

April 7, 2017



Dear Parents,

As we leave this week for our Spring Break, I remind all families of the most solemn of all the weeks in the Catholic Church. This Sunday is Palm Sunday. The Gospel of Matthew recounts the events where Jesus is both acclaimed and betrayed. This Sunday we read the Passion. The Paschal Mystery includes Jesus' life, death, resurrection and ascension into heaven. This is the entire story of salvation. We cannot take one part out and have it be complete; - the mystery is the whole story. Through great sadness, we encounter great hope.

I have included the times for each service during Holy Week on our April School calendar. It would be wonderful to see our school families attending all or most of them. The First Communion class will attend the Holy Thursday Services in remembrance of the Most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist which they will receive for the first time in a few weeks. The children's choir will sing at the 11:00am Easter Sunday Mass. Please join us if possible.



Rice Bowls that have not been returned, can still go to the church office during this coming week. Thanks to all who remembered to bring them to school Thursday and Friday.



EXCITING NEWS from Grade 2 during the vacation week. Have any of you been watching facebook with the webcam of the baby eagle being born, or the one of the giraffe named "April" about to give birth? Mrs. Heidtman and the primary classes on the first floor have been watching the life cycle of a bull frog. A webcam has been set up in the class where all our families can go online and view the tank throughout the vacation week and watch the metamorphosis that is occurring. The site is: <http://smsbranford.org/activities/live-stream/> Best viewing is during the day when the classroom is bright.

ARTSONIA FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY for the ART ROOM!

Mother's Day is coming up (and Father's Day isn't far behind). Stop by our Artsonia website! Mrs. Corina is busy uploading images of their works every week, so you have plenty to choose from if you wish to purchase commemorative keepsakes with your child's school artwork. **Parents can order keepsakes by these deadlines and receive by Mother's Day: Standard Shipping** (our best rates) -- **Order by Wednesday May 3 Express Shipping** (extended delivery) -- **Order by Tuesday May 9**



Blick's Mixed Media Contest Last chance - entries due by April 14 As most of you already know, Blick Art Materials provides prizes to teachers and students for Artsonia's Artist of the Week contest. Blick is also currently accepting final entries for their 3rd annual **Mixed Media Contest**. We encourage you to consider submitting to this contest as another great way to showcase your children's creative abilities and advocate our art program. Mrs. Corina will help submitting the students' works but needs your approval to proceed. If you want your son/daughter to participate, please contact Mrs. Corina at Mrs.alvarezdelugo@smsbranford.net. **Entries are due by April 14, 2017**. Please read full details at <http://www.dickblick.com/mixedmediacontest/details>

CONGRATULATIONS!

Our 8th grade student, Nora Shannon is currently exhibiting two of her works at the **ART SLAM AT THE CAPITOL EXHIBIT**, at the Legislative Building Hartford, CT (Upper Concourse East). There will be a Closing Reception next week: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 from 3:00 - 5:00 pm. All are welcome to attend.

ARTS and BEATS camp: The week of June 19-23 we will once again have our camp with the Miss Corina, Mrs. Xeller and Mr. Mason. We wanted you to save the date if you have an interest in sending your child as we know it is time to sign up for all the different summer camps. The camp will be from 9:00 to 2:00 with lunch included. More info will follow as soon as we have all the details firmed up.



The Home/School is giving everyone an opportunity to sell candy, especially those families who still need to find a way to reach their fundraising quota. The month of May is quickly approaching, and invoices will be sent out to the families to close out payment obligations to complete the year. To get the chocolate during the week of vacation, contact Jen Aquino @ 203 858 0354 to make arrangements to pick up candy.

All fundraising obligations must be paid by May 31st. Last chance to fulfill your obligation.



Easter Blessings to all!

Sr. Annette