

## ST. PATRICK SCHOOL FAMILY NEWSLETTER

November 22, 2011

Dear Parents,

As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving, our students have reflected on their many blessing from God. During Mass today our second and kindergarten students shared a Thanksgiving song for our communion meditation. Below are the inspirational lyrics they shared:

It's Thanksgiving, bells are ringing, people singing...it's Thanksgiving  
From the town and from the village, gather friends, both old and new.  
Come by wagon, or on horseback, come on foot, or by canoe.  
Bring the turkey and potatoes. Bring the pumpkin and the beans.  
Welcome friends and welcome neighbors. Everybody come and eat!  
We are thankful for our families, for our friends and for our homes,  
For the rain that brings the harvest and the love that we've been shown.

Today our kindergarten students made turkey headbands with feathers listing the things they are thankful for. I was inspired by their words of wisdom and what they are thankful for: family, grass, friends, God, school, grandparents, flowers, Bibles, rain, trees, animals, Jesus, TV, leaves, neighbors, pets, food, and everything! In gratitude for the many blessings you bring to our school community, the St. Patrick School staff wishes each of you a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. Our school is an excellent place for youth to grow academically and spiritually because of your kindness and generosity and so many others.

Last Thursday our school was overflowing with the wonderful mentors of our youth. Our Grandparent/Special Elder Day was a huge success. I thank our guests, staff, and students for the enjoyable morning. I also thank all those who provided cookies as refreshments for this special event, and those who helped set-up and serve that morning. Our Student Council and other junior high students opened doors and escorted our guests to the appropriate classrooms. Others assisted teachers in our special activities or partnered with teachers and younger students to attend events. During the prayer service many students did readings and shared special memories of their grandparents. I thank Mr. Vandergriff for leading our students in a special musical tribute to our guests. Thank you also to Mrs. Fisk who led the kindergarten and second grade in a Thanksgiving song.

Grades 5-8 will be participating in the National Geographic Bee on January 13. To prepare for this year's competition students are encouraged to visit Google's Geo Education site at [www.google.com/educators/geo](http://www.google.com/educators/geo) and the National Geographic website at [www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee).

Next week, the following students will be representing our school at the Monroe Vicariate Religion Quiz Bowl at SMCC. Students were selected through their success in our school's Religion Quiz Bowl.

Thank you to all who responded to our plea for additional support for the 2011-2012 school auction. Since last week's newsletter went out, over forty live or silent auction items were delivered to school and we are three dinner tickets away from meeting our goal of 250. One hundred twenty-nine raffle tickets have been sold and returned which is 26 % of the 500 we needed to be sold. Please return your ticket sales on Monday, November 28. All tickets must be accounted for and should be returned if not sold. Please help us reach our raffle ticket goal. Thank you to all who returned the auction volunteer form. If you are able to help transport and/or set-up on Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, your help will be much appreciated. Associate superintendent, Mary Swinkey, is planning to attend our auction on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and I know she will be overwhelmed with the generous spirit of our guests.

Today our kindergarten students made turkey headbands with feathers listing the things they are thankful for. I was inspired by their words of wisdom and what they are thankful for: family, grass, friends, God, school, grandparents, flowers, Bibles, rain, trees, animals, Jesus, TV, leaves, neighbors, pets, food, and everything! In gratitude for the many blessings you bring to our school community, the St. Patrick School staff wishes each of you a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday.

### WEEK AT A GLANCE:

#### **Wednesday, November 23**

- No School

#### **Thursday, November 24**

- No School
- Happy Thanksgiving!

#### **Friday, November 25**

- No School

#### **Monday, November 28**

- Classes Resume

#### **Tuesday, November 29**

- Mass 8:00 a.m.

#### **Wednesday, November 30**

- Religion Quiz Bowl at SMCC

#### **Thursday, December 1**

- Auction Transport and Set-Up, 7:45 a.m.

#### **Friday, December 2**

- SMCC French Enrichment
- First Friday Mass, 8:00 a.m.
- Service Project Jean Day
- Extended Day Program ends at 5:00 p.m.
- School Auction, Doors Open 5:30 p.m.

**LATCHKEY END TIME ON DECEMBER 2:** On December 2 the extended day program will end at 5:00 p.m. so all school personnel may attend the annual school auction.

**ULTIMATE CHRISTMAS TREE RAFFLE TICKETS:** The auction raffle provides additional revenue to support our students. Each school family was provided five tickets to sell. Thank you to those who have returned their ticket sales to the school office. For each \$20 ticket purchased, you have two chances to win five fabulous prizes. The grand prize is valued at over \$1,000. Raffle ticket stubs and money needs to be returned by Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup>. Our Michigan gaming license requires that all tickets are accounted for. Each raffle ticket has an assigned number that has been given to a specific family, so it is important that all tickets are returned.

