

Dear Parents,

The holidays are coming up, and I would like to mention the school's policy as to how and what we celebrate. NRCS serves families from about 30 churches. Each family comes with their values, convictions and traditions. As a school it is our mission to support and uphold these values according to our Biblical mandate, of making God first in all of our decisions.

HALLOWEEN:

This is usually the most difficult. October 31st has its origins deeply rooted in the occult, although many families see it as a time of dressing up and getting candy. However, since participating in Halloween is viewed by many families as giving sanction to a holiday that promotes witches, divination, haunted houses and other areas, as a school we have chosen not to participate in this event. If the students ask, we just say we do not celebrate Halloween at the school and do not encourage much discussion on the holiday. Families need to make their own decisions, and we ask everyone to be respectful of one another without condemnation.

THANKSGIVING:

New textbooks for the public schools are rewriting the history of Thanksgiving. The fact that the Pilgrims (also known as the Separatists) came to this country for RELIGIOUS freedom, is no longer the universal teaching. We focus on the The First Thanksgiving, why the Pilgrims came and that the Feast was an opportunity to thank God for His mercy and goodness.

CHRISTMAS:

Christmas is the celebration of the birth of our Savior, rather than Santa Claus. Many families have their own special traditions, and again we ask that everyone respect the values of each family. We celebrate this holiday with our Secret Angel week and with our Christmas programs and classroom parties. We also participate in Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes to send to children around the world.

Valentine's Day:

The younger children exchange cards and have a small classroom party during their lunch period. St. Valentine was martyred for his Christian faith.

EASTER:

Easter is the celebration of the resurrection of Christ. We may incorporate Easter eggs into activities, but not an Easter bunny bringing gifts. Easter gives true meaning to our Christmas celebration!