

St. Patrick School Family Newsletter

October 14, 2009

Dear Parents,

At the beginning of the year, each class creates a mission statement which provides the goals for that particular class to focus upon. Below are the class mission statements for the 2009-2010 school year:

Kindergarten

*We the students of Mrs. Koziol's kindergarten class promise to:
Be good listeners, be nice, follow directions, have good behavior, and help others.*

Grade 1

CROSS: Care, respect, organize, share, and smile.

Grade 2

Be a friend, be kind, be fair, be a good listener, follow the rules, take care of belongings, and no name calling

Grade 3

Our class will be kind, helpful, truthful, and thankful. We demonstrate this by using kind words, maintaining a positive attitude, and following Jesus.

Grade 4

Fourth grade students will be caring, respectful, outstanding, sensational, students.

Grade 5

The Fifth Grade Class of St. Patrick School will reach out to serve others in our community keeping God first, others second, and ourselves third. We promise to always do our best.

Grade 6

The sixth grade class of St. Patrick School has made it our mission to: Learn more about God, become a better community, enjoy learning in the sixth grade, do our best, respect the environment.

Grade 7

We the seventh graders of St. Patrick School will aim to SUCCEED by making a good effort on our class work and homework, follow the examples the Lord has given us, and use our talents to help others.

Grade 8

We as eighth graders, disciples of Christ, will strive to use our gifts to mentor, be trustworthy, and to act as good role models to our community.

This week our eighth graders are helping us to learn more about the following saints: St. Seraphim of Monergranero, St. Edward, St. Callistus I, St. Teresa of Avila, and St. Margaret Mary Alacoque.

Today the Windy City Players from Chicago visited our school and presented the play *The Emperor's New Clothes*. This national touring company has brought the magic of live theater to more than 875,000 young people across 26 states in 2008. Today's 45 minute production is the classic tale by the beloved Hans Christian Andersen. Some of the important lessons taught during the play include the importance of honesty and courage, always be truthful with others and yourself, and have the courage and strength not to follow the crowd and stick with your beliefs and what you know is right.

Please disregard the MEAP schedule that was listed on the October calendar as it was incorrect. The correct dates are listed under *Week at a Glance* and on the chart in the September 30 newsletter. If you no longer have the September 30 newsletter, you may access it online at www.stpatsmi.com.

Yesterday students in grades 4-8 began taking the MEAP test. Thank you for helping our students do their best by having them get a good night's rest, providing them with a good breakfast, and sending them with a healthy snack. MEAP testing will end on October 26 with a final make-up opportunity. I thank our students who are completing their IOWA tests. Both the IOWA and MEAP tests will provide a parent information sheet with results for each child who took the test. These items will be send home when they arrive.

Each Wednesday the Cross of St. Francis of Assisi will be going home with a school family and should be returned by the following Tuesday. This week the Cross of St. Francis of Assisi will be going to the Jones family. If your family would like to receive the cross for a week at your home, please complete the form below if you have not already done so.

Our teachers are in the process of planning several enrichment opportunities for our students. In a future newsletter you will receive a registration form for after school programs. The first program will be open to students in grades 2-4. It will be an after school cooking and art class beginning Thursday, November 6 for six weeks. Supervising this activity will be Mrs. Harris and Ms. Werstein. The cost for this program is \$30.00 and includes all supplies for the program. Ms. Blair and Mrs. Grinn will be organizing a drama club for students in grades 5-8. It will be held on Monday for six weeks. The cost is \$30.00. Next Wednesday we will begin our

PALS (Pupils Accelerated Learning Support) program. This six week program allowed our primary students to work individually with students in grades 6-8 to improve either reading or math skills. Students meet each Wednesday during recess beginning October 21. This program is beneficial in strengthening academic and communication skills. Students in grades 7-8 who volunteer for this program receive service credit for Confirmation. Mrs. Koziol is the coordinator for this program. If you have questions, please call her.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Thursday, October 15 (PHYS ED)

- MEAP ELA Session II, grades 4-8
- Halloween Carnival Worker Bee 7:45 a.m.
- Auction meeting 6:30 p.m.

Friday, October 16 (MUSIC)

- Grade 2 Jean Day for being winners of *Back-to-School Night* parent participation

Monday, October 19 (PHYS ED)

- MEAP ELA Make-up (grades 4-8)

Tuesday, October 20 (ART)

- Mass 8:00 a.m.
- MEAP Math (grades 4-8)

Wednesday, October 21 (PHYS ED)

- MEAP ELA & Math Makeup (grades 4-8)
- Grade 2/3 Field Trip to Crosswinds

PICTURE RETAKES:

Our picture retake date will be held on Tuesday, October 27 at 9:00 a.m.

