



The Sacred Heart of the Matter



Charleston, WV

~ Sacred Heart Grade School ~

December 2020

Dear parents,

This week we begin our school wide Advent Project, *The Jesse Tree*. Each day we will learn about a symbol that reminds us of the ancestors of Jesus. In doing so, we strive to be mindful of this special season each morning as we prepare for Christmas.

Preparation is something the faculty and staff of SHGS understand well. As educators, we prepare for lessons and learning each day, often weeks and even months in advance. During the past year though, we have learned to not only prepare for daily lessons, but to prepare for multiple learning possibilities and contingencies that could change each week. As I imagine you have felt in your own lives, planning for the many unknowns of COVID can be overwhelming. However, in order to continue to learn, grow, and teach we cannot allow ourselves to become overwhelmed.

We have had to become mindful in our preparation, understanding that if we weren't careful, we would look back and realize the time had passed in a blur. Mindfulness and awareness are also what we strive for during Advent. We don't want to wake up suddenly on Christmas morning thinking, "Where did Advent go?" We want to be fully aware of each day, each prayer, each song, each symbol that can prepare our hearts and minds for Jesus.

Quite often teachers will stop by my office and say, "I am ready for today," "I can do today," or "Today will be great and tomorrow will be tomorrow." In the midst of all of our planning, COVID related or otherwise, we have become more aware of our ability and choice to embrace the daily here and now. We appreciate our moments whether we are together in-person or virtual. We prepare for each day, and then we embrace the moments we share; in whatever way we are able to share them.

I pray this mindfulness and prayerful awareness continue as we walk together in love during the weeks of Advent, waiting and preparing for Jesus. I wish you a blessed season.

With love,
Susan Malinoski

CONGRATULATIONS!

To the following students on their excellent academic achievements:

Principal's Honor Roll Recipients (all A's): Miles Bown, Bailee King, Zachary Lanning, Teddy Passmore, Sabian Rashid, Owen Stapleton, Nora Aliff, Danny Linton, Rachel Lough, Luke Passmore, Ali Wilcox, Rylee Wright, Cooper Hayslip, and Harry Salutillo

Honor Roll Recipients (A's and 1-2 B's): Kara Fox, Alistair Gould, Charlotte Hayes, Lauren Pleska, Lauren Chapman, Macie Hatter, Abbie Messer, and Alexis Staun

To Christian Skazyk on the birth of his baby brother, Dominic Edward!

SACRED HEART BASKETBALL UPDATE

Unfortunately, but understandably, the Charleston Church Recreation Association (CCRA) has decided to cancel the 2020-21 basketball season due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This means that there will be no Sacred Heart basketball this year.



Our Mission

In the context of a Catholic community, Sacred Heart Grade School strives to help students fulfill the potential of their God given talents and abilities by guiding them to develop themselves spiritually, intellectually, physically, emotionally, aesthetically, and socially.



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dates.

Visit the Sacred Heart
Grade School website
shgs.us for news and
information.

Remember to follow us on
Instagram
sacred_heart_grade_school
and like our page on
Facebook.



THANK YOU



To SHGS students who sold a record setting **1093** boxes of peanuts for the SHGS PVA Peanut Shoppe fundraiser! And, to Courtney Lohri for planning and organizing yet another successful fundraiser!

To SHGS families for providing COVID-fighting supplies, hand sanitizer, wipes, Lysol, and hand soap through the SHGS Amazon Wish List!

To SHGS students for donating \$828.65 on our Clay County Dress Down Day to benefit this special Christmas project!

To SHGS families who are generously donating many needed food items for our Clay County Food Drive! We will share a final count once the drive is over.

COVID EXPOSURE REPORTING

As positive COVID-19 cases continue to increase in our local community, communication between home and school becomes even more important. Please direct COVID-19 exposures, positive tests, or questions to the SHGS office or email smalinowski@sacredheartgradeschool.org.

Virtual participation has been designed to support our students who are ill and to encourage students to stay home if they are sick so that we can keep our school community healthy. Planning for virtual learning, in addition to in person learning, requires significant time and effort from the teachers. Therefore, it should be utilized primarily in the cases of illness, quarantine, or exposure. Students who miss school for reasons other than illness should contact the school office for approval prior to virtual participation. Students who are ill with any symptoms should stay home from school. If your child will be absent from school, please communicate with the school office as soon as possible in the morning. Letting us know before school starts will help make the day go more smoothly for everyone.

Students who are ill will remain out of school for 3 days with improving symptoms. A negative COVID test or documentation/communication of another condition from the student's physician (eg. strep throat, ear infection) will be required for a student to return to school. Students may attend school virtually for the days they are home if they are well enough and the office has been notified by a parent prior to the student logging on. Students who are sent home sick during the school day will follow the guidelines for three days of improving symptoms and a negative COVID test or documentation of another condition to return. Students who leave during the school day will **not** participate virtually for the remainder of that day. They may begin to participate virtually on their first full day of the absence. If a student misses class due to illness, it is important that the parent touch base with the teacher about make up work and other details.



