

# BLUE GOLD MEMO

SAINT ROSE *of* LIMA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

500 KINGS HIGHWAY | HADDON HEIGHTS, NJ | 08053



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February 8, 2026

Dear School Families,

February is here, and it brings with it moments of celebration, reflection, and preparation for the season ahead. As my first Catholic Schools Week as principal comes to a close, I want to share just how grateful I am for such a wonderful week, snow and all! Despite a few weather challenges, it was a joyful and meaningful celebration of our faith, our school, and our community.

Thank you to everyone who helped make Catholic Schools Week such a success. I am deeply appreciative of Terry Durkin, Collette Maksymowicz, our incredible PTA, Mrs. Crowell and Mrs. DiMatteo, and Father Grover for their continued support and partnership. A special thank-you to Father Piro and Breana Boise, our Echo Scholar, for their beautiful and inspiring talks on Vocations Day. And of course, none of it would have been possible without our amazing teachers and students, who continue to be the heart and joy of St. Rose.

February is also Black History Month, a time to honor and celebrate the rich contributions, leadership, faith, and perseverance of Black individuals throughout history. Throughout the month, our students will engage in learning that highlights voices and stories that have helped shape our nation and our Church, reminding us of the dignity of every person and our call to justice, respect, and love for one another.

February also brings moments of love and kindness as we celebrate Valentine's Day, a reminder of the importance of friendship, compassion, and care for one another; values we strive to live each day in our school community.

Most importantly, this month leads us into Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the holy season of Lent. Lent invites us to pause, reflect, and grow closer to God through prayer, fasting, and acts of service. As we enter this season, I invite families to take a few quiet moments together each week to pause, pray, and reflect. Whether through a shared prayer, a simple act of kindness, or choosing gratitude over distraction, these small and intentional moments help children see faith lived out at home. Lent reminds us that even simple sacrifices and loving actions can draw us closer to Christ and to one another. Thank you, as always, for your continued trust and partnership. "Lent is not about giving things up, but about making room for what truly matters."

Wishing you blessings, peace, and a grace-filled February,

**Dr. Deirdre Rood**

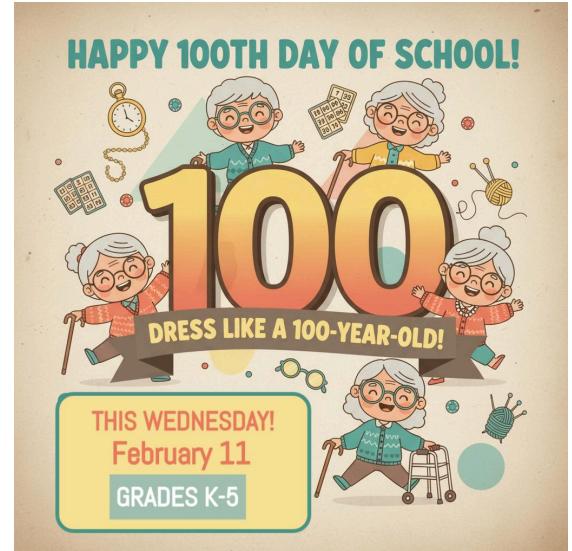


## 2nd Quarter Honor Roll

Congratulations to the St. Rose of Lima Students who made the honor roll for the 2nd Quarter! [Please click here for the list of Honor Roll students.](#) Keep up the great work!

### 100th Day of School: Wednesday, Feb. 11

This Wednesday, February 11 is our 100th day of school! In celebration, students in grades K through 5 are invited to dress like they are 100 years old! (This is optional.) We are looking forward to sharing the pictures from this fun tradition.



### January Students of the Month:

Congratulations to our January Students of the Month, recognized for excellence in the virtue of Kindness. If you would like to read about why these students were chosen to receive this award, [please click here](#). February's Virtue is: Loyalty. If you would like a printable page about Loyalty to hang at home to reinforce this month's virtue, [please click here](#).

