



From the Desk of:
Dr. Lonnie Hughes, Principal
October 15, 2009

We trust our four-day Columbus weekend was enjoyable to our parents and their children. Now it's back to business!

COMING SOON

We are in the final stages of preparing to send the Parent Link directly to your email addresses. We look forward to this step in increasing communication.

A GENTLE REMINDER

There are many children who are dropped off in the parking lot after the 8:10 morning bell has rung. For those who park in the lot in the morning, please be aware of your surroundings and wait until ALL children have made their way past the barricades to the doors before exiting the lot. Remember, the safety of our children is of the utmost importance.

PICTURE RETAKE

Monday, October 19, 2009

MID-TERM GRADES

By this time you have had ample opportunity to review your child's mid-trimester progress reports. Congratulations to those of you whose children had an outstanding report. There were many in this category. Please encourage these boys and girls to keep up the good work. They are taking full advantage of the opportunities provided by a Catholic school.

If, however, you find your child did not perform well this first six weeks, please remind him/her it's not too late to turn things around, to turn over a new leaf as the saying goes. The trimester will not end until November 13, plenty of time to change the poorest of progress reports into one of respectability. During the next couple of weeks, I'll be talking to children in various grades who struggled on their progress report. If we need to meet with the appropriate teachers to help address this problem, I'll be glad to keep a flexible schedule for that purpose.

YEAR OF THE PRIESTS

Our Religious Education Director, Miss Julie Dillenburg, reminds us that Pope Benedict XVI has declared 2009 as the "Year for Priests." It's a time to pray for those who have answered the call of self-sacrifice and love to become members of the holy priesthood. Miss Dillenburg notes that students and staff of St. Patrick Grade School have decided to respond to the Holy Father's call in a very special way.

Each class is "adopting" a local area priest. The priests chosen have one thing in common, i.e., they do not have a school as part of their ministry. Each has received a letter asking if a class could write to them and offer prayers on their behalf. The priests were also asked to send a photo and information about themselves. These photos will be placed in the classrooms with school children and members of the RE classes taking part in prayers for and letters to the priests.

Fr. Pete has indicated he would invite each of these priests to St. Pat's for the celebration of a school liturgy. This is indeed a very special service project, one the whole school can be proud of.

A YANKEE DOODLE DANDY

Just kidding; we're really talking about Yankee Candles. And today, your fifth grade students will be bringing home a Yankee Candle Fundraiser packet. Mrs. Delach has asked me to remind fifth grade parents of a couple of things about the Yankee Candle project.

1. It's a service project for the fifth grade students. And as such, the proceeds from candle sales (about 40% on each candle sold) will go toward the St. Patrick School debt, not to the class itself.
2. Any family may sell Yankee candles. As a matter of fact, since Christmas is just around the corner, parents are asked to remember that Yankee candles make wonderful Christmas gifts and stocking stuffers if you have a sturdy sock. So do some of your Christmas shopping a bit early and give your loved ones a Yankee Candle. It's the gift that keeps on giving. Contact Mrs. Delach with any questions.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE

If you have not signed up for your Parent/Teacher Conference, please do so as soon as you are able. Reminders will go out next week with your child so please make sure you check backpacks.

MEN'S CLUB - FROM BOB VERGO

There will be a Men's Club meeting tonight (Oct 15) at 7pm at Traditions.

Jim Smith asked if we could lend a hand on Saturday morning. Some of us got together a few months ago to set the posts around the new ComEd unit for the church complex. They still need to be filled with cement.

A 1/2 dozen of us could get this done pretty quickly. I could be there until about noon then I have appointments after that. Let me know who could make it. If we start early, 8ish, would be great. We could use an idea for some kind of a funnel to aid in sliding the cement into the posts. Heavy cardboard, a sheet of tin, etc. **Bob Vergo - 815/954-0233.**

ITEMS IN LAST WEEK'S PARENT LINK THAT BEAR REPEATING

"GREAT PUMPKIN" RAFFLE

The annual "Great Pumpkin" Raffle will begin on Monday, October 19 and run through noon on Thursday, October 29. Seventh grade will be selling raffle tickets during lunch - one for 25 cents, three for 50 cents and seven for \$1.00. Over 20 candy-filled pumpkins and Halloween buckets will be raffled at the Halloween celebration on October 30. The money collected from the raffle will be donated to the Parish's food pantry. Please help the food pantry by buying raffle tickets for this seventh Grade Service Project.

PARENT GUARDIAN TRANSPORTATION REIMBURSEMENT

The lack of FY2010 funding will prevent the State Board from paying any Parent Guardian Transportation claims filed for the 2008-2009 school year. These payments are normally made in December of each year. In the event that funds are restored this fiscal year, the State will promptly pay the 2008-2009 claims that were submitted. If you have any

questions, please contact the DIVISION OF FUNDING AND DISBURSEMENT SERVICES AT 217-782-5256.

FIELD TRIP

It's not unheard of, but it doesn't happen often that we have an all school field trip. This, we think, will be a very special learning experience for our youngsters. At about 8:00 a.m. on Monday, October 26, we'll be loading into five Providence H.S. buses and heading to Fair Oaks Farm, Indiana. With its 25,000 acres, Fair Oaks is one of the largest dairy farms in the United States. More than 32,000 cows are milked there every day, producing 2.5 million pounds of milk, enough to meet the needs of both Chicago and Indianapolis. Eighty calves are born on the farm daily.

