

October 11, 2022

Dear 8th Grade Parents,

Next Monday, October 17, we will start preparations for our Annual 8th Grade Christmas Pageant. It has been a great and joyous tradition here at Holy Name that the 8th grade class gets to carry each year, and has been wonderful for all who have experienced it over the course of so many years! The 8th grade is always a wonderful group to work with, and just as in past this year's 8th graders are so very excited to get started! They are highly anticipating which roles they will be, and can not stop asking about it. When I see them next week, I will be revealing their character roles to them.

There are many moving parts that need to take place for this production to be what it is meant to be. I will be asking for your support for rehearsals which will be taking place after school on Mondays between the end of October leading up to our concert date in December. ***This year, for the first time, we will be holding our Christmas Concert and Christmas Pageant at Bishop Connolly High School. Our concert will be on Thursday, December 15, 2022 at 6pm.***

With this said, we will need lots of extra support. We will need lots of helping hands not only keeping things running smoothly with costumes and lights, but with rehearsals and keeping things together in the background while the performance is going on. Not only are we in a different building, but on a much larger stage with an unfamiliar territory for not only the kids, but myself. Everything will be a new adventure and we are looking for both moms and dads. Costume changes, changing sets and scene props, and possibly building and carrying pieces of sets to and from the school. We will also need people in charge of taking care of the costumes for both the girls and the boys, and help getting the kids dressed properly backstage the night of the show, and especially during rehearsals. These and so many other details that we are still not aware of.

We have never done any kind of theatrical production on the Bishop Connolly stage, and know that this will take a group effort. As a school, we have only done this production on our little stage at Holy Name School, and that is with the help of our parents and our teachers. The kids and I are definitely counting on your support to make this come together. Every little bit helps, and it will be great to have all hands on deck. We have also been considering bringing on 7th grade parents, if need be, to help keep everything as smooth as possible for our 8th grade class. We are happy to hear suggestions so please send them our way!

I am hopeful to have a few full dress rehearsals after school at the High School as we get closer to that last week in December. Once I have confirmed dates with both buildings (Holy Name and Bishop Connolly), I will send home the dates for those after school rehearsals. For now, I will be having the next few music classes dedicated to going over lines in class. ***Our first two after school rehearsals will be held on Monday, October 24th and Tuesday, November 1st. When rehearsals begin, they will go from 2:30 until 4pm, as we may need a little extra time to put costumes and props away.*** Please let me know if you are able to attend and help out at either one of these. That would be a great help. I will send more dates for November and December as I confirm them.

While rehearsals will take place in school during our music classes, they will mostly be taking place after school on Mondays. There may also be a few on Tuesdays depending on the week.

If for any reason your son/ daughter will not be able to make any of these rehearsals or needs to leave earlier than the mentioned above times, please send a handwritten note to school to myself and/or Mrs. Weldon so we are all made aware of who is expected to be absent before the end of the day is through. ***For safety reasons, no student will be allowed to leave school without a written and signed note from home.*** Please be sure to help us keep everyone safe. It is of utmost importance.

If there are any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please feel free to email me. I would love to hear from you. I am looking forward to hearing from you, and working with you!

I thank you ahead of time for all of your support in making this the best possible play for our kids. We can not do this without your support, and I thank you.

We are very excited to get started!

Musically yours,
Mrs. Tavares