

PARTIES

Parties conducted during school time should be limited to one hour. They should be simple and respectful of all people and things.

Whenever there is a feast, holiday, or season, the Catholic school will emphasize the religious meaning and not the secular meaning.

For lower primary grades it is appropriate to include both the secular and the religious meaning as long as the religious meaning is emphasized. Usually the two meanings can be related to each other. It is also appropriate to teach how the religious feast or season came to be celebrated at that time of year. Prayer services or liturgical celebrations are good ways to highlight the religious significance.

Environment of school and classrooms should always have a religious tone to them. The secular holidays and meanings will not overshadow religious meanings.

Staff will be trained in appropriate activities and celebrations for holidays, seasons, and feasts. Each school should build a teacher resource file on each of these holidays, seasons, and feasts.

Parties during school hours should be limited to a specified number during the school year. These should be simple and should not consume excessive school time. Local school policy should determine the number, occasion, and nature of school-time parties. Catholic schools have the opportunity and the responsibility to teach the religious meaning of any feast or season.