

St. Patrick School Family Newsletter

September 16, 2009

We have gotten off to a great start this year! Please join us as we celebrate our new year and share friendship with the other school families at our annual Family Potluck this Friday, September 18th from 5:30-7:00 p.m. Our early ending allows for those wanting to attend the local football games. The staff will be providing hotdogs and PTO will furnish beverages, plates and plastic ware. We are still in need of some parents to help with preparing hot dogs. Please call Mrs. Sroka if you are able to help in this area. Families are asked to bring a dish to pass.

This Sunday, after the 8 a.m. Mass Father Bob will bless our Peace Garden. I strongly encourage our staff and school families to attend this event. This beautiful garden is due to the generosity of many individuals and businesses. I am sincerely grateful to my brother, Tom Meiring, for overseeing the construction of the garden. In addition, my brother RJ and several employees from Meiring Greenhouses also contributed greatly to the various components of the garden. A detailed listing of donors and workers is being compiled and will be shared in the near future. A reception will be held in the gym following the blessing.

On Monday, September 21 at 8:15 a.m. the school will have a peace prayer service in the garden for International Peace Day. If you are able to send in muffins for either the Sunday reception or Monday prayer service for our students, it would be greatly appreciated. Some items will be purchased for the reception but additional donations will provide our student with a treat after the Monday Prayer Service as well. .

This week Father Bob will be joining the other priests in the Archdiocese of Detroit for a priest convocation. There will be no Mass on Tuesday. Please pray for our bishops and the other clergy leadership of our archdiocese as they gather for prayer and development.

I compliment our students, parents and staff for the wonderful beginnings of our school year. Since our arrival last week we have renewed ourselves with two Masses, daily prayer, and the blessing of our students and classrooms. Students received cross key chains at our first Mass to remind them to "Continuously Reach Out Scholastically and Spiritually."

Our upper elementary students are currently in the process of assuming leadership positions for the 2009-2010 school year. Congratulations to the students who joined the singing leadership team as members of St. Patrick Singers and our Grade 8 class officers.

Thank you to Mr. T from the Ash Township Fire Department who did a safety presentation for our staff on how to use a fire extinguisher and other important fire safety tips. In August our teaches and principal also attended a presentation by retired State Police Trooper on security and crisis management. Our office is also creating a new simplified crisis plan chart to assist us in following appropriate procedures for a variety of possible crisis situations. Funding for our crisis planning is being received through a \$650 Homeland Security Grant. St. Patrick School is only one of three Monroe Vicariate schools receiving this grant. Our students have already begun their emergency drill practices and thus far both staff and students have performed exceptionally well.

Thank you to the new families who have selected St. Patrick School for their child's formative years of education. We extend a warm welcome to our new families and their children and wish them many successful years at our school:

We also welcome our new kindergarten students from returning families.

Welcome to our three-year-old preschoolers

Welcome to our four-year-old preschoolers

Thank you to all who helped today at Heritage Day. Students enjoyed a variety of games and activities as well as some delicious corn muffins. Our generous bakers supplied enough muffins so that students were able to have a second treat today.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Wednesday, September 16 (ART)

- Auction meeting 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 17 (PHYS ED)

- Magazine Turn-in for Cash Box (every four orders). Help is still needed to count orders and money.

Friday, September 18 (MUSIC)

- Family Potluck 5 – 7 p.m.

Sunday, September 20

- Blessing of Peace Garden after the 8:00 a.m. Mass followed by refreshments in the gym (muffins needed)

Monday, September 21 (PHYS ED)

- Grades 5/6 leave for Camp Storer
- School Peace Prayer service at 8:15 a.m. in the Peace garden (muffins needed)

Tuesday, September 22 (ART)

- Mass 8:00 a.m.

Wednesday, September 23 (PHYS ED)**Thursday, September 24 (MUSIC)**

- Magazine Turn-In for Jean Day passes

Friday, September 25 (PHYS ED)

- Campers return at 12:00 noon
- Scholastic *Click-It* software orders due

CAMP STORER:

Students in grades 5/6 received permission slips and Camp Storer trading post order forms on Tuesday. If you wish to place an order, checks should be made payable to *St. Patrick School*. Parents are asked to return the completed forms by Thursday, September 17.

SERVICE PROJECT:

For our September service project we will be collecting three (3) postage stamps or \$1.50 to purchase stamps which will be used to send cards to veterans in November.

HOT LUNCH PROGRAM:

When paying for your child's hot lunch with a check, please be sure to make the checks payable to *Airport Community Schools*.

MAGAZINE DRIVE:

Tomorrow is the first magazine turn-in day. For every four orders turned in, students will receive a chance to pull from the cash box. Please remember that all orders (magazines and cookie dough) need to be paid at the time the orders are sent in. This is a change from last year when magazines were billed from QSP. You may also make purchases online at www.qsp.com. The St. Patrick School code is 425015607. Help is still needed to count money and orders Thursday morning.

FAMILY DAY SEPTEMBER 28:

National Family Day is September 28. This national movement encourages parents to frequently eat dinner with their kids and be involved in their children's lives. For more information and participation ideas, log onto www.CASAFamilyDAY.org.

ENGRAVED BRICK PAVERS:

Orders for brick pavers will be placed twice a year. The last order for this year will be placed October 1. If your family would like to purchase an engraved paver to add to the Peace Garden, you may obtain an order form from Mrs. Sroka or on our school website under "School Forms". The cost is \$35.00 for a 4" x 8" brick, or \$50.00 for a 8" x 8" brick.

GABBY'S LADDER CHILDREN'S GRIEF SUPPORT GROUPS:

Eight week fall workshops for children ages 4-6 or 7-9 are starting now. Contact Gabby's Ladder at 242-8773 for more information.

SUNNY D LABELS NEEDED:

The Kindergarten class is collecting the UPC labels from 128 oz, 96 oz, 64 oz, 48 oz, the outer wraps for 6 and 12 pack bottles or the cardboard wrap for 12 oz cans to receive free books. For each 20 Sunny UPC label kindergarten will receive 29 free books. Once kindergarten reaches its goal they will donate books to the Kids In Need Foundation.

REQUEST FROM ST. PATRICK BOOSTERS:

Volleyball parents are asked to stop in during volleyball practice to sign-up with your daughter's coach for a time to help at the concession stand.

SCHOLASTIC "Click" INTERACTIVE LEARNING SOFTWARE CLUB:

Please take a few minutes to look through the attached Scholastic Software Club flyers. They offers a mix of programs that cover a wide range of skills: reading, geography, early learning, critical reasoning, math, science, history, foreign languages, and more. You

can visit www.scholastic.com/swclubs for more information on software titles including reviews submitted by other parents, teachers, and students. All bonus points earned will be redeemed for software for our computer lab. The due date for this order will be Friday, September 25. Checks should be made payable to *St. Patrick School*.

MONROE JUNIOR SOCCER ACADEMY 2009:

A new soccer academy for boys and girls ages 4-8 will begin September 21 for seven weeks. To sign up for the academy and to learn more about Michigan Rush Soccer, go to www.michiganrush.com or contact the school office for a flyer.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

Do unto others as you would have others do unto you. *Jesus*

Ruth Meiring
Principal