

**The Weekly Newsletter of Mr. Courchane, SJE**  
**December 15, 2023**  
**"Remember that Jesus is the Bread of Life." John 6:35**

Dear Parents:

Our Christmas concert was Wednesday, and it was good to see all of you there, either at the evening performance or the matinee. The students put a lot of effort into the show, and it is always heartwarming to see this tradition continue. I thought their performance was quite satisfactory. And big thanks to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade who put the gym back in order Thursday morning.

Our students were able to partake in the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Thursday. This was a great way to prepare hearts and souls for the celebration of our Savior's birth.

Eighth graders are considering academic goals for 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester. I would like to see each 8<sup>th</sup> grader challenge themselves to reach their reading goal each month. Last month only two of the fifteen 8<sup>th</sup> graders met their goal, the lowest percentage of any class. This was disappointing. It goes without saying, but I guess I will say it anyway, reading is a hugely important life skill which is essential to any academic skill. They need to make time to read for pleasure and for school every day. This is the time of life when they really can develop their brains mentally and physically.

**Important December Dates**

**12/16-12/17 Cookie Walk- After Mass- buy your cookies**

**December 18th -Mission T-shirt Day Out of Uniform**

**12/19 – Field Trip to Planetarium**

**12/23/23- 1/2/23 Christmas Break**

Sincerely,

***Mr. Courchane***

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Homeroom  
Middle School Science and Religion

*"It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope."*

— Pope Benedict XVI



***The St. John Way: Service, Compassion, Respect, Responsibility, Perseverance***