



MS. MEIROSE'S MESSAGE

OCTOBER 21, 2009

Upcoming Events



Friday, October 23rd

Aggie Spirit Day-Students may wear blue and white casual wear

Sunday, October 25th

Grade 8 - Sleepover

Monday, October 26th

Grade 3 - Eco Drama
6:30 pm Basketball Mtg.- P.C.
7-9 pm Companions in Faith

Tuesday, October 27th

10 am. Liturgy Grades 5-8
Hearing Screening - Kdn. & referrals

Wednesday, October 28th

10 am. Liturgy Grades 1-4
Grades 6, 7, & 8 to Stage One to see Antigone

Thursday, October 29th

8:15-10:30 am-Open House for Present Parents

Saturday, October 31st

Happy Halloween
2 am-Daylight Savings Time Ends (turn clocks back one hour)

Monday, November 2nd

Grade 8 Confirmation Retreat

Tuesday, November 3rd

10 am All School Liturgy

Wednesday, November 4th

Kindergarten to Stage One-Busytown
Noon Dismissal
BEE is posted on Edline

"If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is 'thank you', it will be enough."

Meister Eikhart

Dear Parents,

Last Friday we dedicated our Garden of Gratitude. The above quote was posted on a Bulletin Board that supported our focus on gratitude. It was also part of the dedication ceremony. Now we move toward the great feasts of All Saints Day and All Souls Day. We remember all those holy people, some of whom we know only through stories and others that have been part of our families and part of our school and church communities. They have taught us through their lives and their example; we remember them with deep gratitude for the lessons of their lives and their love. Our theme this year is "Sowing the Seeds of Peace;" this past week I have been thinking of how much gratitude fertilizes those seeds once they are sown. I hope that in the story of this year our theme and our commitment to gratitude are permanently linked.

In the last BEE we invited families to send in a picture of a family member who has died within the past year. We have a custom at St. Agnes of displaying these pictures as we celebrate All Souls Day on November 2nd. The pictures are left up for several weeks. If you would like to contribute a picture of a family member for this special Prayer Table, please send it **in a frame** and attach a card with the person's name, date of death, and relationship to the student. This year our Prayer Table will have a Latino touch in its decorations. Dona Shannon (Lockhart) is teaching the students about the way these feasts are celebrated in Hispanic culture. She is posting an explanation on Edline (on the main page under News) so that you can talk at home about these cultural traditions.

Sincerely,

Carol M. Meirose
Principal



Emergency School Closing:
School Closed or on a
Delayed Schedule (10 AM-2:55PM)
Students may arrive at 9:15

(See Parent Student Handbook page 21 for more details)

1 of 4 pages

Sowing the
Seeds of Peace

2009-2010 School Theme



SCULPTOR IN RESIDENCE

Thanks to all those involved in making our time with Al Nelson, our Artist-in-Residence, and his wife Penny a great success. Each student had a part in creating the garden sculptures and was also able to take home a necklace carved to the student's specifications by Mr. Nelson. The bench is permanently installed and the stones will be installed very shortly. If you have not seen the garden yet, please make a point of doing so! Thanks to:

- Laura Dant for her coordination of Mr. Nelson's visit.
- Mimi Janson for coordinating the parent support.
- Ellen Van Hamburg for coordinating the planning and planting of the Garden of Gratitude.
- Tony and Shelly Nold, parishioners, parents of St. Agnes alums, and owners of The Plant Kingdom, for their guidance in planning the garden and for doing the actual planting.
- Marilyn Cross and the 8th graders for the music that was part of the dedication ceremony.



SPIRIT DAY



On Friday, October 23rd we will have our first Spirit Day of the year. It will be an Aggie Day. Students may dress in blue and white casual wear, the Aggie colors. St. Agnes team uniform shirts may be worn. Jerseys or sleeveless shirts may be worn with a shirt underneath. If shorts are worn, they should be the school uniform shorts. The day will also include a door-decorating contest and an assembly/pep rally. On Thursday, October 22nd there will be a guessing game sponsored by the Student Council to raise money for the postage for Parish Friend letters. Each guess costs 10 cents and each student may guess up to 5 times.



OPEN HOUSE

This week we are having our Open House for Prospective Families. Next week is our annual Open House for our present families. All of you are invited to spend some time in your child's classroom on Thursday, October 29th between 8:15 and 10:30. Refreshments will be served in the Library that morning, and there will be multiple places where parents can watch the morning newscast. We always enjoy having you with us on this day!

RECOGNITION LUNCHEON

This Thursday, at the annual Archdiocesan Recognition Luncheon, several of our teachers will be recognized for their service to the Archdiocese. Celebrating these special anniversaries of their service within Archdiocesan schools are: Cheryl House – 10 years, Lois Hunn – 25 years, Clarice Casper and Margi Johnstone – 35 years, and Jan Reddington – 45 years. We will celebrate them well at the luncheon, and I know all of our families join me in thanking them for their dedication to their vocations of teaching.



BASKETBALL

Parents of students in Grades 5-8 who will be playing basketball are expected to attend a parent meeting on Monday, October 26th at 6:30 in the Parish Center.



PUNT, PASS & KICK

Congratulations to the following students who placed in the Sectional Punt, Pass and Kick Competition held on Saturday Oct. 17, in Georgetown, KY.

- Paul Porter was 1st in the 8-9 Boys' Division. Paul will go on to Regional competition on November 29 at the Cincinnati Bengals/ Cleveland Browns NFL game.
- Grace Getsfred placed 2nd in the 10-11 Girls' Division.
- Logan Cooper placed 3rd in the 14-15 Boys' Division.

