



**Saint Sava Academy**  
**5701 North Redwood Drive - Chicago, Illinois 60631**  
**Phone: (773) 714-0299**



*Principal's Newsletter*  
*December 2016*

Dear Parents, Students & Teachers,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and Holy St. Sava! Welcome to the month of December, the season of winter and the Nativity Fast. December and January are two months during which Orthodox Christians prepare for the joyous Feast Day of the Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Christmas. November 28 marked the start of the Nativity Fast, a time of increased prayer, reflection, fasting and partaking of the Sacrament of Holy Communion in an effort to prepare for the arrival of the joyous Feast Day on January 7. As members of American society, let us not forget the true meaning of Christmas by not becoming preoccupied with all of society's commercialism. Gifting Christmas presents, singing Christmas carols, hosting Christmas parties and etc. are not necessarily negative components of the season however, they can be when these secular components overtake the true meaning of Christmas, which is the Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Have a blessed Nativity Fast!

Each December is "Reading Appreciation Month" at St. Sava Academy. "Reading Appreciation Month" features special events and activities planned in an effort to promote the importance of reading and in general to celebrate reading. As in previous years, there will be a KG-7<sup>th</sup> grade read-a-thon and fundraiser, guest classroom readers and a book character dress-up day. Please refer to previous correspondences regarding "Reading Appreciation Month" activities at St. Sava Academy. Feel free to contact me, or Mrs. Janice Doyle at [jdoyle@stsavaacademy.org](mailto:jdoyle@stsavaacademy.org), with any questions regarding events and activities. Have a wonderful "Reading Appreciation Month"! Happy Reading!

In addition to the regular subject matter taught at St. Sava Academy, the month of December, as well as January, is devoted to preparing for the Feast Day of the Nativity of Christ and celebrating the season of winter. Various Christmas and winter themed topics will be incorporated within daily learning activities. Likewise, the annual Christmas Program and Children's Celebration will be held on Friday, December 23 beginning at 12:00 p.m. with a student program, followed by a visit from St. Nikola. Student dismissal will be at approximately 1:30 p.m. If you have not done so already, please mark your calendar for this wonderful celebration.

Please take note of the important dates and announcements page for the month of December and the beginning of January. As always, if there is anything I can do to best serve your children, please feel free to contact me at (773) 714-0299, via e-mail at [principal@stsavaacademy.org](mailto:principal@stsavaacademy.org) or visit me in my office. Do not forget to visit us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/stsavaacademychicago> where there are pictures and news from various events and activities. Have a blessed Nativity Fast and month of December!

Yours in Christ,

Marko Bojović  
Principal

**DECEMBER 2016/JANUARY 2017**  
**IMPORTANT DATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **“READING APPRECIATION MONTH”-December 1- December 31, 2016**  
December is when we celebrate reading with special events and activities. Please refer to the correspondence on “Reading Appreciation Month” for more information. Happy Reading!
- **READ-A-THON & READ-A-THON SPONSOR PLEDGE SHEETS-December 1, 2016-January 13, 2017**  
Please refer to the correspondence on the Read-a-Thon. Please return all reading logs and pledge sheets by January 13.
- **CASUAL DRESS & STUDENT POPSICLE FUNDRAISER DAY-Thursday, December 1, 2016**
- **PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN FIELD TRIP TO CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
Monday, December 5, 2016**
- **VISIT BY PRIME MINISTER ZELJKA CVIJANOVIC OF THE REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA  
Friday, December 9, 2016**
- **DECEMBER TUITION PAYMENTS DUE-Friday, December 9, 2016**
- **4<sup>TH</sup>-7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE “HOMELESS FOOD BAG” PROJECT-December 12-16, 2016**  
Students in grades 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> will collect various food, drink and condiment items for the homeless of Chicago. The students will then assemble these items into 75+ bags for distribution to the Chicago area homeless during the Christmas holiday season. For more information on this program please refer to the “Homeless Food Bag” correspondence and future correspondences.
- **BOOK CHARACTER DRESS-UP DAY-Thursday, December 15, 2016 (During school hours)**
- **FEAST DAY OF ST. NIKOLA & DIVINE LITURGY-Monday, December 19, 2016**  
Students will only attend the beginning of the Liturgy and will NOT be receiving Holy Communion on this day.
- **PRESCHOOL-7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE STUDENT CHRISTMAS PROGRAM-Friday, December 23, 2016 @ 12:00 p.m.**  
This day will be a non-uniform day, however students are asked to dress in “Christmas” colors (if possible red or green tops, dresses or skirts for girls, dress pants or khakis for boys & etc.). **We kindly ask for parents and guests to please not arrive prior to 11:45 a.m.** A visit from St. Nikola, along with the distribution of children’s gifts, will immediately follow the program. Student dismissal will take place at approximately 1:30 p.m., from the normal school dismissal locations. Students will be fed lunch prior to the program.
- **CHRISTMAS BREAK-December 24, 2016-January 8, 2017 (NO SCHOOL)**
- **CLASSES RESUME AFTER CHRISTMAS BREAK-Monday, January 9, 2017**
- **1<sup>ST</sup>-7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE INDIVIDUAL CLASSROOM SPELLING BEES-Tuesday, January 10, 2017 (during school)**
- **3<sup>RD</sup>-7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE FINAL SCHOOL SPELLING BEE-Friday, January 20, 2017 @ 2:15 p.m.**  
The winner and runner-up for grades 3-7 will participate in the final school spelling bee. The winner of the final school spelling bee will advance to the regional spelling bee in March.