. J. School

National Blue Ribbon School



WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 19, 2017

Important Upcoming Dates

Dec. 21: Early Dismissal (Christmas Break begins at 12:30pm) - NO AFTERCARE

Dec. 22 – Jan. 1: No School – Christmas Holiday

Jan. 2: Classes Resume

Jan. 5: First Friday Mass (9am, hosted by 8th grade)

Jan. 10: Early Dismissal (12:30pm) & Ledo's Spirit Night (4-8pm)

Jan. 15: No School - Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

Jan. 19: March for Life & End of 2nd Quarter

Jan. 28 - Feb. 3: Catholic Schools Week

Jan. 31: International Night

There will be NO band on Thursday, December 21st.

No Aftercare Reminder: Our Christmas break begins after our December 21st 12:30pm early dismissal, therefore we will have **NO aftercare this Thursday.**

Car Magnets: We have "Keep Christ in Christmas" magnets for sale! The magnets can be placed on vehicles and refrigerators. Consider buying one for you and one for someone else. Magnets are \$5 each. Orders will be filled immediately. Please see the attached order form for more details.

Candy Grams: This Christmas season, Student Council is selling candy grams. You can buy a candy gram to send to your child, their friends, or their teachers. Candy grams can be purchased for \$0.50 each and orders are due **tomorrow Wednesday, December 20th.** Candy gram sheets are available on the website if you need to print more.

Labels for Education: As many of you know, the Campbell's Labels for Education Program is coming to a close. We ask that you **kindly send in any UPC with the Labels for Education logo by this Thursday, December 21st.** To be clear, this program is ending for good, so please don't hold on to any of our labels for

future contests. Be sure to check with family members who may be collecting labels for your family. Thank you!

Tag Day: We will have a Christmas Tag Day on **Thursday, December 22nd**. Students may come out of uniform if they wear Christmas t-shirts or Christmas sweaters, red or green socks, etc. Students will not have to bring any money for this Tag Day. Students may also wear a Santa hat. All tag day rules concerning appropriate attire apply.

Poster Contest: Congratulations to three of our students for their winning posters in the Knights of Columbus “Keep Christ in Christmas” contest.

First Place – Aubrey Rossignol – Grade 2

Second Place – Emily Freese – Grade 5

Second Place – Alyssa Johnson – Grade 8

SCRIP: We have a limited number of American Express \$25 and \$100, Discover \$50, and Visa \$50 gift cards in stock for those hard to buy for people on your list! These are purchased at face value and do NOT require the activation fee required when you purchase them from the store! This saves you up to \$5 per card versus buying them in the store!

Questions about which cards we have in stock? We may still be able to meet your gift card needs! Additionally, many of our retailers offer electronic gift cards and we can help you order those as well. Contact Karen Farr at karenafarr@yahoo.com or 240-298-3520.

SCRIP Thank You: We would like to extend a huge thank you to Karen Farr who worked tirelessly to order and distribute an incredible amount of gift cards in time for the holidays. She was working overtime each day to ensure you received your gift cards in time. Thank you!

Advent Service Project: We appreciate your support by sending in items for WARM. We pray for Mrs. Pietsch and Mrs. Longmore's families as they stay at Camp Maria with our local homeless on Christmas Eve. May these much needed items that you donated bring these people joy during this Christmas season. A special thank you to the members of our National Junior Honor Society who helped pack the items.

FAW Annual Giving Campaign: Our goal for this year's Father Andrew White School Annual Giving Campaign is to raise funds to improve our technology. **Our first cart of 30 laptops has arrived and our students are very excited.** We thank you in advance for prayerfully considering donating to this important fund that directly benefits our children so that we are able to continue to provide the needed technology upgrades to keep our students safe on a monitored system. **We hope that you will keep FAW in mind for your year end giving. Remember all donations are tax deductible!** For your convenience, you are welcome to pay using a credit card via Paypal. For the Paypal link and more information, please visit our website: <http://fatherandrewwhite.org/annual-giving-campaign/become-a-technology-sponsor/>

Lunch Menu: Lunch menus for January and February are up and available for ordering on [orgsonline](#). You can order for both months at once and pay one convenience fee or order individually and pay two. **The cut off date for the January menu is Sunday, December 31st** and the cut off date for the February menu is Sunday, January 28th. Kindly remember that no late orders will be accepted. Thank you!

Tuition: Tuition envelopes are going home on January 2nd. Anyone who elected to pay on the 1/2 year basis your second payment is due. All tuition should be in by the 15th of each month. Please check your tuition payment schedule to see if your account is up to date. Just a reminder that handbook policy states that tuition must be up to date by March 1st in order to register your child for the next school year. If you are having problems with the tuition payment, please contact Ms. Francisco.

First Friday Mass: On Friday, January 5th, we will have a First Friday Mass hosted by our 8th grade. All families are encouraged to join us.

