



Sunday December 1, 2019

Dear Shelton Academy families,

Today's opening of the Family Notes comes from Ms. Mariana Bethencourt, our second grade teacher:

As you all know, our dearest Maria Jose passed away on Thanksgiving. She was a real gift in our classroom and has taught us so much in so little time! From the very first day she walked into class, she was always enthusiastic about all of our classes and activities. I will share with you a small anecdote: one day she missed a spelling test because she was not feeling well. The very next Monday she turned in a regular white sheet of paper where she herself drew the blue lines and dictated the words to herself over the weekend. She giggled at the fact that she could see the answers but never missed a chance to do her very best.

This tiny gesture can be an example for us to maintain our joy and enthusiasm even in hard times. Maria Jose certainly changed my life and I'm sure she touched yours too. So, in return, let's be joyful and thankful that we got to meet her and that she is now resting in Mary and Joseph's arms and will be closer to us than ever!"

Sincerely,

Ms. Bethencourt

Here are the notes for the next two weeks:

- **Mass for María José Romano on Friday:** the school Mass scheduled for this Friday December 6, at 10:00am, is going to be offered for Maria Jose Romano and we invite all school families to accompany us on this celebration. Come and be with the Romano family and the school community as we pray together at Mass; we will provide valet parking and have seating available for parents on the second floor balcony. All the students are to come in formal uniform on Friday; those having P.E. class will change into gym clothes after Mass.

- **Early Release Wednesday:** Wednesday December 4th is an early release day; all students in Preschool to 8th grade are dismissed at 2:00pm. After School Care begins promptly at 2:30pm. Please be mindful of the change in dismissal time on this day.
- **Field Trips:** we have planned educational field trips on the next couple of weeks. On Thursday December 5 the Upper Academy students are visiting the Frost Museum of Science; and on Wednesday December 11 the 3rd and 4th grade students will visit the Miccosukee Village.
- **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe:** Thursday December 12 is the great feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. To join on the celebration we are planning a trip to attend the 9:30 Mass at Our Lady of Guadalupe church in Doral. We will depart from the school at 8:45 and return soon after Mass. Field trip release forms are distributed this week. All the students are to come in formal uniform on that day; those having P.E. class will change into gym clothes upon returning to school.
- **Shelton Café:** Starting this January the Shelton Café will be under a new management with a new offer of food and snacks. In the meantime, for the remaining of December we will be running a “transition” plan for the Café, with a new store manager but with a similar menu than before. However, please know that during this interim period we cannot accept credit cards; at this point it is a cash only cafetín. We are also trying to avoid the confusion created by the IOUs, except for very particular situations (a student without a lunch) we will not be selling products unless cash is paid at the moment of the transaction. We do apologize for this temporary inconvenience.
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - Wednesday December 4: Early Release Wednesday.
 - Thursday December 5: Upper Academy field trip to the Frost Museum of Science.
 - Friday December 6: All School Mass at 10:00am.
 - Saturday December 7: Holiday Bazaar.
 - Monday December 9 to Thursday December 12: Book Fair.
 - Wednesday December 11: 3rd and 4th grade field trip to Miccosukee.
 - Thursday December 12: Mass at Our Lady of Guadalupe.
 - Friday December 13: Teacher Planning Day, no school.

Fondly,

Juan Mata
Headmaster