PTO HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL:

Thank you to those who have sent in donations of items to use in Halloween Carnival goody bags. If you would like to donate items to a specific grade, please mark items accordingly. You are also invited to attend the PTO “worker bee” on Thursday, October 15 at 7:45 a.m. in the lunchroom.

HALLOWEEN COSTUMES:

As a reminder, all grades will wear “character” outfits all day on Friday, October 24. Students need to come to school in their outfits and may not change into their outfits. Halloween outfits should not prevent students from performing their academic requirements throughout the day or hinder them at recess. Please remember that students need to be dressed appropriately for the weather at recess and wear safe shoes. **No masks or over the face material may be worn. Students should wear little or no face make-up.** The students may not depict violent or scary characters. Accessories such as fake guns or knives are not allowed.

OCTOBER SERVICE PROJECT:

During the month of October, we will be collecting items to include in the bags that are distributed to the homeless in Detroit by the Sisters of Christian Love. Items needed include peanut butter, jelly, napkins, bottled water, fruit or applesauce cups, plastic spoons, small boxes of raisins, x-large paper lunch bags (approx. 6 1/8 x 4 x 12 3/8”), canisters of powdered hot chocolate, 10 oz or 12 oz foam cups with lids, new or gently used (men’s & women’s) socks, hats, gloves, underwear/undershirts, t-shirts. Students are also encouraged to decorate the paper lunch bags with notations such as “God Loves Us Constantly”, “God Believes in You”, “May God Bless You”, “Jesus Loves All of Us”, “God Thinks You’re Special”, or “You Are Loved”.

MAGAZINE/COOKIE SALE RECAP:

Congratulations to our Kindergartener who was the top magazine/cookie dough seller with 25 orders! I also congratulate the ten students who were chosen in the *Last Chance Pizza Raffle* to bring a friend to a pizza lunch on Wednesday, October 28: Students are asked to notify the office by Friday, October 16 with the name of the friend they have chosen. There were 65% of families who participated this year. Thank you to the moms who helped count orders during the magazine drive.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL BENEFIT AUCTION:

Tickets are now on sale for the upcoming benefit auction that will be held on Friday, December 4. Tickets are \$40.00 each with a \$5.00 discount offered to those who purchase their tickets by November 16 (or \$35.00). Help is still needed to solicit auction items and ads for the booklet. If your family plans to donate items for the auction, please bring them to the office as soon as possible as the auction booklet is now being compiled. I thank the mom who is assisting the teachers in organizing classroom auction projects, and to those who are helping her in the classrooms.

HOT LUNCH:

Sodexo is now offering an optional online method to pay for your child’s lunch account and/or to view your child’s lunch account balance. Visit www.acspublic.com then click “parent resource” then www.lunchdeposit.com. The cost to pay online is \$2.00 per transaction. You may still send a check in to school as you have done in the past, and check your child’s balance online, without the \$2.00 charge. If you are interested in the online payment method, call our school office for your child’s assigned Sodexo number. Sodexo requests that payment be made in advance. If a child is behind in payment, he or she is limited to five lunches. Please be conscientious in keeping current with your child’s lunch account.

WINTER SPORTS SIGN-UPS:

Sign-up for winter sports (boys and girls basketball, grades 5-8) will be held on Sunday, October 18 after the 10:00 a.m. Mass and Monday, October 19 from 3:00 – 3:30 p.m.

SCHOLASTIC CLICK! Interactive Learning Club:

Enclosed you will find two order forms for software and games. If you wish to place an order, please return the completed forms and payment by Friday, October 23. If you are purchasing Christmas gifts, please mark it on your order form and the order will be held in the office for pickup. Checks should be made payable to *St. Patrick School*.

YEARBOOK:

Thank you to the two moms who has volunteered to chair the yearbook this year. The yearbook will be done digitally this year and you are asked to forward digital prints to: This week a representative met with the moms to introduce the new digital process that is being offered this year.

BOOKS ARE FUN:

Parents are welcome to view the display outside of the school office of a variety of *Books Are Fun* items that are offered at a discount. The items will be on display through Tuesday and will be distributed on Wednesday. Payment must be made at the time you place your order.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

The richest person is not the one who has the most but the one who needs the least. *Anonymous*

Ruth Meiring, Principal

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CROSS

Request for Cross

_____ Our family would like to have the St. Francis of Assisi cross sent home for a week.

Family Name: _____

FAMILY ACTIVITIES SURVEY

Please return by Friday, October 16, 2009

Please check all areas that you may be interested in:

_____ Our family would participate in a Daddy-Daughter dance.

_____ Our Family would participate in a Mother-Son dance.

_____ Our family would participate in a Mother-Son bowling day.

_____Our family would participate in a family dance.

_____Our family would participate in family bowling.

_____Our family would participate in a YMCA family night.

Other suggestions: _____

Family Name: _____