



SAINT COLUMBKILLE

PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL

Message from the Head of School



Dear Families,

This week in a grade eight classroom, I stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. *“I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all.”* Students recite this pledge to help them understand that we are one nation, that there is a greater power we must answer to, and that we promise freedom and justice for everyone.

Within the walls of our school, the national aspirations are lived out. The second sentence of our mission statement mirrors our national pledge. ***We are committed to the education of children of all backgrounds in an environment that cultivates respect, mutuality, and care.*** Our families come together as one. Our school is a safe place for all to express the beauty of difference. We do not simply teach children to tolerate one another. We teach children to celebrate one another. When we think of difference we not only think of the color of our skin or of the languages we speak. We think of the gifts that each child possesses. We think about the budding artists and musicians. We think of the future mathematicians and writers. We think of the actors and the comedians. We try to discover the uniqueness of every child. With this search, our children learn that they are special and, just as important, that those around them are special, too. We teach children to know and to engage in dialogue with one another. This is how we teach **respect**.

Once relationships are formed, our children understand that they must work in collaboration. I believe that it is in our nature to seek **mutuality** over isolation. The axiom “many hands make light work” rings true to our students. When I tour the classrooms, I am always amazed at how well the children support one another. Our eighth graders were working on their essays as part of the high school application process. One student was having trouble listing three adjectives to describe himself. Within seconds, his classmates stopped working on their essays to discuss his best qualities. Together we are better.

We do love your children. We watch over them with great **care**. We make sure to tell them when they show their best selves and help them to be their better selves when they are not. We make sure they work hard and catch them when they fall. On the long drive home each day, I think about the caregivers we have at Saint Columbkille. I know that you understand how much they matter.

It is my hope that our children will grow to maturity with a clear understanding of themselves with a healthy respect for those they meet. I hope they will become coalition builders who will

always reach out to anyone who crosses their path who is in need.

Happy Thanksgiving to all! Together, we have so much for which to be thankful!!

Sincerely,
William Gartside
Head of School

News & Updates

Join us for
Christmas at St. Col's

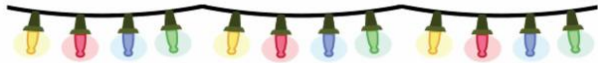
Tree Lighting
December 1st 6:00PM - 6:30PM

Please join us on the school plaza for our annual lighting of the Christmas tree at Saint Columbkille and caroling!

Pancake Breakfast
December 2nd 9:00AM - 1:00PM

Enjoy a Pancake Breakfast with Santa in the gym and afterward stroll through the halls of the school to take in all the other activities offered. The event will feature the Santa's Bakeshop, Mrs. Claus' Wreath Room, The Elves' Workshop, photos with Santa, used uniform sale and raffles! Community members are welcome!

IT'S *christmas* AT ST. COL'S!



Join us for a **FESTIVE** morning!
Saturday, December 2nd, 2017 9AM - 1PM

**ENJOY A PANCAKE BREAKFAST
AND PHOTOS WITH SANTA!**

FROM 9AM - 12PM IN THE SAINT COLUMBKILLE GYMNASIUM
\$5 PER TICKET CHILDREN 6 YEARS AND UNDER FREE



OTHER ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Santa's Bakeshop
- Mrs. Claus' Wreath Room
- Basket Raffles
- The Elves Workshop
(Craft activities for kids!)



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Faculty members participated in a CPR training during a Friday professional development this month.

Join
Saint Columbkille Partnership
School as we participate in
#GivingTuesday on
November 28!
Look for posts on
Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.
Share our posts with friends!

Christmas Toy Drive Wishing Tree

Our Grace Givers program in conjunction with the Annual Allston/Brighton toy drive, sponsored by Reps. Moran, Honan, and other elected officials, as well as the BAIA and the Ward 22 Democratic Committee, will be collecting gifts for families in need- both in our school and our community.

A wishing tree will be set up outside the main office with gift tags beginning on Monday, December 4th. Please take a gift tag and return it attached to the present by Friday, December 15th. If you are not able to stop by and take a gift tag, you may purchase a toy for a child ages 0 - 13 and drop it off in the main office.

The wishing tree will also be in the gym at the Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, December 2nd!



Grade four and eight students have been learning about the branches of government in their social studies classes. On Tuesday afternoon, the fourth and eighth graders came together to share their government projects with one another.

STCPS K2 Teacher Kathleen Cashman Honored By Archdiocese for Top Test Scores

On Monday, November 13, our very own K2 teacher, Kathleen Murphy Cashman, received a distinguished honor from the Archdiocese of Boston for garnering the school system's top five kindergarten test scores in literacy and math for the second consecutive year. Cashman was honored at a lunch at the Catholic Schools Office in Braintree with three other teachers from the Archdiocese. They participated in the "Saints & Scholars on the Go" podcast with Boston Catholic Schools superintendent Kathy Mears to discuss how they utilize test results to customize learning plans and curricula for their students.

"I'm honored to be recognized for my students' achievements," says Cashman. "We work hard all year to help our students reach their potential in the classroom, and it's rewarding to see them accomplish their goals."

Calendar Of Events

Thursday, November 23

- No School

Friday, November 24

- No School

Tuesday, November 28

- #GivingTuesday

Wednesday, November 29

- Pre-kindergarten Morning Coffee 8AM in the library

Friday, December 1

- Tree Lighting 6:00PM - Please join us on the school plaza for caroling and the lighting of the Christmas tree at Saint Columbkille.
- Early Dismissal 1:15PM
- End of Trimester 1

Saturday, December 2

- Christmas at St. Col's Pancake Breakfast 9AM - 1PM

Wednesday, December 6

- Kindergarten 1 Morning Coffee 8AM

in the library

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