Flu Clinics: St. Mary's County Health Department has one more flu clinic on Friday, January 19th. Clinic times are: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm. Flu shots are free to children 6 months through 18 years old. Please also note you can also call the Health Department and set up individual appointment times to bring your children to the clinic. You can contact them at [301-475-4330](tel:301-475-4330).

2018 Brown Bag Auction: Mark your calendars for one of FAW's most exciting events! The annual Brown Bag Auction is set to occur during the Italian Dinner on Saturday, February 3rd, 2018. Join us for a great family dinner and take a chance on one, or many, themed baskets of goodies. In order to prepare these marvelous baskets, we need your generosity of newly donated items, or a themed basket full of fun and exciting items. Anything that you can give would

be greatly appreciated in order to make this event a huge success. While you are out shopping before and after the holidays, please keep in mind that we will be accepting donations after the new year in order to create some great baskets. Should you receive anything at Christmas that you may not want, simply "regift/donate" that item and we will create a basket for the event. In addition to the items needed to fill the baskets we will also require the actual baskets to put the items in and/or plastic wrap to wrap the baskets. If you have any questions about this event please feel free to contact Amy Ashley at ashley@md.metrocast.net or Wendy Perraut at wllewis23@hotmail.com.

Uniform Code Reminders: Please take note of the following uniform regulations as stated in the Parent-Student Handbook:

1. *Navy blue or white tights (**NO LEGGINGS**) or knee socks may be worn with skirts and jumpers.*
2. *Only FAW sweatshirts may be worn on gym days if a sweatshirt* is needed.*
*The navy blue crewneck sweatshirt with the school insignia; not the Under Armour Spirit Gear hoodie. The hoodie can be worn for warmth if PE class is held outside, but must be removed when returning to the classroom.

Inclement Weather: All Catholic Schools will follow St. Mary's County Public School closings and delayed openings due to inclement weather. There will be NO separate notice for Catholic schools. Closings are announced on radio stations especially WMDM-FM 97.7, WKIK-FM 102.9, WSMD-FM 98.3. Also TV Channels 4, 5, 7, & 9. You will also be notified by School Messenger with a telephone call from Ms. Francisco. EXCEPTION TO THIS: If there is a delay in starting school on a day we are scheduled for a 12:30 dismissal, we will start school 2 hours late and dismiss at 2:30. On these days all children must bring a lunch as hot lunch will not be served.

Weekly Checklist

- Order SCRIP before holiday shopping
- Buy a "Keep Christ in Christmas" Magnet and Candy Grams
- Turn in Labels for Education (by Thursday)
- Find items for our Brown Bag Auction
- Donate to our Annual Giving Campaign
- Place January Lunch Menu Order (by Dec. 31st)
- Have a blessed Christmas and a restful Winter break



December 19, 2017

Dear FAW Families,

Although we are still in Advent, the excitement of Christmas and its many accompanying sights and sounds have been filling the hallways of Father Andrew White School!

Buddy classes made cards to be included in the blessing bags for those who will be at Camp Maria for the WARM program over Christmas. Your generous contributions of gifts to this Advent service project are evidence that you hold the true spirit of the season in your heart. I'm certain the donations of socks, hats and scarves, chapstick, candy, and other items will be greatly appreciated by those who receive them. The beautiful music and Gospel message at the annual Christmas concert along with the many examples of our students' creativity displayed in special arts and crafts projects have enabled us to experience the energy and enthusiasm associated with this special time of year!

My 7th grade English teacher was one of the most influential people in my life. She inspired me to become an educator and we kept in close touch over the years. The following poem is one she wrote and shared with me that I hold close to my heart, especially at Christmas. I hope you find its message as touching as I do.

The Road to Christmas

by Lucy Dollar

It's not a super highway or a street or path on earth,
but a journey back to Bethlehem and a humble stable birth.
The time seems long ago now as we measure history,
but that road was God the Father's plan from all eternity.

Now anyone may walk that road; the scriptures point the way.
God's prophets spoke of many signs foretelling of that day.
Then Jesus came and walked the road which led to Calvary.
That road from Christmas to the cross has set all people free.

In these remaining days of Advent, may God bless your family with hope, faith, and awe at the coming miracle of our Savior's birth! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

In Christ's love,
Heather Francisco



January 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 No School - Christmas Holiday Happy New Year!	2 Classes Resume	3	4	5 First Friday Mass 9am (hosted by 8th grade)	6
7	8	9	10 Early Dismissal 12:30pm Ledo's Spirit Night 4-8pm	11	12	13
14	15 No School Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday	16	17	18	19 March for Life End of 2nd Quarter	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Catholic Schools Week Begins	29 Catholic Schools Week	30 Catholic Schools Week	31 Catholic Schools Week International Night			