



The Montessorian

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Cookies & Carols



Photo: Screenshots from youtube.com

Cookies & Carols 2020

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*I*t wouldn't be Christmas without our annual Cookies & Carols performance. This year, to ensure social distancing, the show was recorded and shared on YouTube for families to enjoy at home.

Hannah Greer-Young, SJMS Music Specialist, worked with our students to create a great show. Jennifer Robertson, SJMS parent and aide in Upper Elementary 2 classroom, baked cookies for each student to enjoy at home. Jim Reese, SJMS parent and co-owner of Reese Brothers Productions, filmed and edited the entire show.

We hope you enjoyed the show!

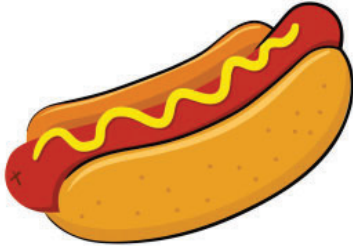


Each Children's House classroom filmed their songs in Ryan Hall.



The Tableau was filmed in Sacred Heart Church.

Holiday Lunch with Chris Cakes



On December 17th, our students celebrated Christmas with a fun holiday lunch. Chris Cakes, the company famous for the Pancake Breakfast at Winterfest, served a delicious hot lunch. Students could choose from either a hot dog or veggie burger, and served with chips and applesauce.

Give Back to Our Community The Dream Center Donations



Photo: R. Holonitch

Donations included socks, gloves, and personal care items like toothpaste.

The SJMS community spread holiday cheer by giving back to the community. Community service has always been an important part of our Winterfest celebration.

For the month of December, our school community collected donations for the The Dream Center. These donations included: coats, hats, gloves/mittens, scarves, blankets, sleeping bags, socks, and tents. Gift cards were also accepted as a possible donation.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT SJMS

- January 4 - Return to school
- January 7 - Intent to Return
- January 8 - Coffee with Brenda
- January 12 - Board of Trustees Meeting

January						
			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Gingerbread House Decorating Contest

The Christmas season is never complete without decorating festive gingerbread houses. In a typical year, families could visit our Gingerbread House room during WinterFest to create one. This year, families purchased gingerbread house kits and assembled them at home.

To make this project even more fun, our Family Association created a Gingerbread House Decorating Contest. Children were encouraged to photograph their creation and send to Summer Dabilis, our Family Association Co-President. Winners received special holiday treats before Christmas break. Three winners were selected for each grade.



Photo: R. Holonitch

JJ Holonitch (SJMS Class of 2020) and Matthew Holonitch (MS) decorated their gingerbread houses for the contest.

Seeds of Caring

Service learning comes in many shapes and sizes. As another service project this holiday season, SJMS is partnering with a local organization called Seeds of Caring. Our school community will create cards for frontline/healthcare workers at Mount Carmel Hospital. This group is also working on a cheer card campaign to deliver cards to nursing homes across Columbus.

The mission of Seeds of Caring focuses on “empowering kids to create a kinder community with their hearts, hands, and minds.”

Many thanks go to Laura McCrady, our Religion Specialist, and the Social Committee for organizing this enriching experience.



Photo: R. Holomitch

Our students in the Upper Elementary 1 classroom were excited to create handmade cards for Seeds of Caring.

Bottle Cap Project Progress

500 lbs.

375 lbs.

261.6 lbs. >

250 lbs.

125 lbs.

0 lbs.



Letters to Santa



Photo: R. Holomitch

Joey and Ella P. (CH 4) placed his letter to Santa in the mailbox in front of the school building.

Even though Santa didn't visit SJMS in person this year at Winter Festival, we still have a special way to share messages with him.

For the month of December, a festive mailbox was placed outside the school building so students could mail their letters to Santa Claus in the North Pole. We saw many students bring their letters during morning and afternoon carpools.

Santa's Elves have kindly offered to help respond to each and every letter sent by our students. Watch your mailbox for your reply.

Alumni News

Class of 2002

Sam Blakeslee



Sam Blakeslee and members of his band, Wistful Thinking, have created a new Christmas single to enjoy this holiday season called “Lo, How A Rose E’er Blooming.” Stay tuned for more singles to be available in 2021.

Class of 2005

Nick Ruggiero



In the last two years, Nick Ruggiero has been quite busy. He joined and finished 20 weeks of army training to become a member of the Ohio National Guard, finished his Bachelors degree from University of Cincinnati, earned a full time job at Korda Engineering as a Civil/Survey Technican, and bought his first home.

Class of 2009

Keiko Wilkins



Keiko is now working on her PhD in Marine Science at the University of Hawaii in Manoa.

Class of 2011

Colby Albanese

In December, Colby Albanese graduated from the University of Cincinnati. Congratulations, Colby!

Class of 2016

Amirah Lomax



Recently, Amirah performed in the Cabaret of Many Colors, her debut at Penn State. Amirah is currently a freshman at Penn in their Music program.

1995 - 2000

**Sarah
(Henderson) Chomeau**



Early in October, Sarah and Henri Chomeau welcomed their new baby, Lucy Pearl. They currently reside in Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin.

2006-2009

Catie D'Angelo



Catie has become the Vice President in charge of house academics of Chi Omega, her sorority at Ohio University.

Share Your Good News!

Send us your alumni news to include in the next edition.
Email your news and images to rholonit@cducation.org