

St. Thomas Regional School
15 Edendale Avenue
Providence, RI 02911
(401) 351-0403
We Walk By Faith

January 7, 2009

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year!! I would like to thank all of you for the holiday treats and well wishes. I hope you are all enjoying 2009. The month of January is well underway and it seems we are always preparing for another snowstorm- or in today's case, an ice storm. The children will definitely put those snow boots and snow pants to good use this winter it seems. When coming to school please make sure your child is dressed properly for cold weather, jacket, hat, mittens, as we try to get them outdoors as much as possible during these cold months. In the case of inclement weather, announcements regarding our school closings and early dismissals will be made over **WJAR channel 10** under the category **R.I. Catholic Schools as "St. Thomas Regional School"**. If you do not see the name of the school specifically then we will be in session as usual.

It looks like the new year has ushered in cold and flu season along with the snow. As you may know Mrs. Mele has been out due to unexpected surgery. Ms. Sylvia will also be out for the month of January due to surgery. We continue to pray for a speedy recovery and hope to have them back soon. Rest assured, when a teacher is out due to illness, etc. I am fortunate to have a substitute teacher list of certified veteran teachers who are familiar with the school and the children, many of them having taught here at St. Thomas School. In order to maintain a healthy environment we have covered the water bubbler for the winter and we continue to reinforce the importance of regular hand washing and proper rest with the children.

Our annual Open House is Sunday, January 25, 2009. We have many new prospective parents who have heard about the program we offer here at St. Thomas Regional School and want their children to be a part of it. If you have a child who will be entering Kindergarten in the fall please call the office. Re-registration packets will be sent home on February 2nd for the 2009-2010 school year. In order to assure your child's position for next year, please be sure to return **tuition contracts and commitment fees** by February 13th. FACTS Grant Aid Assessment form is due by February 13, 2009. This form is returned directly to FACTS not to St. Thomas Regional School. If you have not received your FACTS Aid form you may call the office so the information can be sent home.

On behalf of the faculty, staff and parish I would like to thank you for your generous donations throughout the Christmas season to make Christmas dinner for those in the parish who are less fortunate. We will continue to collect food for the St. Thomas Church food closet and we will be having a dress down day on Wednesday, January 14th to benefit Bishop Tobin's "Keep the Heat On" program. In years past St. Thomas Regional School had the

second highest donation towards the program. I thank you in advance for your continued generosity.

Catholic Schools Week is January 26th – January 30th. The theme for this year is “Catholic Schools Celebrate Service”. We have planned a number of activities for the children based on this theme. For further information please refer to the Catholic Schools Week calendar which will be sent home soon.

Reminders:

- *Grade 2 Epiphany Mass- Friday, January 9th*
- *Mid-trimester reports go home- Monday, January 26th*
- *Candy sale begins January 26th*
- *Whole school roller skating- Wednesday, January 28th*
- *Catholic Schools Week Mass and parent visitation- Friday, January 30th*
- *Mother Daughter Bingo/ Father Son Bruins game- Friday, January 30th*
- *Winter recess- February 16th- February 20th*

Hopefully spring is right around the corner. Let's pray the groundhog won't see his shadow on February 2nd. Have a great weekend.

Peace and Prayers,

Mrs. Mary DiMuccio