COMPANIONS IN FAITH

Also on Monday, October 26th, parents of 8th grade students are invited to attend the "Companions in Faith" Program from 7-9 PM in Aloysius Hall. This is a night for parents and will focus on looking at the strengths of your 8th grader and how to use these strengths to open up dialogues on many topics, including faith. Mary Furmanek, our Youth Minister, and Lois Lockett will facilitate the evening. I think that parents will be rejuvenated by the evening – it will be a gift to yourselves in the company of people with whom you have spent the past nine years!

GRADE 8 SLEEPOVER

This Sunday evening our 8th grade students will have a Sleepover at school. This is the second of the two sleepovers that were purchased as Auction packages at last February's Auction. The 8th graders and their teachers will have Monday off to recuperate!



8TH GRADE RETREAT

On November 2nd eighth grade students will have a Day of Retreat in preparation for their Confirmation. The retreat will be held at Gallagher Hall on the St. Barnabas campus.

CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE

The Boutique is fast approaching. We are posting a flyer about the various classroom theme baskets. These baskets are a highlight of the Boutique and we are grateful for your efforts that make them so attractive. A flyer is included in the BEE envelope along with quilt chances. As always, there are many ways to contribute to the Christmas Boutique. Please choose what works best for you and by all means mark the day on your calendar.



UNIFORM

The final day for the summer uniform option (shorts) will be Friday, October 30th. Shorts will again be an option on April 1st. Please also remember that Daylight Savings Time ends during the night of October 31 – November 1. Enjoy your extra hour of sleep!

GR. 5-8 STUDENT SURVEY

As one of our initiatives to address bullying behaviors and help our students to develop peer relations based on respect, our 5-8 students are being asked to participate in an online survey that has been developed at the University of Louisville and is used extensively in research. A letter about this survey and permission forms for both parents and students are included as hard copies in this week's BEE envelope. Please return these permission forms immediately. Ms. Salem will use the school results of this survey as a needs assessment to help in her analysis of what we need to do to be most proactive in this area. In the next BEE we plan to share more about school-wide initiatives that are already underway in relation to anti-bullying education. In the meantime, do not hesitate to contact Ms. Salem if you have questions or concerns. She is at St. Agnes every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday.



BLACKOUT DAY

On the 30th our Student Council has requested some special uniform options in observance of Halloween. The Middle School students will have a "blackout" that day and may wear black with their uniform pants or skirts. The K-5 students may wear Halloween colors with their uniform pants, jumpers, or skirts.

H1N1 VACCINE

At our most recent Principals' Meeting we had an update on plans for immunization of school-age children against the H1N1 strain of influenza. Local health officials intend to hold Vaccine Clinics at each school for the students and staff of that school. The vaccinations will be optional, and there will of course have to be parental consent forms completed. The shots will be provided at no cost to those being vaccinated. The schedule has not been finalized pending the delivery of vaccine, but authorities think that this will probably occur in the first part of November. We will keep you posted as we receive further information. In addition, we are installing hand sanitizer dispensers in every classroom and continue to remind students of good health habits.



SKATING PARTY

Our next BEE will be published on Wednesday, November 4th. That day is also a Noon Dismissal day and the day for the first PTO-sponsored Skating Party at Robben's Roost. The Skating Party is from 1-3 and the \$4.00 entrance fee includes both shoes and skating. All children must have a parent or another adult on site that will be personally responsible for them.



STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship Opportunities:

- The 4th grade, with a Stewardship Focus of those who are Homeless, is participating in Blanket Louisville. There is a large box in the foyer of school and one at the Parish Center entrance for the collection of blankets that will be provided to Homeless Shelters. These blankets can be either new or gently used. The collection will continue through November 19.
- Knowing how busy this time of the year is for everyone, we are repeating information from the October 7th BEE. Catholic Charities is looking for families or groups of families to sponsor a newly arrived refugee family for their first Christmas in the United States. This sponsorship involves providing some simple and practical gifts for members of the family. Please let Mrs. Meirose know by October 30th if you, as an individual family or with others, would like to sponsor a family. Specific information about the family will be available during the first part of November.



MARKET DAY



Market Day News: November is pie month. With every pie ordered through Market Day, the school will earn \$1.75. Plus, every customer who orders any 3 pies will get a 12 oz. bag of coffee FREE. Pies are delivered frozen and are a perfect addition to any holiday dinner. Return your order form by Wednesday, October 28 or order on line at marketday.com by Saturday, October 31. Orders will be available for pick up on Thursday, November 5.



CALENDAR CHANGE

When we publish a year-long calendar it is almost inevitable that there will need to be some changes. Such is the case for some November dates.

- 2nd grade Parent and Grandparent Lunch - Thursday, November 12 is the new date.
- The Cub Scout Country Breakfast - Sunday, November 15th is the new date.
- The School play (Snow White) will now run for the three evenings of November 20, 21, 22. The play will be at 7:00 PM on each night and will be performed in the Parish Center.

Enclosures in the BEE Envelope:

- Letter and Parent and Student Signature forms for the on-line Comprehensive Assessment of School Bullying - Grades 5-8
- Information Sheet and Permission Form for the St. Agnes 7/8 Social Event
- Catholic Schools Brochure from the Archdiocese – Gr. 6, 7, 8
- Information about the Blood Drive this Sunday
- Request for Information about Pre-School Siblings
- Update on Boutique and Quilt Chances
- Letter to New Families (2009-2010 school year) about the Boutique
- Market Day Order Form

Postings on Edline (under News):

- Trunk or Treat Halloween Party
- Information from Dona Shannon on Day of the Dead Customs and our Celebration of All Souls Day
- Christmas Boutique Classroom Theme Baskets