Dear Parents,

This Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent. Advent is the beginning of the Church's liturgical year and is made up of the four Sundays and weekdays leading up to Christmas. Advent is a time of preparation. We work on directing our minds and hearts to the second coming of Christ at the end of time and also to the anniversary of our Lord's birth.

Throughout the school, you will see visual signs of Advent including an Advent Calendar in the main hallway. The Advent calendar will have a “door” for each day. As we open each door, we’ll find a reading about the Saint of the day, an Advent related Bible verse or an act of kindness. These will be shared during our morning announcements and teachers will extend activities to the classroom. Each class has an Advent wreath and a statue of the Virgin Mary. Be sure to ask your children daily how they worked to prepare their hearts and minds during Advent.

For ideas on what you can do as a family, please see the USCCB Advent Calendar.

If you are struggling to make sure your family attends Mass each weekend, perhaps Advent is a good time to renew your promise and make the third commandment a priority.

God bless you,

Karen King, Principal

**Skating Party, Monday, December 3**

We have a skating party scheduled for Monday, December 3 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Hot Skates Avon, 241 Casco Dr. Admission is $2.00 and skate rental is $4.00. Students from St. Michael will be joining us. Non skating adults do not have to pay admission.

**Breakfast with Santa**

We could still use a few helpers on Saturday, December 1. Here is the link to sign up: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508044EABA92DA7FD0-breakfast

**Craft Show Thank You!**

Thank you to Melissa Hedge and all of her volunteers for another successful Craft Show. It was well attended and made money. The vendors were reporting that it was one of the best shows for them and lots of participants walked out with armfuls of goodies.
55+ Luncheon on December 2
We could still use a couple of volunteers to help on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Here is the link to sign up to help: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409044FABA72BA3FD0-55andover1

Reminder from our Family Handbook:

**CLOSING OF SCHOOL:**
Certain emergencies may necessitate the canceling or delaying the start of school. If school will be closed:

- A voice recording will be sent to phones.
- A post will be made on our school Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofSt.ChristopherSchool/
- WISH-TV, local channel #8 will be notified. You will not see it on WTHR or WRTV.

**2 HOUR DELAY - ALTERNATE SCHEDULE**
Whenever possible, we will be on a two-hour delay or alternate schedule instead of closing for the day.

1. **The doors open at 9:30 a.m.** (exactly 2 hours later than a regular school day.)
2. Students must be in their seat in the classroom at 9:55 a.m.
3. The lunch hour will be pushed back to 12:00 (PreK – 2) and 12:30 (3rd – 6th).
4. PreK- If enrolled all day, class begins at 9:55 a.m. Students who are “morning only” may attend 9:55 - 12:50 - - or parents may choose to keep children at home.

**Kindergarten News**

The month of November has been busy in Kindergarten! Students are reading more and more words, consistently adding labels to illustrations, and starting to write sentences. In Math, we have been comparing and decomposing numbers 0-20. This week we are starting place value, focusing on tens and ones when reading a number.

During the past few weeks, Kindergarten learned about the First Thanksgiving. Students learned about vocabulary words such as the Mayflower, Pilgrims, Native Americans, cornucopia, and Plymouth. We completed a past vs. present sort, created an interactive journal, illustrated and labeled a Thanksgiving feast, and watched videos about the First Thanksgiving. Students were even interested in researching the Mayflower II which is a reproduction of the original Mayflower. Our Thanksgiving unit culminated on Native American day. Kindergarteners were assigned to a tribe with 5th grade leaders. Miss Anderson’s class graciously volunteered to help us! Students enjoyed making totem poles, creating pasta necklaces and bead bracelets, decorating t-shirts with Native American symbols, and making music makers. It was a fun learning experience for all of us! Thank you also to Mr. Flores, Mrs. Steiner, Mrs. Olsen, and Julianne Allspaw who volunteered their time to help facilitate our activities.

I am excited to see us continue to grow this year! -- Miss Huntine
**Important Dates**

November 30 - Bingo Team 5

December 1 - Breakfast with Santa, 9:00 a.m. in the cafeteria

December 2 - 55+ Christmas Luncheon at 1:30 p.m. in the cafeteria

December 3 - Skating Party at Hot Skates in Avon, 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.

December 4 - First Reconciliation in church, 6:30 p.m.

December 6 - PreK to Art Museum

December 7 - Lifetouch Photography here for Group Activity photos

  Bingo Team 6

December 11 - Christmas Concert in church, 6:00 p.m. Performing-PreK, 2, 4, 6, Choir and Band

December 11-16 - Book Fair

December 14 - Out of uniform for $1, theme is Ugly Christmas Sweater

  Bingo Team 1

December 18 - Choir to visit Oak Street Health

December 20 - 5th grade field trip to the Children’s Museum

**December 21** - 9:00 Mass presented by the First Grade, **1:30 p.m. dismissal, NO AFTERCARE**

  Bingo Team 2

**December 24-January 6 - Christmas Break**

December 28 - Bingo Team 7

January 4 - Bingo Team 3

January 7 - Classes resume

January 10 - PreK to the Art Museum

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**St. Christopher School Mission Statement**

St. Christopher School, established in 1949 as an educational ministry of St. Christopher parish, serves the West Deanery of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and the surrounding community.

St. Christopher School strives to provide an exceptional education permeated with Catholic Christian values, promoting spiritual, moral, intellectual, physical and social growth for our students, preschool through sixth grade.

St. Christopher School seeks to be an extension of our students' homes, challenging them to achieve their potential and helping them to realize their great worth as children of God, capable of making significant contributions at home and throughout the world.