**SANTA SECRET SHOP:** The PTO is once again sponsoring Santa Secret Shop for students on Friday, December 16. Help is needed on Thursday, December 15 beginning at 2:00 p.m. to help set-up the shop. Volunteers are also needed to assist students as they shop on Friday morning, as well as inventory and packing on Friday afternoon. A potluck will be held for workers and staff at 11:20 a.m. Please return the sign-up sheet below if you are able to lend a hand. If you have items you would like to donate for Santa Secret Shop, please send them to the school office.

**PHONE BOOKS NEEDED:** St. Patrick will be collecting old phone books for recycling between November 14 and December 12. Our dumpster has arrived and we are now in the school phone book recycling contest sponsored by AT&T. This activity allows us to earn \$100 for 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> place with \$400 going to the school collecting the most phone books. With only eight Monroe County schools in competition, we are assured some prize money. If you work at a business, please check to see if you can bring their phone books to our special recycling bin for the phone books.

**SMCC FRIDAY MORNING PICK UP:** Thank you to Mary Hypio who has five seats available in her van for French Enrichment students to wait for the SMCC bus. She will be parked in the primary building parking lot at 7:00 a.m.

**STUDENT TREASURE ORDER FORMS:** Last week families received order forms for *Studenttreasure* class books that are being compiled by each classroom. If you wish to purchase a book this year, it is important that your form and payment be turned in by Thursday, December 1. Checks should be made payable to *Studenttreasures Publishing*. If you do not wish to purchase a book, please return the signed form with the "No" box marked. The class book titles are:

Kindergarten	<i>What We Want to be When We Grow Up...</i>	Grade 5 / 6	<i>A Poem of our Own</i>
Grade 1	<i>If I Was...</i>	Grade 7	<i>Here Come the Monsters</i>
Grade 2	<i>We Explore Michigan</i>	Grade 8	<i>Planets 11.0; The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Galaxy</i>
Grade 3 / 4	<i>Mystery Stories</i>		

**NOVEMBER SERVICE PROJECT:** Our school is currently collecting new or gently used outer wear for distribution through the Father Solanus Casey Center in Detroit. Those donating gloves, hats, mittens, coats, etc. will receive a jean day on Friday December 2. We have also received a request from the Capuchin Center for new or gently used children's books for all age levels. If you have any books that you are able to donate they are most appreciated. Most of these November items will be given to children for the Holidays. Your gift will brighten the lives of poor children and we encourage you to be generous in giving.

**SCRIP NEWS:** We will be ordering scrip through St. Patrick School for the holiday season, with Mondays being the order day. You may place your orders on Monday, Nov 28th, Monday, Dec 5th and Monday, Dec. 12 which will be the last order day. Please take advantage of the scrip program during this holiday season by getting your order in early. When we return in January after the Christmas break, scrip will again be ordered through SMCC. I thank the three moms for offering this opportunity to our parents through the holiday season.

**HELP NEEDED FOR CHEERLEADING:** Mrs. Grinn has graciously agreed to organize a cheerleading squad to cheer at the boys basketball games. Her schedule will not permit her to be at all of the events and practices. We are seeking one or two adults who can help supervise our cheerleaders when needed. Please fill out form at the end of the newsletter if you can assist with the cheerleading squad.

**PARENT HELP NEEDED FOR SPRING MUSICAL:** Our scripts and music for the musical *Willy Wonka* have arrived! At the end of the letter there is a sign-up sheet for anyone who can help with scenery, props, or costumes. Mrs. Grinn will be overseeing this part of the musical, as well as the narrative portion, and Mr. Vandergriff the music portion.

**ST. JOSEPH CHURCH, MAYBEE ADVENT GATHERINGS:** St. Joseph will host Reverend Richard Boever on November 27, 28, 29, and 30. Soup Supper is from 5:30-6:45 in Madonna Hall. Benediction with Fr. Rich's presentation on St. John Neumann follows at 7 p.m. At 8 p.m. coffee/hot chocolate will be available in Madonna Hall.

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK:**

It is in the shelter of each other that the people live. *Irish Proverb*

Ruth Meiring, Principal

---

**CHEERLEADING SURVEY**  
**Grades 3-6**

\_\_\_\_\_ I have a daughter interested in cheerleading this year.

\_\_\_\_\_ I can help Mrs. Grinn with the cheerleading supervision.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

---

**WILLIE WONKA MUSICAL**

I can assist with the musical in the following areas:

\_\_\_\_\_ Props          \_\_\_\_\_ Scenery          \_\_\_\_\_ Costumes

\_\_\_\_\_ After-school practices (if needed)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

---

**SANTA SECRET SHOP**

\_\_\_\_\_ I am able to help set-up on Thursday, December 15 at 2:00 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am able to assist shoppers, wrap, or cashier on Friday, December 16 starting at 7:45 a.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am able to stay for lunch and will bring a dish to pass.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_