

St. Patrick School Family Newsletter

October 28, 2009

Dear Parents,

Thank you to all who are participating in our after school clubs. There are 21 signed up for the grades 5-8 drama class, which began this week and 11 grade 2-4 students who signed up for the cooking class which begins on Thursday, November 5. I apologize that the classes could not be held on the same day. The scheduled days were selected to accommodate teachers' availability.

Thank you for the many donations and volunteer hours that were given to host a very successful Halloween Carnival. I am grateful to the PTO who sponsors this safe and fun-filled day for our students each year. Students arrive in a variety of creative character costumes. The day included going to the gym for games and a snack. After lunch our parent volunteers helped students create ice cream sundaes for dessert. At the end of the day all students received a goody bag with a variety of items to take home and enjoy. I am most grateful for your support and efforts to make this a special day for students and their families, as well as our staff. Because of the tremendous amount of workers and cake donations, we are unable to provide a list of names for those who helped with the carnival and donated cakes. However, we greatly appreciate each one of you and thank you for your abundant generosity. The winner of the pumpkin decorating contest was grade 5 with their *Gary the Snail* pumpkin. The PTO is graciously donating a pizza party for this winning entry. On behalf of the staff I extend our best wishes for a safe and enjoyable Halloween evening on Saturday.

Today ends the first quarter. Report cards will be sent home on Friday, November 6. Parent-teacher Conferences will be from 3:45 - 7:45 p.m. on Wednesday, November 11. Our report cards have been revised. See the insert in today's family envelope regarding the new report cards.

St. Patrick Church will be celebrating All Souls Day on Monday, November 2 at a 7:00 p.m. Mass. This special Mass remembers all of our parishioners, relatives, and friends who have passed into eternal life this past year. Also on Monday, all grades will visit the cemetery next to the primary building. This allows our students an opportunity to pray for those in the cemetery as well as other deceased relatives and friends. Students will be given a slip of paper to share the name(s) of individuals they would like our school community to remember in prayer during the month of November. I invite you to spend time discussing and remembering in prayer with your children those individuals who are important in your family and are now deceased.

Our students have been working on veteran cards to remember the men and women who faithfully served our country. These cards will be sent to local veterans for Veterans Day on November 11. The stamps for these cards were donated by our students as part of our September service project. On Tuesday, November 10 our Mass will honor local veterans. Afterwards there will be a reception in the lunchroom for our veterans and guests. Some veterans will remain to do a school wide assembly to speak about their service commitment to our country. If you know a veteran or someone who has served in the military, please invite them to attend our Mass and reception. If you are planning to attend this Mass, I encourage you to come afterwards for the reception and personally thank our honored guests.

Yesterday at Mass our Student Council members and grade 8 class officers were blessed by Father Bob. While holding a candle whose light came from our Pascal candle the students also took a commitment pledge. The vitality of our school community depends upon our student leaders and their willingness to share their time and talents. We will continue to pray that our student leaders will serve the school, parish, and local communities with the same love and commitment that Jesus shared in this community.

Today the *Last Chance Pizza Raffle* lunch was held with Mr. Colby, our QSP representatives. Winners of our five prize packages were also drawn. The winners will be listed in next week's newsletter.

Please remember to return the permission slip that was sent home last week, regarding the Potassium Iodine pills that will be distributed in the unlikely case of a nuclear emergency. It is important that a slip is returned for every student, so we know whether you want your child to have the pill or not, as well as the correct dosage. If you need another permission slip, please notify the school office.

On Thursday, November 5 our students will participate in the *Are You Smarter than a St. Patrick Student?* Four of our school families will be using their skills and knowledge in a variety of activities in the afternoon. For this special event, all students may wear jeans with a St. Patrick School top, including St. Patrick School spirit wear. Jeans may not be worn to school if they have holes in them. The day will end with an all school assembly which includes a quiz bowl between our adults and students. This event was my auction donation for the 2008 school auction.

See the important flyer from the Monroe County Health Department in today's family envelope regarding H1N1 vaccination clinics in Monroe County.

Thank you to those who have purchased their dinner and/or raffle tickets. We have sold 90 dinner tickets. Help is still needed to solicit items for the auction. Donated items should be turned into the office by November 16 to be listed in the booklet. Help is also needed to sell dinner tickets, raffle tickets, and cookbooks in the Church Meeting Room before and after the weekend Masses on November 7/8 and November 14/15.

