

November 29, 2023

Dear OLSS Families,

As we enter the joyful season of Advent, which starts on Sunday, Dec. 3, our hearts are filled with anticipation and hope. Advent, which marks the beginning of the liturgical year, is a time of preparation and waiting as we await the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. It is a season of reflection, prayer, and joyful expectation that brings us closer to the true meaning of Christmas.

Advent is also a time for self-reflection and acts of kindness and provides an opportunity for children to engage in charitable activities and service projects. We encourage parents to discuss the importance of giving and serving others with their children, fostering a spirit of generosity that extends beyond the holiday season. As a school community, we will be sponsoring the local charities to help those in need and demonstrate the love and compassion of Christ. Teachers will share more info on donations to these charities with you.

PK: <u>Sleep in Heavenly Peace</u> Kindergarten: <u>Project Echo</u>

1st Grade: <u>St. Mary's Animal Shelter</u>2nd Grade: Calvert Health Hospital Pediatric Ward

3rd Grade: <u>Calvert Animal Welfare League</u>
4th Grade: <u>Birthright of Southern Maryland</u>
5th-8th Grades: <u>SMILE Christmas Toy Drive</u>

As we embark on this beautiful journey of Advent, let us open our hearts to the message of hope, love, joy, and peace that Christ brings. May this season be a time of spiritual growth and preparation for the celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Wishing you a blessed Advent season filled with the love and grace of our Lord.



Grace and Peace, Mrs. Jennifer Thompson Principal

NEWS & REMINDERS:

SPIRIT NIGHT: Ruddy Duck in Solomons is hosting a Spirit Night for us tonight. Please see the <u>flyer</u> for times and info and let your server know you are there for the Spirit Night.

MENU CHANGE: This Friday's lunch will be Salsa's Restaurant cheese quesadillas with rice, chips, & salsa, instead of Domino's pizza.

DECEMBER LUNCH HELP: Please sign up to help with December lunches <u>here</u>.

TEACHERS' CHRISTMAS TREE: Our teachers and staff have put Christmas Wish List items on a tree in the school lobby. Items range from educational tools to classroom supplies. Please feel free to come into the school lobby to take a tag from the tree, then send the item to school with the tag, and it will be given to the teacher. Every contribution is deeply appreciated!

COLD WEATHER: Please send your child with a warm jacket, hat, and gloves on cold weather days. Every class goes outside for recess daily.

CHILI CHEFS NEEDED: We need chefs to make their specialty chilis to share at the Chili Cook-Off on **Sat, Dec. 9.** Please visit the <u>Chili Cook-Off page</u> for more info and to register. Please submit registrations by Nov. 29.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT: Our school Christmas Concert is **Sun, Dec. 17 at 1pm** in the Parish Church. All students are participating and are expected to attend. More info will be sent out in December.

CHRISTMAS BREAK: School will be closed for Christmas Break from Dec. 20-Jan. 2; we will return to school on **Wed**, **Jan. 3**. Our school year calendar previously stated that we returned to school on Jan. 2.

ADW TUITION ASSISTANCE: Applications for the <u>Archdiocesan Tuition Assistance Program</u> for the 2024-25 school year are being accepted through Feb. 16, 2024 for PK-8th grades (deadline is Dec. 15 for high school). To apply, log into your TADS account and select "Financial Aid Application". **Families must apply for ADW Tuition Assistance every year to be eligible to apply for OLSS Tuition Assistance.**



This family-friendly event will be held in conjunction with the Solomons Christmas Walk, and will feature our annual OLSS Chili Cook-Off, concessions, bake sale, ornament sale, and Christmas gift sale. The Chesapeake Room will be host to Santa's Village, where there will be many fun games and activities for children!

Volunteers are needed to help with this event. More info can be found on the sign ups:

Bake Sale Donations:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0F4 CA4AC2BA4F94-46407672-christmas

Donations:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0F4 CA4AC2BA4F94-46409417-christmas

Help with the Event:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0F4 CA4AC2BA4F94-46435486-christmas



SANTA SHOP

- The Santa Shop will be held on Dec. 4-6 for children to shop for gifts for their families. PK-4th grades will shop on Monday and 5th – 8th grades on Tuesday.
- Children must bring their completed shopping list with them on Dec. 4 (please do not send before then). Lists were sent home last week and can be found online here.
- Gifts are \$4/each and must be paid for in advance through the online school store here.
- Please sign up to volunteer <u>here</u> or email Mrs. Tamburri at <u>admissions@olsss.org</u>

Our Lady Star of the Sea

OLSS SEAHAWKS BASKETBALL NEWS

FUNDRAISER:

Our Basketball Program is selling Advent gifts and chocolate bars ; please see the flyer with today's news. Items may be purchased online <u>here</u>.

UPCOMING GAMES:

SAT, DEC. 2: Games at St. John's School

- 10:15am: JVB vs ANS
- 2:00pm: VG vs CHA

SUN, DEC. 3: Games at Cardinal Hickey Academy

- 12:30pm: JVG vs CHA
- 1:45pm: VB vs CHA

UPCOMING EVENTS:

DECEMBER

- 🎄 Dec. 4-6: <u>Santa Shop</u>
- 🎄 Dec. 9: Christmas Delight & Chili Cook-Off
- **Dec. 11:** Wear Kindness Shirts
- A Dec. 17, 1pm: Christmas Concert
- **Dec. 18:** Wear 90th Anniversary Shirts
- **Dec. 19:** Christmas Tag Day/12:30pm Dismissal
- **Dec. 20-Jan 2:** Christmas Break