KA - Johnny M.    KB - Catherine D.    1A - Thomas F.    1B - Quinn S.    2A - Emmery S. H.    2B - Elizabeth P.    3A - Bernie D.    3B - Brooklyn C.

5B - Patrick R.    6A - Emma W.    6B - Cleary B.    7A - Max M.    7B - Paige L.    8A - Addison S.    8B - Carter B.    Art: Andrew M. (2B)

## 2026-2027 Tuition Assistance and Re-Registration

### Re-Registration

Re-Registration for the 2026-2027 school year opened on December 15. Thank you to everyone who has already re-enrolled! **If you did not find the email to re-enroll, please reach out to Fran Watson so we can resend it.** The fee for registration is \$150 per student this year. Please see below for important dates. **Please also note that there will be no \$40 enrollment fee to pay through FACTS this year.**



### St. Rose of Lima School: Grades K through 8

**Early-Bird Discounted Re-enrollment Fee: \$125 (*This deadline has passed*)**

**Regular Re-enrollment Fee: \$150 (through March 2)**

**Late Re-enrollment Fee: \$165 (After March 2)**

**Kindergarten and all New Students Registration Fee: \$150 (All dates)**

### **Tuition Assistance:**

The Tuition Assistance Portal opened beginning on Tuesday December 9 for Tuition Assistance for the 2026-2027 school year. Though we will not be using FACTS for tuition next year, we will still be using their platform for tuition assistance. Please complete your tuition assistance applications by **March 15, 2026. Please click here for information on applying for tuition assistance for next year.**



### Francis, Elizabeth and Edward Roger Welsh Scholarship

The Scholarship application for the **Francis, Elizabeth and Edward Roger Welsh Scholarship** is open! Applicants must:

- Be residents of Camden County, New Jersey.
- Demonstrate financial need.
- Demonstrate academic achievement.
- Attend or plan to attend a Catholic elementary, middle or high school located in Camden County, New Jersey.



**Applications are being accepted now and must be submitted by no later than and ending on March 12, 2026.** Scholarship candidates can apply online at [www.csascholars.org/welsh](http://www.csascholars.org/welsh). Scholarships will be announced on or about June 2026.

## Message from the Nurses

### • **Scoliosis Screening**

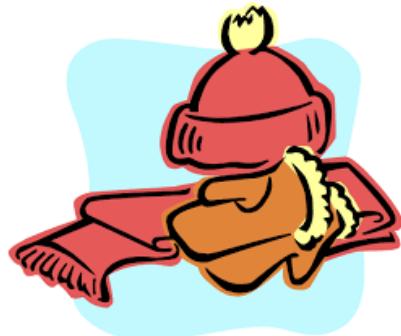
Just a reminder Scoliosis checks are coming up. At present we have everyone's permission or denial. However, you can opt out at any time. If you choose to opt out we will need a written note from you stating that you don't want this screening and you will also have to submit a report from your doctor stating the results from their most recent scoliosis exam.



## Extra Care

[The February AfterCare form is now available here.](#)

**Reminder:** Please send hats, gloves and scarves to school with children when coming to after care. We do try to take the children outside even if only for 10 minutes or so when the weather is dry. It is also a good idea to label these items so that we can get them back to you if they are misplaced.



## Recess Duty

Thank you to all of our recess duty volunteers. There are still many spots open in [February \(Click Here\)](#) We know it is cold out there during these months - so there is also a good chance of indoor recess duty in February. We really appreciate your willingness to volunteer. Be sure to bundle up and wear comfortable (and warm!) shoes in case you are outside!



## Spring Track Interest Meeting; Wed, February 11

There is an interest meeting for students in grades 4 through 8 who are interested in participating in Spring Track. The meeting is February 11 at 2:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. Coach Fesi will go over information about practices and meets.