Cookbooks are available in the school office for \$10.00 each. They make a nice gift for your Thanksgiving hostess, as well as wonderful Christmas gifts.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Thursday, October 29

- No school for students – MANS Convention for staff

Friday, October 30

- No school for students – MANS Convention for staff

Monday, November 2 (PHYS ED)

- School Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 3 (MUSIC)

- Mass 8:00 a.m.

Wednesday, November 4 (PHYS ED)

Thursday, November 5

- **No Airport Bus**
- No Specials
- Benefit Auction *Are You Smarter Than a St. Patrick School Student* activity
- Jean Day with St. Patrick School tops or St. Patrick School spirit wear.

NO SCHOOL:

There will be no school on Thursday, October 29 and Friday, October 30 for students, as all staff members will be attending the MANS Convention in Detroit.

NO BUS NOVEMBER 5:

There will be no Airport bus service on Thursday, November 5 as Airport Community Schools is attending a county-wide in-service that day. Although Airport Schools do not have class, we will still have hot lunch that day.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL BENEFIT AUCTION:

Tickets for the auction and dinner continue to be for sale at a \$5.00 discount until November 16 (or \$35.00). Plan ahead with your family and friends to reserve a table together. Help is still needed to solicit auction items and ads for the booklet. If you are able to make follow-up calls, please the school at 654-2522. If your family plans to donate items for the auction, please bring them to the office by Friday, November 13 so it may be listed in the auction booklet. Help is still needed to sell dinner tickets, raffle tickets, and cookbooks in the Church Meeting Room before and after all weekend Masses on November 7/8 and November 13/14. Please notify the school office if you are available for any of the Masses on those dates.

VETERANS DAY BREAKFAST:

The Men's Club will sponsor a Veterans Day All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast on Sunday, November 8 from 8 – 11:30 a.m. The cost is: Adults \$5.50; Veterans \$3.00; Children 6-11 \$3.00; Children 5 and under – free. The menu includes scrambled eggs, pancakes, potatoes, sausage links, ham, muffins/quick breads, coffee/tea, hot chocolate, and orange juice/milk. If you are able to help at the breakfast or are able to provide muffins or quick bread for the breakfast, please contact the school at 654-2522.

APPROPRIATE DRESS FOR THE WEATHER:

With the arrival of November, we can expect many changes in the weather. Please remember to make sure your child is dressed for the weather and recess. This includes warm coats, hats, gloves, and boots when there is snow on the ground.

NOVEMBER SERVICE PROJECT:

During the month of November, our service project will be to collect food for the needy and warm coats, gloves, hats, and scarves. The Jones family has graciously volunteered to deliver these items to the Capuchin Center in Detroit.

GYM UNIFORM AND EMBROIDERED WEAR ORDER FORMS:

You will find order forms for gym uniforms and embroidered wear. This will be the last order placed before Christmas. If you wish to purchase items, please return the form and payment by Thursday, November 5.

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN:

If you have not yet taken a *Protecting God's Children* workshop, below is a list of upcoming workshops in our area. You may register online at www.virtus.org (Organization: Detroit, MI Archdiocese). If you have any questions or need assistance registering, please contact the school office.

St. Michael Parish – Monroe, Saturday, January 23, 2010, 9:00 a.m.; St. Joseph Parish – Maybee, Tuesday, March 9, 2010, 6:00 p.m.

YEARBOOK:

Your help is needed in providing photographs for the upcoming yearbook

SMCC OPENHOUSE:

There will be an SMCC Family Open House on Sunday, November 8 from 11 – 2 p.m. Scholarships (1 \$2,000 scholarship, 1 \$1,000 scholarship, and 1 \$500 scholarship, plus gift certificates for school textbooks, school uniforms, and many other prizes will be awarded. Students in grades 1-8 are eligible to win. There will be free t-shirts for the first 300 students. Additional information is enclosed in today's family envelope.

BE A PART OF THE MONROE HOLIDAY PARADE:

St. Mary Catholic Central High School invites Catholic elementary students and a parent to ride as their guests in the SMCC school bus during the Monroe Holiday Parade. Seating is limited to the first 30 students and their guardian, and is based on the return of a permission slip that is available in our school office. Additional information is available by contacting Vicki White at 241-0663, ext. 121.

MONROE COUNTY LIBRARY BOOK FAIR:

Award winning authors will be in attendance this Sunday, November 8 from noon – 3:00 p.m. at the Ellis Branch. St. Patrick graduate Anita (Esper) Passon will be there to sign her book "Family Vacation Malfunction", as well as many other authors.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

I do the very best I know how the very best I can; and I mean to keep on doing so until the end! *Abraham Lincoln*

Ruth Meiring