

December 1, 2020

Dear Atholton Family,

Christmas is the season of gifts. Do you like receiving gifts? Isn't it a delight when someone presents you with an unexpected package and when you remove all of the wrapping you discover a gift that is perfect – thoughtfully chosen with you in mind? Most of the time those gifts have immense personal value beyond the price paid.



As parents we have received many such gifts, right? I distinctly remember the pains I went to create a beautiful scarf for my mother one holiday. This was in first grade which meant I didn't fashion this by sewing machine, a crochet hook, or knitting needles. This "lovely" accessory was crafted by cutting out bits of colorful felt and using copious amounts of glue to adhere them to a larger piece of crookedly cut fabric. My mother was someone who knew how to make a pretty scarf. Her hands were never idle. If she wasn't busy taking care of the family, her hands were sewing, crocheting delicate doilies, or cross stitching decorative linens as gifts. Her handiwork was impeccable. No, I don't believe she ever wore the scarf I proudly gave her, but she did make me feel like I had given her a perfect gift.



A favorite carol of the younger students is *The Little Drummer Boy*. The simplicity in which the young boy gives all that he has in the form of a song resonates with all ages. When we want to express our love, we naturally want to give gifts that show how much we appreciate them. Giving a gift to the King of the Universe would be daunting because He is the very best gift giver – showering us with the most exquisite and extraordinary gifts, and the most valuable of all, His Son. Knowing that the humble gift of our hearts brings Him joy unbound and to Him the most perfect gift received is an amazing truth.

**This Christmas, may you too revel in the beauty of this perfect gift giving. Merry Christmas to each of you!**

*Miya Kim - Principal*



**Christmas Concert –** Our music program has been rescheduled to air on Thursday, December 17 at 7:00 pm. Thank you to our families for making special arrangements to have your child here to tape their part. We appreciate the practice of our students and the direction of Mrs. Taylor.



**Christmas Car Parade** – Come join us for a Christmas parade. We want to wish you a Merry Christmas in person. Deck your cars with boughs of holly! Wear your favorite festive garb! The staff will be stationed around the upper parking lot as your family parades by in your decked out cars. More details will be forthcoming.

- Date: Thursday, December 17
- Time: 1:30-3:30 pm
- Who: The Family
- Bring: Non-perishable food items will be collected by the Student Council to be donated to local food pantries.



**Atholton's Home and School (aka APP)** would like your family to be featured in an upcoming Atholton newsletter. If you are interested in having your family featured, please provide the following information.

1. Name of family members
2. How long you (children) have been at Atholton Adventist Academy
3. Fun fact. Can be anything from favorite family games, vacation spots or hobbies
4. Favorite Bible verse or praise song and why it is a family favorite
5. Family picture that will be included in Atholton electronic Newsletter

We look forward to getting to know our families better.

