



Holy Cross Stars Academy

Where Every Child Shines

February 2025 Newsletter

Good Afternoon Parents,

Can you believe how fast the school year is going? Summer vacation and warm weather will be starting in five months. Your children have done an outstanding job for the first 5 months of the school year. They are fully acclimated to coming to school. Friendships have been established. Language is improving. Learning is taking place. The children are amazing, full of curiosity, empathy, and independence.

Stars Academy is planning for an amazing 2025-2026 school year. Please share with your family, neighbors, and friends that we will have three remaining Open Houses. The dates are January 23, March 6, and May 8. Our December Open House was a huge success! Our Tiny Stars class has only a few spots remaining. Thank you for helping to spread the word about our wonderful program. If you are planning to return in September or register a younger sibling, I urge you to complete the registration page and fee before the President's Week vacation.

February is a short month but full of learning as we press forward with our educational goals, full of fun, engaging activities. Love and friendship are a special theme for the month. Many children like to send valentine wishes to their classmates. If you plan to send valentine cards, and /or a simple gift, please refrain from sending candy or sugary treats. Our teachers are nearing the completion of their current unit and are eagerly preparing to begin a new adventure with your children.

February is dental health month. What a wonderful time for your child's first dental visit. All children three and older are required to send in the completed dental form by the end of the month.

Although February is a short month, there is no shortness on activities. Please take special note of the highlights for the month:

February 2 – Groundhog Day – Will spring come soon or will winter stay?

February 3 – 7 Spirit week

February 3 – Crazy Hair Day

February 4 – Mismatched Sock Day

February 5 – Pajama Day

February 6 – Crazy Hat Day

February 7 – Sports Day (wear something from your favorite team)

February 6 – Parent workshop 7:00 Pre-writing workshop

February 10 – St. Haralambos – Church attendance and Holy Communion

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February 14 - Valentine's Day - wear red, pink or purple to school

February 17 – 21 - Winter break – school closed

February 28 – Apokries/Carnival ice cream party (in-class celebration)

On **March 3rd**, we will be celebrating **Read Across America Day**, aka Dr. Seuss Day. Please let me know if you would like to be a guest reader (don't tell your child) in your child's class and a time frame that works for you. The book can be one of your choice. Please dress your child in something that is Dr. Seuss related on March 3rd.

May I remind you that if you will be picking up a child late or if you need an emergency early drop off, please make sure you notify me or Joanne, as it is our responsibility to ensure there is adequate supervision for your child.

When a child is under the weather at home, please refer to the following (from the Family Handbook) before allowing him/her to return to school.

To prevent illness from spreading to other children and staff,

We reserve the right to refuse admittance to any student who shows a sign of illness.

Families must keep sick Children at home until they have been symptom-free for at least 24 hours if they display any of the following:

● *Fever of 100.4 degrees or more. Children must be free of fever for at least 24 hours, unassisted by fever-reducing medication before returning to school.*

● *Vomiting*

● *Diarrhea*

● *Heavy nasal discharge requiring frequent wiping every 3-5 minutes*

● *Persistent, non-productive or "barking" cough*

● *Sore throat*

● *Fussy, cranky behavior unlike the child's normal demeanor*

● *Skin rash, including diaper rash*

● *Head lice*

● *Symptoms of a communicable disease such as pink eye, measles, chicken pox, mumps, or strep throat*

A doctor's note is required to return to school if the child had a communicable disease or was otherwise under a physician's care.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns as well as if you have any ideas to you'd like to share! Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Regards,

Cathy Helfrich

Education Director

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