There is also a **mandatory parent meeting on February 25 at 7:00 p.m.** [Please click here for more information.](#)

## **Valentines Day Dress Down: Friday, February 13**

Students will be permitted to dress in Valentine-themed clothing or pink, white and red clothing. All students who do not want to participate in the dress-down theme may wear their gym uniform. Students not in the Valentine theme/color or gym uniform will be subject to a dress code violation.



## **Library News**

### **Reading Incentive Program**



Our 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Reading Incentive Program, "Faster, Higher, Stronger – Together- The Winter Olympics of Reading." will be starting on February 16th. [\*\*Please read over the materials linked here for all the details.\*\*](#) This year's program will be running for six weeks with all [\*\*100-minute slips\*\*](#) due by Monday March 30th.

### *A Note of Thanks*

Thanks to all who helped to make our CSW Book Fair such a huge success. The children made great selections and have plenty of good books to get them started in the Reading Incentive Program! We sold over \$11.000 in books! Through the generosity of many of you, all our teachers received books for their classroom libraries and the library earned \$3.000 in Scholastic dollars and \$1.000 in cash profit.



We would like to thank all of the parents and students who donated their time and talents during the set-up, preview, book fair, and packing up, most especially our student book fair captain, Liam Engle, along with library aides Katie F., Olivia S., Ella M., Colette R. and Veronica P. We would also like to thank Mrs. Bucher and all the students of St. Rose for their amazing winter olympics creations that decorated the book fair along with Miss Dawn, Katie, Autumn and Mrs. Sbarra, Mr. Tobin, Mr. Johnson, and Mr. Gero for all their help with the fair. And finally, most especially, my partner, Mrs. DiMatteo, for her tireless efforts and dedication with the book fair and all things library!      Miss Crowell



## **8th Grade Parents - Important Yearbook Information**

**Graduation Ad - Class of 2026.** Parents of this year's 8th grade please see [\*\*this flyer\*\*](#) for instructions on preparing a graduation ad for this year's yearbook. All graduation ads must be submitted by February 14th.

**Yearbooks** Yearbook sales will be starting soon. Look in the coming weeks for information on purchasing this year's yearbook!

## Student Council Valentine's Day Candy Grams

Student Council Members will be selling Candy Grams during all lunch periods on February 6th, 9th, 10th, and 11th. Each Candy Gram costs \$1.00 and they will be delivered to students' homerooms.



## PTA Dine and Donate: Thurs., February 12

Support the St. Rose of Lima PTA at their Dine & Donate at Brooklyn Pizza this Thursday from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m.! You can even order a heart-shaped pizza! Please mention St. Rose to benefit the PTA.

## Father Daughter Dance 2026:

**February 21 - 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

The 2026 Father Daughter Dance will be held on February 21, 2026 in the St. Rose of Lima Gymnasium. Dress in theme (or wear your fanciest attire!) and bring your father or someone special in your life! Tickets are \$30.00 per father/daughter couple and \$35.00 for two or more daughters. Admission includes:, dancing, DJ, picture of each couple, snacks & refreshments! [More Information and Tickets are available here.](#)



## *Save the Date!*

**MOTHER & SON EVENT**  
April 17, 2026 @ 6:40 PM



**VS.**



**TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE!**

## Mother Son Event:

**Friday, April 17, 2026 @ 6:40 p.m.**

**Phillies vs. Atlanta Braves @ 6:40 p.m.**

[Purchase tickets here.](#) **CODE: SRL2026**

Sections 108-111 and 136-139

## Rosebud Academy: Welcome Walks

Starting February 2 (excluding Presidents' Day) we will be conducting group tours from 9-11am.

- \***Mondays**-prospective three-year-olds
- \***Wednesdays**-prospective four year-olds
- \***Thursdays**-prospective TK students

Contact Fern Love [flove@strosenj.com](mailto:flove@strosenj.com) for more information and to RSVP.

