



Holy Name School

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Mr. David J. Flanagan, Principal

Very Rev. Jay T. Maddock, Director

November 24, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

On behalf of our entire school community, I would like to wish you a very blessed and safe Thanksgiving Day. I know that in this unique time we will be celebrating in a much smaller manner, but we have to remain mindful of the blessings that we can share, even remotely! Hopefully, we will be able to stem this current surge of infections and continue to take care of one another as we look forward to the blessings of the Advent and Christmas season.

Tomorrow, Wednesday, Nov. 25th, we will be dismissing school at 11:30 a.m. to begin the Thanksgiving Holiday. Please prepare to have your child(ren) picked up at 11:30 a.m., as there will be no extended care offered. As has been allowed in the past, **students may wear gym uniforms on Wednesday**. This is also the November dress down day. If your student has a November birthday, they may wear their choice of attire (utilizing the HNS dress down guidelines) instead of gym uniform. (or gym uniform if that's their choice)

Please remember that if you travel out of state for the holiday, your child MUST quarantine for 14 days upon return. Please see all requirements at: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-travel-order>

(Note: If your child is under 10, they may return to school as long as their parent has tested negative. Students must wait for parent's test result before returning to school. The only 2 states that are considered low risk are Hawaii and Vermont.

Report Cards:

Report Cards for Trimester 1 are now available via Gradelink for K-8. [Click here to access Gradelink](#) log into your account and you will see the option to "Download Report Card" as a PDF this is located in the right hand corner of the page. If you are using your smart phone App it will highlight a blue tab "View Latest Report Card" which you can click to open.

If you are unsure of how to access your Gradelink account. A separate email was also sent out this morning with your Log-in Information.

Look for an email coming from: Gradelink_smartsend@gradelink.com (May have to check your spam/junk folder)

We have begun Trimester 2 and starting today Middle School student and parents will be receiving Low Grade Alerts. This will come via an email from Gradelink_alerts@backend.gradelink.com for a Grade of C- or lower. Alerts will also be sent for a grade of IC (Incomplete) which means this is an assignment the student is missing and needs to complete.

Cloth-A-Child:

Holy Name School will once again take part in the Cloth-A-Child fundraiser. Each class will be sponsoring a child who is in need of a warm jacket. Please see the attached flyer. [Click here to donate to Cloth-a-Child](#)

December Update:

Looking forward to December, our last day of school has been moved up to Dec. 18th from the 23rd !! The 18th will be a full day **BUT** we will not have to make up the time in June!! Unfortunately, we will not be able to hold our annual Polar Express Day but the students will all be allowed to wear pajamas for the day. More information regarding this will be forthcoming.

Please send your children to school with winter coats, hats, and gloves. It is very important for the students to spend time outside in the fresh air as we continue to make our best efforts at limiting chances for infection with COVID-19. Additionally, per the new regulations, students will need to wear their masks outside and maintain social distancing in an effort to stop the large increase in new cases in the state and in the City of Fall River. Thank you for your continued efforts and support with regard to these regulations.

REMOTE LEARNING: *If you decide that you would like to choose the remote option for your child, please let Mr. Flanagan know as soon as possible. Please note that there is no option of partially remote learning currently at Holy Name School. Due to the importance of tracking student absences for Contact Tracing purposes by the Department of Health in the event of a positive case, we need to know as soon as possible in the morning if your child will be absent due to sickness. Please contact Ms. Chippendale to inform her of the symptoms your child is experiencing.*

We are starting to see an increase in cold and flu symptoms, which is normal for this time of year. As you know, these symptoms are very similar to COVID indications. Please keep your children home if they are exhibiting two or more of the symptoms or if they have a fever. Kindly consult your pediatrician and if you have any questions, please contact the nurse's office here at school. (nurse@hnsfr.org)

"The Massachusetts Department of Health is now requiring that students must be vaccinated against the influenza virus and must present a certificate of such vaccination to the school before December 31, 2020. Please contact your child's pediatrician if you need to obtain certification that vaccination endangers your child's health."

COVID Testing Reminder: If you have a family member that has been in contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID, and they are waiting for test results, please keep your child home until the test result is received. If your family member tests positive, your child will have to be quarantined according to health department rules for 14 days, regardless of a negative test result for the child. Please let the office or the nurse know if this happens in your household in order for us to maintain accurate records for contact tracing purposes. Thank you for continued cooperation!

COVID-19 Updates:

We will always provide an update concerning local levels of infection and any updated guidance from the Massachusetts health department and the Massachusetts department of education and the Catholic School Office, if it impacts our school and the procedures we follow. *As of last Wednesday, Fall River was coded RED and the rate of infection was increasing.* Since the Fall River Diocesan and Parish schools are not experiencing an issue with infections, the decision to remain open in our current formats was made by the Catholic School Office. The Superintendent of the Fall River Schools intends on reevaluating the City's education model after 4 weeks. We will keep you apprised of any changes that might mean for our school.

School Masks:

Please remember to regularly wash the colored Holy Name School masks.

We do have some mask sets left to be purchased if anyone is interested. We know that by now many of the masks are stained, misplaced or just not in great shape. If you would like to purchase a new set of masks, please use the attached link. Once we receive your payment, we will send your masks home. Also, if you have yet to pay for your first set of masks, please use this link to do so at this time. [Click Here to Pay Holy Name School Face Masks](#)

We still have families who have not sent in updated nursing/physical/vaccination information. **It is imperative that we receive this information from all families.** If you have a reason why this cannot be done, please contact Mr. Flanagan immediately.

All families must follow the state mandates for vaccinations and immunizations or they will not be allowed to attend Holy Name School.

MASS Update:

We will not be holding a school Mass this week due to the Thanksgiving Holiday. We look forward to seeing you at Holy Name Church enjoying Mass as a family.

Extended Care:

Reminder: Please email Mrs.Krauzyk or call the office in the morning if you will be using Extended Care. This will allow us to make the necessary safety preparations for all students. Of course, if you need to use Extended Care at the last minute, it is always available. [Click Here to Pay Holy Name School Extended Care](#)

Weekly Reflection:

"The greatest gift one can give is thanksgiving. In giving gifts, we give what we can spare, but in giving thanks we give ourselves. " *-David Steindl-Rast, OSB*

Stay well and God Bless,
David J. Flanagan
Principal