



## Where Each Student is *Known* and *Loved*

### Message from the Head of School

We had such a wonderful time before Christmas with the treelighting, the musical performances, and the live-nativity that capped it all off. But, the enthusiasm that infects children before Christmas mixed with all of the sugar they consume made teaching and learning a bit more difficult. Now, we are happy to be establishing a routine again. The children appear to be fully engaged in learning as we finish our second week back from vacation.

A few days ago, I was on duty snatching children from their car seats. When I landed one of our first graders on the sidewalk, I asked him what Santa had left for him? I was not prepared for the response. He said, " I did not get anything from Santa this year". As you can imagine, I immediately regretted asking that question. Maybe his family does not celebrate Christmas. Maybe his family did not have enough money this year to purchase gifts. With these thoughts in mind, the student added, "Santa did leave me a letter." I asked, "What did Santa have to say?" He told me that Santa said that he had too many toys and didn't need anymore. Santa had included \$20 instructing him to use it for his future. While I was processing all of this, he added, " Now I have over \$100 saved up for my future!" He was happy as can be. I wish I had thought of that when my children were young!!

The greatest gift we can give our children is the possibility of a bright future. It is our job to provide our children with, not only a quality education, but also values that will serve them for the long-term. The values of our society are overly focused on immediate gratification. In a recent coffee with our Loyola Academy parents, we discussed the trips that their children will be taking in the spring. These trips are great opportunities for learning and for healthy socialization but are costly. I suggested that parents insist that their children do some work around the house or in the neighborhood to help defray the cost. Whenever you can, talk to children about their futures and the hard work that will be required of them to be successful. Make sure they know they have a responsibility to pitch in. This lesson will serve them well.

At this time of year, we publish a parent survey to help us gauge our effectiveness. This survey will be emailed tomorrow morning. Please take the time to respond. Last year, more

than 70% of our families completed the survey. We want to know what you value in a highquality education. This is your opportunity to tell us what you think.

On Tuesday, January 24th at 6:30PM, we will hold a meeting in the school gymnasium to tell you how we used the information garnered from last year's survey to improve our school.

We ask that you RSVP if you will be attending this event. We will also give you an update regarding school finance and provide opportunity for parents to enter into discussions with one another. Childcare will be available. I hope you will join us for that meeting. [Please click here to RSVP.](#)

We will hold an additional meeting on the evening of April 4th. At that meeting, we will share the results of this year's survey and discuss long range plans for tuition and school improvements. We have come a long way in the past ten years and are proud of our accomplishments. We want to share these with you and provide you with the information you will need to be fully invested in our school.

Please remember in your thoughts and prayers our families that are experiencing hardship. We know of a family that has lost their mom and others who are experiencing health and housing difficulties. I am amazed at the support that is coming from our community and thank you for that.

Please do not park adjacent to the island with the sign or near the white dumpster in the afternoon. This is causing traffic and safety problems. The last thing any of us want is for an accident to happen or a child to be injured. There are plenty of parking spaces behind the field.

Sincerely,  
William Gartside  
Head of School

## News & Updates

### February Vacation Program

We are currently accepting applications for the February Vacation Program.

The program will run from Tuesday, February 21 - Friday, February 24 from 8:00AM - 5:30PM. This program is open to students in grades pre-kindergarten to 4.

Applications are due by Friday, February 10th.

[Click here to register for February Vacation Program](#)



Grade 3 students visiting the Commonwealth Museum.

### Restaurant Fundraiser at Joyful Garden

The next restaurant fundraiser will be on **Wednesday, January 18th** at the Joyful Garden Chinese



K2 Collage Insect

Cuisine, 1234Soldiers Field Road (Located in the Days Inn Hotel). The restaurant will donate 20% of all dine in and take out sales back to our school.

[Click here to download the coupon](#)

## Community Building Meeting

The next Community Building meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 24th at 8AM in the library.

This meeting is open to all parents. We are looking forward to discussing upcoming events.

Coffee and refreshments will be served.



Grade 6 students at a Boston College Women's Basketball Game.

## Calendar Of Events

### January 13

- Grade 6,7,8 Progress Reports available on MSP

### January 16

- No School (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)

### January 18

- Grade 1 - 5 Science Program Morning Coffee 8AM
- Restaurant Fundraiser at Joyful Garden

### January 20

- Early Dismissal 1:15PM

### January 24

- Community Building Meeting 8:00AM
- State of the School Address 6:30PM

### January 25

- PK/K1 Morning Coffee 8AM

### January 27

- Spirit Day for Siblings Connections (Students may dress out of uniform if they bring in a \$1 donation)

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**BC Race to Educate**

**Saturday, April 29, 2017**

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