

St. Nicholas Weekly News

January 9th-13th 2023

Dear Families,

Please join me in welcoming Ms. Lesoway to our staff. Ms. Lesoway will be teaching the grade 1 Ukrainian class, as Mrs. Dziwenko is off on maternity leave.



As part of the Ukrainian Christmas tradition, the students and staff of St. Nicholas will take part in the Feast of Jordan - Epiphany. The celebration will take place on Thursday, January 19th at 1:00pm at St. Sophia's Ukrainian Catholic church. This celebration commemorates the revelation of the Holy Trinity as well as the baptism of Christ in the river Jordan by St. John the Baptist. On this day, it is the custom to bless water. In Ukraine, this blessing was held outside at a local body of water such as a river or lake. The men in the community would build a large cross of ice near where the water was blessed. During the ceremony, three special candles are immersed in the water; this is to remind us that through Christ's baptism our sins are forgiven. After the ceremony, the people take some of the blessed water to keep in their homes during the coming year. Students are asked to wear their Sunday best and the Ukrainian bilingual students Ukrainian attire that afternoon.

On Thursday, January 19th, we will be leaving school at 12:30pm and returning at approximately 2:45pm. We are looking for parent volunteers to assist in pouring the blessed water (from the Feast of Jordan celebration) into the containers. Each student will receive a small bottle of blessed water to take home. If you would like to help, please let your child's teacher know (via email). Parent volunteers will meet in the staffroom at St. Nicholas school on Friday, January 20 at 9:00am.

God Bless,

Peter Rachmistruk

Principal

Upcoming Important Dates

- **Tuesday, January 10** -BUCPS virtual meeting at 7:30pm
- **Thursday, January 19** - Feast of Jordan celebration at St. Sophia's Parish at 1:00pm
- **Friday, January 27** - Hot lunch (Nitza's Pizza)
- **Monday, January 30** - PD day (no school for students)
- **Friday, February 3** - Reports cards (emailed/available on Powerschool)

Hot lunch Information

- January's Hot Lunch will be on Friday, January 27th (Mrs. Sombyk's Ukrainian kindergarten class) and will feature a fan favorite, Nitza's Pizza. Ordering will run until the end of day Saturday, January 21st. There are gluten free options for pizza crust.
- Please have payment sent in full via e-transfer to stnicholashotlunchpac@gmail.com by the order deadline of Saturday, January 21st end of day.
- If you have any questions, concerns, or trouble with the website or the ordering process, please feel free to reach out to me at stnicholashotlunchpac@gmail.com

OLPH Parish Information

- Please see attached for information regarding sacramental preparation classes at OLPH Parish - [Sacrament Preparation Classes.png](#)

Faith Reflection

God of Healing, we praise and thank you for your love and care for us. Grant your peace and comfort to all who are sick and suffering. We ask this through Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



St.Nicholas Catholic School

Facebook @stncatholic

"Our Catholic School Family, embracing both English and Ukrainian Bilingual programs is dedicated to providing the best opportunities for learning while nurturing in our students' continuous personal growth."

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