

# HEART TO HOME SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dec 20, 2012  
Newsletter #15



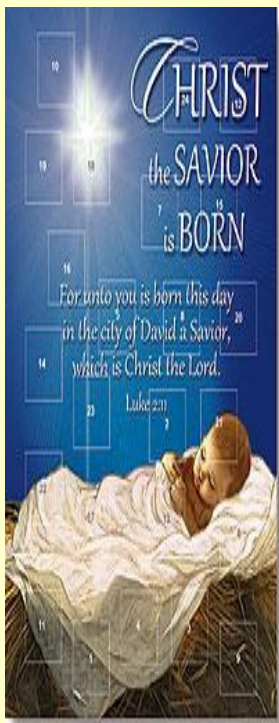
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## Principal's News from Jim Opelia, Principal

Dear Parents,  
Thank you boys and girls for your wonderful performances of "Let's Dress-up for Christmas" and "The Big, Big Story"! Every year, your program manages to put us all in the true meaning of Christmas. Thank you parents and staff for all your work facilitating the events and preparing the children!

Last week's happenings in Newtown, Connecticut shook us all. It is hard for us to comprehend how such a thing could ever take place. Of course like any other significant event, the media bombards us over and over again with the most emotional and gruesome details. As important as this is for us to know the story, for our children's sake and our own sanity, we need to know when to change the channel. We need to talk to our children about their fears

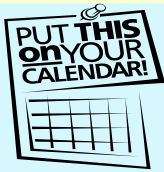


**We have quite a few confirmed cases of Influenza at our school.**

**Please do not send students to school if they are running a temperature over 100 degrees, have a contagious medical condition (such as pink eye or chicken pox), or have an unidentified rash. Students who have been running a temperature should not return to school until 24 hours after the fever has broken.**

and confusion. We need to answer questions they may have, and let them know that, although bad things like this happen in the world, they are safe. We also need to remember how important we are as parents and teachers in this world, in how we raise our children and students. We need to be aware of and nurture their psychological needs, as the young man responsible for this tragedy so desperately needed. Here is a helpful resource for parents and educators to communicate with students about school violence. <http://www.extension.umn.edu/family/families-with-teens/resources-professionals/violence-in-our-schools/#violence>

Some of our parents have come to us with concerns about security at Sacred Heart Area School. Presently, all outside school doors are locked, other than the one front door, and our back door is left unlocked when the children are out for recess. During recess, playground supervisors are in radio contact with the school office at all times. We practice lockdown drills with the students throughout the year, explaining to them that it is a drill to protect ourselves from intruders. When the alarm sounds, all inside doors are locked from the inside of the room and lights are turned off by its occupants, who remain hidden out of sight. Since the Newtown incident, the school advisory board, along with the principal and pastor, are studying the best options for our school's security, primarily the front door. If you have any concerns, questions, or input, please bring them to the principal. We want our parents to have peace of mind, knowing their children are safe. Have a wonderful Christmas and a healthy, happy 2013!



- Dec 22-  
Jan 1 Christmas Break – no school  
Merry Christmas!!!
- Jan 2 School resumes
- Jan 11 2 Hour Early Out
- Jan 18 End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter
- Jan 21 No School – Teacher Workshop  
Day
- Jan 26 Catholic Schools Week Kick-off  
Mass at Staples 5:00
- Jan 27 Catholic Schools Week Kick-off  
Mass at Motley 10:30
- Jan 28- Catholic Schools Week  
Feb 1
- Feb 1 2 Hour Early Out
- Feb 3 SHAS Carnival



**Sacred Heart and St. Michaels  
Children's Choir**

**Welcoming all children K-6  
SAVE THE DATE  
Monday, December 24, 2012 at  
Sacred Heart Parish  
**5:00 p.m.**  
**Christmas Eve  
Mass****

**Reserved seating for  
children participating.  
Children will sit on the  
right side (facing altar).  
Please have your children  
present by 4:45 p.m.  
Thank you parents for  
encouraging and  
supporting your children to  
participate in mass. Any  
questions please call:  
Janelle Thompson @ 218-  
820-6802**

Happy Holidays  
From the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade!



**Happy Holidays from the 6th  
grade!!!**

**I am so very proud of the 6th  
graders for the wonderful job  
they did preparing and  
presenting this year's  
Christmas program "A Big,  
Big Story"!! We are busy  
preparing our hearts for the  
birth of Jesus during this  
advent season. We are also  
trying hard to squeeze in  
some academics between all  
the holiday fun. In math we  
are focusing on multiplying  
and dividing decimals. We  
just finished Theme 3  
Growing Up in reading.**

**Wishing all of you a happy  
and safe holiday break!! God  
Bless!!**



*God gave us Himself in the  
form of a baby -  
what a great gift!*

*"For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given."  
Isaiah 9:6*



**Mission Statement**

*As believers in God, and moved by  
the power of the Holy Spirit, we  
foster spiritual and academic  
formation of our students in a  
positive, welcoming atmosphere that  
reflects a respect for all people.*



**The kids will be bringing  
home Carnival raffle tickets  
tomorrow. This is a great  
opportunity to sell to  
relatives and friends from  
out of town over Christmas  
break. We will start weekly  
incentives for the kids when  
they come back from  
Christmas break. Happy  
Selling!!**



*The SHAS Home and School  
Association would like to  
thank all of you who brought  
cookies and treats to share for  
the Family Cookie Social on  
Wednesday after the Christmas  
program. The cookies and  
social time were enjoyed by all!*