DECEMBER DRESS DOWN DAYS



Wednesday, December 9
Wednesday, December 15
Thursday, December 16
Thursday, December 17
Friday, December 18

December Dress Down Day
Clay County Thank You Dress Down Day
Clay County Thank You Dress Down Day
Merry Christmas Dress Down Day
Dress-Up Day for Mass and Christmas parties
grades 1-5

SHGS DAY OF GIVING 2021

Mark your calendars now for the 3rd annual SHGS Day of Giving!

Wednesday, February 3, 2021
7:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

Donations to the Funding Our Future Campaign will fund

New LED classroom lighting for the second floor
Technology upgrades
Innovative programs and capital improvements





TINY HEARTS, ECE AND PRE-K PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Our Tiny Hearts, ECE and Pre-K Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled for **Wednesday, February 3 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.**

Appointments can be made by calling the school office beginning **Monday, January 13**. These conferences will be held using Google Meet or Zoom. Teachers will be in touch with those details.

There will be **no school or ASC** for Tiny Hearts, ECE AND PRE-K classes (only) on this day.

2021-2020 SHGS REGISTRATION

Mark your calendars! Registration forms will go home with our current students (Tiny Hearts through fourth grade) on **Friday, January 8**. Please turn in your application by **Friday, January 15** to ensure a spot for your child/children next school year. Applications not submitted within the window of opportunity will lose their first consideration status.

January 8—January 15

Application window opens for students currently enrolled at SHGS (and their siblings) who will be entering our Tiny Hearts through Grade 5, along with those children enrolled at Sacred Heart Early Learning Center. If you have a child who is not currently enrolled at SHGS whom you wish to be considered for admissions for the next academic year, please call the office to request a **sibling application**.

January 19—January 22

Application window opens for Sacred Heart parishioners who **do not** currently have children enrolled at SHGS.

January 25

Admission to SHGS is opened to the general public.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS/DELAYS DUE TO SNOW/ICE

Remember that school closings and delays are texted through Parent Alert, are announced on the SHGS website, and are tweeted through @SacredHeartGS.

- 1) SHGS/CCHS will **not** follow **any** of the Kanawha County Schools' weather-related procedures.
- 2) Families may connect to the SHGS website or listen to the radio/television for changes to SHGS/CCHS schedules. The following stations will be notified by 6:15 a.m. if there are changes to be made: WV Public Radio, WCHS, WCHS-TV, WSAZ-TV, WOWK TV, V100, 96.1, and WKAZ.
- 3) The SHGS website will be updated, a tweet will be sent through @SacredHeartGS, and a Parent Alert text will be sent. Plans for the day (whether remote learning, E-day, or a day off) will be included in the announcement of the closure.
- 4) If SHGS is closed due to inclement weather the closure applies to all classes TH-5th grade.
- 5) If no announcements are made for SHGS/CCHS, classes will be held on the regular schedule.
- 6) If a two-hour delay is announced, classes will start promptly at 10 a.m. The building will not open until 9:30 to give staff time to get to school. Please do not drop off your children before 9:30.
- 7) As always, if you cannot get your child to school for health or safety reasons, please notify the school.

VIRTUAL LEARNING OPTION

SHGS students participating in the virtual option who would like to return to in-person learning for the third nine weeks (which begins on Monday, January 25, 2021) should notify the office of their intent to return by Friday, January 8. Per the SHGS Virtual Learning Agreement, once a student opts for virtual learning, he/she must remain virtual for the entire quarter.





December Calendar



Tuesday, December 1	E-day learning K-5, no school TH, ECE, Pre-K
Wednesday, December 2	E-day learning K-5, no school TH, ECE, Pre-K
Thursday, December 3	All classes return to in-person learning Clay County Food Drive extension
Friday, December 4	Clay County food items due
Wednesday, December 9	December Dress Down Day and birthday lunch PVA General Meeting on Zoom
Tuesday, December 15	Clay County Thank You Dress Down Day
Wednesday, December 16	Clay County Thank You Dress Down Day
Thursday, December 17	Merry Christmas Dress Down Day
Friday, December 18	Progress Report Day Dress-up day grades 1-5 for Mass and Christmas parties Half day dismissal 11:00 TH, ECE, Pre-K 11:15 K, 1, 2 11:30 3-5
Monday, December 21- Wednesday, December 23	Remote learning (no live instruction) K-5, no school for preschool
Thursday, December 24- Friday, January 1	Christmas Break
Monday, January 4	Classes resume
Wednesday, January 6	January Dress Down Day and birthday lunch
Friday, January 8	Application window opens for students currently enrolled at SHGS for 2021-2022 registration
Monday, January 11- Friday, January 22	MAP testing window for grades K-5

