Message from the Head of School

There are special days during the course of the year that allow us to stop and celebrate the core values that define us. Yesterday was one of those days. Our school chef, John, did a masterful job preparing a delicious meal for more than 450 people! All morning, parents streamed into school to help prepare and serve the annual Thanksgiving meal. Students and teachers happily lined up to fill their plates with turkey, squash, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, stuffing, and of course, a delicious treat. On this day, we feel closer to one another.

As part of this month’s theme for our reading program, teachers are helping students to see life through the eyes of others. Students are being taught empathy and gratitude, as well as to think of the needs of others. Gratitude is only possible when deep connections are made with others.

There is so much for which to be thankful. I am thankful for our parents. You are working so hard to connect with your children’s teachers. Our teachers know you care and are thankful for the support you afford them. Our teachers were lifted up when they tasted the delicious chili last month, just one external sign of the gratitude you have. Our parents respect our teachers and see them as partners and the consummate professionals that they are. I know I speak for all of my teachers when I say, “Thank you!”

Thank you for also supporting the canned food drive that will help put food on tables for families who are in need. Thank you for sharing your time and your expertise to help our school learn and grow. Thank you for sharing your precious children with us!

Grade 3 teacher, Ms. Martin, warmed my heart and put a smile on my face this morning. She shared that there is a student who, since the first day of school, has made it a point every day to thank her and tell her that she is an amazing teacher! We often talk about how teachers make all of the difference in children’s lives. Your children make all of the difference in the lives of our teachers.

We are a strong community. And it is important that we continue to work hard to understand and support one another. There is such alienation in the country and world today. It is vitally important that we have a place where we are known and loved; Saint Columbkille Partnership School will continue to be that place.

Sincerely,

Dr. William Gartside
Head of School

Click here for photos of the Thanksgiving Lunch!

News & Updates

Loyola Leaders of the Month
Mrs. Lamothe and her family welcomed Brynne Mackenzie on October 9. She weighed 7 pounds and 7 ounces and was 21 inches long. Congratulations!

Congratulations to Shane and Luisa, our October Loyola Leaders of the Month!

Our fifth grade students had a blast cheering on the Boston College Women’s Basketball Team to a victory today! (Click here for photos!)

#GivingTuesday

Join us in the spirit of Thanksgiving to support Saint Columbkille Partnership School. Whether by designating St. Columbkille School, Inc. as your charity of choice on Amazon Smile or supporting our financial aid program on Giving Tuesday, we appreciate your generosity during the holiday season.

Amazon Smile

Click here to explore other easy ways to support STCPS (without spending extra money)!

Grade 6 students created different landforms by building 3D maps using classroom supplies.

Trimester 2 Clubs Sign Up

Trimester 2 clubs will run from December 3 to March 8. The deadline to register for clubs is TOMORROW, Friday, November 16!

Clubs for students in grades 1-3 will be assigned based on availability to allow as many students to participate in the clubs program as possible. Parents can indicate students' preferences on the registration form, but are not guaranteed placement in a particular club. Club assignments for students in grades 4-8 are done on a "first
Thanksgiving Day is around the corner, so that means that Christmas at Saint Col's is coming soon! We need a lot of parent volunteers for the festive events on November 30 and December 1. Please sign up to volunteer before, during, and/or after the event! This is a fun way to earn some volunteer hours!

Sign Up to Volunteer Here!

Teacher Baskets

The Community Building Committee has asked each grade level to prepare a “Themed Gift Basket” for Christmas at Saint Col's, which will take place on December 1, 2018. Each child is asked to bring in $5 so that the grade level teachers can purchase the items needed for the basket. The baskets will be raffled off at Christmas at Saint Col's on December 1st.

The Teacher Basket Raffle has always been a great success. Please send your $5 in an envelope to your child’s teacher by Tuesday, November 20. Thank you for your support.

Santa’s Bakeshop

Santa’s Bakeshop is one of the most popular features of the Christmas at Saint Col’s! Each Saint Col’s family is asked to donate 3-dozen home-baked goodies by November 29 or 30. For those who wish to enter, there will be another cookie competition this year! Information packets about all Christmas events have come home – please ask your Room Parent if you have any questions or email familyresourcecoordinators@stcps.org.
Order a Wreath

The smell of pine is in the air! Order your holiday wreath now and pick it up at the Christmas at St. Col’s celebration on Saturday, December 1, 2018 between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm.

The wreaths are lovingly decorated by our wonderful faculty member Mrs. Ellen Ward and have been a St. Col’s holiday tradition for many years.

Breakfast with Santa

Enjoy a pancake breakfast with Santa from 9:00 am - noon. Get a photo with Santa and share a meal with other Saint Columbkille families.

$5 per person
Children 6 years old and younger are free.

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**Santa’s Bake Shop!**

You are cordially invited to the most delicious part of Christmas at St. Col’s! Santa’s Bake Shop at schools, we are serving pie-tastic pies created by our talented students and faculty. This year, we are offering delectable desserts such as pie or cookies to choose from, along with bakesale goodies for sale! We need your help to raise money to purchase presents for underprivileged children in our community. If you don’t want参与, you can purchase the treats directly at the Bake Shop. Come and join the fun! To participate, please fill out the form below and indicate your contribution.

**2018 Christmas at St. Col’s, Santa’s Bake Shop Form**

Please check the following box if you are willing to participate:

- [ ] I would like my treats to be considered for the Local Pies Contribution Challenge

**Student(s) name(s):**

**Grades/Flavor(s):**

**Total # of cookies:**

**Parent(s) name(s):**

**School:**

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**Order a Wreath Pre-Order Form**

The smell of pine is in the air! Order your holiday wreath now and pick it up at the Christmas at St. Col’s celebration on Saturday, December 1, 2018 between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm.

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**2018 Christmas at St. Col’s**

**Please check the following box if you are willing to participate:**

- [ ] I would like my treats to be considered for the Local Pies Contribution Challenge

**Student(s) name(s):**

**Grades/Flavor(s):**

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**RSVP to Our Christmas at Saint Col’s Event (and share with friends)!**
IMPORTANT DATE CHANGE:
The Christmas Nativity date is now Wednesday, December 19 at 6 p.m. Please update the calendar that was mailed to you in August or click here to download a new calendar.

Friday, November 16
- Early Release - 1:15 p.m.
- Spirit Day - St. Vincent de Paul
- Trimester 2 Club Registration Deadline

Wednesday, November 21
- Morning Coffee - Community Builders - 8:00 am
- Prayer Service - 10:30 am
- Early Dismissal - 11:15 am
- NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS OR ACTIVITIES

Thursday, November 22 - Friday, November 23
- Happy Thanksgiving!
- No School

Tuesday, November 17
- #GivingTuesday

Wednesday, November 28
- Thanksgiving Lunch
- Morning Coffee - Art Program - 8:00 am

Friday, November 30
- Christmas Tree Lighting - 6:00 pm

Saturday, December 1
- Christmas at Saint Col's - 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

The Boston College Neighborhood Center has many great community events and opportunities. Click here to read more: Boston College Neighborhood Center Newsletter