

A note from Your John Ireland Parent Advisory Committee Chair:

Merry Christmas Everyone,

Every year Christmas always seems to be light years away and then all of sudden it's come and gone without realizing it. It's such a great time of year and I really appreciate all the things that come with it. Spending time with family, spending time with friends and celebrating the Christmas season. It also has me reflecting on all the things that I am grateful for and top of the list is John Ireland School and the loving and caring Teachers and staff that teach and care for our children everyday, we truly are blessed to have them all.

At this month's meeting we talked about a variety of things and the first item on our list was the recent clothing order that we had. We had a total of 40 items sold for a monetary total of \$944. John Ireland gets 10% of all sales so that gave us a check for \$94.40. Thank you to all that have ordered and keep a lookout for another opening of the clothing store in the first quarter of next year right in time for Luck of the Irish.

Our next item we discussed was the Christmas program. By the time you read this it will have come and gone and I know it will have been an amazing show. Thank you Heather Gilbertson for organizing such a wonderful show with our kids, it is much appreciated! It is an event that everyone from the students to the parents always look forward to seeing and it did not disappoint.

Next up we discussed the Challenge Grant and how we stand. At the time of me writing this we are right around the \$20,000 mark and oh so close to meeting our goal. Hopefully by the time you are reading this, the goal has been met and we have doubled the \$25,000 goal to \$50,000. Thank you to all that have donated!

Next up we discussed our next larger event, which is Catholic schools week. Last year we had to scale down how the breakfast was done and only offered a to go option. That was a huge success, so this year we are looking at how we can combine how things were done last year in comparison to how they were done years before and finding a hybrid of the two, or just a more scaled down option. We are looking for a parent who would be willing to take the lead and help organize this event. Please consider this if you are able to and contact Ms. Wenner at the office if you have any questions or would like more details of the event. We will also see a return of the book fair this year as well.

Lastly we discussed parents' night. Our school community is such an important thing and we would love to find a way to help build that community amongst the parents. Just some sort of simple gathering where you can come and go as you please and have the ability to socialize with other parents. If you have any thoughts or ideas on how we can make this reality or just ideas you have please reach out to us let us know. All ideas are welcome!

That's all for this month. If you have any questions or concerns I would encourage you to reach out to a member of JIPAC and let them know. We are here to help and also be a voice for all of us parents

Thank you

Chris Mish, JIPAC Chair