We have about 45 parent chaperones signed up for the trip. Please remember, it is necessary for every chaperone to have completed the Protecting God's Children training. Let's pray for a beautiful fall day. Special thanks to Kelly Kramerich for bringing this wonderful enrichment opportunity to our attention.

NESTLE WATER LABELS

Nestle will not be running the water label program for the 2009-2010 school year so it will no longer be necessary to bring the labels to school. Thank you for your past participation and we'll let you know if things change for the 2010-2011 school year.

MONEY BROUGHT TO SCHOOL

When bringing money to school, please use separate envelopes for different activities. Write your child's name, grade and where the money is to go. For example: **John Doe, Grade 2, Field Trip Money** or **Jane Doe, Grade 4, Extended Care**. If bringing cash, please have the correct amount.

Calendar of Events

October 19, Monday, Picture Retake Day

October 19, Monday, Yankee Candle Fundraiser

October 20, Tuesday, Student Mass and Rosary

October 21, Wednesday, Vision and Hearing Retesting

October 26, Monday, Fair Oaks Dairy Farm all School Field Trip

October 27, Tuesday, Student Mass and Rosary

October 27, Tuesday, Grandparents' Day

October 30, Friday, Halloween Festivities (8:30 – 11:30 a.m.) EARLY

DISMISSAL 11:30 a.m.



LAST CHANCE

**DON'T FORGET TO PLACE YOUR
MARKET DAY**

**ORDER FOR THE OCTOBER SALE
EITHER DROP ORDER OFF IN
THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY FRIDAY
OCTOBER 16TH**

**OR GO ON LINE BY OCTOBER 17TH -
11PM**

**REMEMBER THERE ARE A NUMBER
OF PRE-PACKAGED ITEMS YOU
CAN PURCHASE FOR HALLOWEEN
TREATS**

PICK UP IS WEDNESDAY 10/21/09

What are Community Dollars Items to save or participate in?

1. Campbell's Soup Labels, Prego Sauce lids, V8 Splash lids,
2. Box tops: Please cut the box tops off packages and send them to school and we earn actual dollars back for PTO. Please cut these; do not send the whole top of the cereal box. Thank you.
3. Tyson labels
4. Pop tabs, we send these to the Ronald McDonald Charity
5. Albeit: newspapers, magazines, junk mail, flyers and **old homework!** Paperback books, or books with the **hard covers removed**, goes to the recycle bin in the parking lot.
6. Jewel Shop and Share days: these are 3 times year and we earn 5 % for the total sales of all purchases from St. Pat's shoppers. Shop & share slips will come out as the dates approach. Be sure to purchase your Manna for Jewel on those days as well!
7. Food 4 Less: register for a card and shop at the store and the school will earn 5% from the registered family.
8. Office Depot: When you shop here give them our school ID 70032910 and St. Pat's will receive a 5% rebate check!
9. Dominick's E –scrip: Anyone that wishes to join contact me for details or simply log on to Dominick's to register your card to Pats school.
10. Target Red card: register your Target Red card (charge card) at 1-800-316-6142 and designate St. Patrick School as your school of choice and we receive 5% of your purchases.
11. Carson Community Days: We will participate in the Community Day Event at Carson's on November 14, books are available for \$5, and we keep the whole 5 for the school. There are savings coupons inside. Whatever we sell we keep, it is all profit! I have 50 books to start, so if we sell all 50, that is \$250, or 100 books now we have \$500. All for selling a coupon book so people can shop. Push this for early Christmas savings and shopping. There are 6- 20% off, 1- 30% off and 1- \$10 off an item of \$10 or more, in the book!
12. Juice pouches: all drink pouches are collected. Please remove straws, cut open top and rinse before turning in!

Nickie Dehm Dolph 815-439-2562 home, cell 815351-0256



DANCE



St. Patrick School

Who: Junior High Students (6th – 8th)

When: Friday, October 30, 2009

Where: St. Patrick's School Gym

Time: 6 p.m. until 9 p.m.

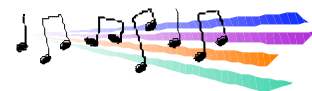
Admission: \$5.00



Costume Contest

Music provided by:

JAM DJ



Food and Refreshments will be available

Attention Parents: Parents must sign student(s) in and out.

Inappropriate clothing or behavior is not allowed. If clothing or behavior is found to be inappropriate, then the student(s) will not be allowed to enter dance.

We will call parents, to have the student(s) picked up.

Any questions, please call:

Mere at (815) 726-9390 or Joy at (815) 467-0866.



Elves Room

It's time to start saving your money and start thinking about
Christmas!!

To help you get ready...

Santa's Workshop

is coming to St. Patrick's School

Sunday, December 6, 2008

This program allows children to experience the joy of choosing their
own special Christmas gifts for family and friends.

Watch for more details in your weekly family
envelope.

We need volunteers to help with this event.
If you are interested in volunteering please
contact Rosario Gurrola 815-725-7347