*Not cold nor sleet nor dark of night will keep us from sharing our Rosebud delight!*

## Save The Dates!

Designer Bag Bingo: **March 14, 2026**

Grandparents Candy Bingo: **April 18, 2026**

St. Rose of Lima Annual Golf Outing: **Monday, June 1** at Pennsauken Country Club.  
Sponsorship & Prize donation information coming soon!



Rosebud Academy

Welcome WALKS

SMALL GROUP TOURS 9-11AM

BEGINNING MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2\*

\*EXCLUDING PRESIDENTS DAY

MONDAYS	→	Prospective 3-year-olds
WEDNESDAYS	→	Prospective 4-year-olds
THURSDAYS	→	Prospective TK-students

RSVP: [flove@strosenj.com](mailto:flove@strosenj.com)

102 W. GLOUCESTER PIKE, BARRINGTON, NJ



**Community Organizations have asked us to share the following information:**

**Knights of Columbus Beatles Night!**: March 7, 2026. Join the Knights of Columbus for a Beef & Beer and a Beatles Tribute band, the "PreFab4." [Click here for more information.](#)

**Little Rah Rahs Cheer Camp**: Camp is August 4-6 and registration opens in April. [Please click here for more information.](#)

**Descendents Camp: PVI Theater Camp**. June 29 - July 23. For grades 1-9 [Click here for more information and to register.](#)

## Important Upcoming Dates

Dates are subject to change and we will keep you updated if changes occur.

Date	Event
February 9 & 10	Candy Grams on Sale during lunch \$1 each
February 11	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. 100th Day of School: K-5 Dress like you are 100 years old!</li><li>2. NJHS <a href="#">Rosebud Visit Group 4</a></li><li>3. Candy Grams on sale during lunch: \$1 each</li><li>4. <a href="#">Spring Track Interest Meeting</a>: Grades 4-8 @ 2:30 p.m. in cafe.</li></ol>
February 12	PTA <a href="#">Dine and Donate</a> : Brooklyn Pizza 4:00 - 8:00 p.m.
February 13	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Valentine's Day Dress Down</li><li>2. 8th Grade Night - Boys and Girls Basketball &amp; Cheer</li></ol>
February 14	8th Grade <a href="#">Graduation Ads</a> Due
February 15	<a href="#">Family Mass @ 5:30 p.m. 7th &amp; 8th Grade Host</a>
February 16	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> - Presidents' Day
February 18	Ash Wednesday - School Mass @ 8:30 a.m.
February 20	Activity Pictures for Yearbook
February 21	Father-Daughter Dance - <a href="#">Register Here</a>
February 22	<a href="#">Family Mass @ 5:30 p.m. Alumni &amp; HS Students Host</a>
February 25	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. NJHS <a href="#">Rosebud Visit Group 5</a></li><li>2. Mandatory <a href="#">Parent Meeting for Spring Track</a> @ 7:00 p.m.</li></ol>
February 27	Falcon Friday & Pretzels for a Purpose
March 1	<a href="#">Family Mass @ 5:30 p.m. 3rd &amp; 4th Grade Host</a>
March 2	Final day for Regular Re-Registration Rate for 2026-2027 Year (\$150)
March 4	NJHS <a href="#">Rosebud Visit Group 6</a>
March 6	School Mass @ 8:30 a.m.
March 8	<a href="#">Family Mass @ 5:30 p.m. 5th &amp; 6th Grade Host</a>
March 9	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> : Faculty In-service Day
March 11	NJHS <a href="#">Rosebud Visit Group 1</a>
March 12	<a href="#">Welsh Scholarship Applications</a> due
March 14	Designer Bag Bingo: More info and registration coming soon
March 15	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <a href="#">Family Mass @ 5:30 p.m. 7th &amp; 8th Grade Host</a></li><li>2. <a href="#">Tuition Assistance</a> Applications Due for 2026-2027 Year</li></ol>