



# ST. AGNES PARISH SCHOOL

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## MS. MEIROSE'S MESSAGE

FEBRUARY 24, 2010

### Upcoming Events



#### Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup>

Grade 3 Pioneer Day

7 pm Musical Performance Gr. 4-5

#### Tuesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>

8:30 am Reconciliation Gr. 7-8

#### Wednesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>

10 am Liturgy Gr. 1-3

#### Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup>

8:30 am Reconciliation Gr. 4, 5, 6

#### Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup>

Terra Nova Testing begins

Grades 3, 5, 7

#### Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>

10 am Liturgy Gr. 5-8

#### Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>

10 am Liturgy Gr. 1-4

BEE –posted on Edline

Report Cards go home

“The Earth is the Lord’s and everything in it.”

Psalm 24:1

Dear Parents,

We are sending home in hard copy today the first of our weekly Lenten Bulletins for families. Each of these bulletins will allow you to share in and extend our school Lenten program. We hope it can occupy a prominent place on your refrigerator or family bulletin board. After this week, we will post the Lenten Bulletin on Edline every Monday during Lent. If you want a hard copy of this weekly Lenten resource, please email or call Mrs. Ford, and she will see that it is provided to you.

Please remember too that you are always welcome at our brief Monday morning Lenten prayer services at 8:00 AM in the gym. We are working hard this year to keep Lent and its challenges in our consciousness. I shared with the students (and it’s probably because I **love** watching the Olympics and hearing the stories of the athletes) that the challenges being presented to us this Lent remind me of the intense athletic training of the Olympians. Our Lenten training is pushing me into areas where I am not always comfortable or that stretch what I had thought were the limits of my abilities. I know in my heart that this is what it means to follow in Jesus’ footsteps, but I, like the athletes, need the push.

I hope that the weekly prayer can be part of your family devotions and that each week’s theme inspires good family conversations about small action steps that can be taken to ensure that God’s gifts are available to all people.

Sincerely,

Carol M. Meirose  
Principal



### Emergency School Closing:

*School Closed* or on a  
*Delayed Schedule* (10 am-2:55 pm)  
Students may arrive at 9:15 am

(See Parent Student Handbook for details)

1 of 4 pages

Sowing the  
Seeds of Peace

2009-2010 School Theme

## SOLVING CONFLICTS

### SOLVING CONFLICTS BETWEEN PARENTS AND TEENS/ PRE-TEENS

You are invited to the next Justice Sunday presentation on Sunday, 28 February from 7-9pm at Aloysius Hall, St. Agnes. The presenter, Eileen Blanton, is familiar to us at St. Agnes School from the Parent Evenings she presented several years ago. Eileen is Executive Director of the Peace Education Program which trains young people to de-escalate conflicts; listen and problem solve with respect, and take responsibility for their actions.

There are many stresses and responsibilities involved in raising responsible young people. The evening will provide some helpful strategies related to communication and problem solving. Get together a small group and plan to attend!

## OPERATION PARENT

Another opportunity related to the challenges of parenting young people is the Operation Parent program. Operation Parent is a network of parents that offers a series of small group discussions about the issues that face today's young people and what parents must know to help their children and to stay connected with them during the challenging years they are pre-teens and teenagers. St. Francis and St. Agnes are working together to offer this program, joining other Archdiocesan and public schools whose parent have found this program to be very helpful. One set of classes will be in March on Tuesday nights and another will be in April on Monday nights. There is a charge to participate in this program, but there is also sponsorship to help those who might not be able to do it because of the cost. A flyer and registration information about the Operation Parent classes has been posted. This is all about parents helping parents for the sake of all of our children!

## PTO MEETING

The next PTO Meeting will be on Monday evening, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM in the gym. We are privileged to have Barbara Day as our speaker that evening. Barbara is the publisher and nutrition editor of Kentuckiana Healthy Woman and the past publisher of Kentuckiana HealthFitness magazine. She is a former sports nutrition consultant to the University of Louisville Athletic Department and the United States Navy SEALs. She is the author of **Fast Facts on Fast Food For Fast People** and **High Energy Eating Sports Nutrition Workbook for Active People**. Her weekly health & fitness radio show, Health News You Can Use, on WKJK 1080 AM has been heard locally for 13 years. **Please mark this date on your calendars!**



## CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Anne Walter, our Parish Peace and Justice Coordinator, who was selected as this year's Top Hat Award winner in the Archdiocese of Louisville. Each year one individual is selected to receive this highest honor in each Archdiocese's St. Vincent de Paul Conference. The "Top Hat Award-is given to someone who has, over the years, been an unassuming person and who has worked among the material and spiritual poor in the manner and demeanor of the SVDP founder, Frederic Ozanam." Anne does a wonderful job of supporting many of our school stewardship programs! We are proud to have this opportunity to recognize her efforts.

## END OF TRIMESTER 2

The second trimester ends this Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. Report cards will be sent home with the BEE on Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. Please remember that all tuition, After School Care, bus, and lunchroom accounts must be current by noon on March 9<sup>th</sup> in order for report cards to be sent home.



## RE ENROLLMENT

We remind you also that the re-enrollment form, along with the \$200 deposit toward next year's tuition, is due no later than March 1<sup>st</sup>. After that time we will begin to accept new students for Grades 1-8.

## TESTING

Next week our 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will be taking the ACRE test of basic Catholic knowledge. During the weeks of March 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> students in Grades 3, 5, and 7 will be taking the Terra Nova Tests. Both of these standardized tests are required by the Archdiocese and provide a good opportunity for us to analyze student achievement in basic areas. Terra Nova results are provided to parents with the final report card of the year. Parents are asked to make sure that their children have plenty of sleep on the nights preceding these testing days and that they **always** come to school having eaten a good breakfast!

## MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

Our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will present a musical performance for their parents this Thursday evening at 7:00 PM in the gym. **The doors will not open until 6:45 PM.** Students have been instructed to dress according to the Handbook guidelines for a Casual Dress Day.



## MAKE UP DAYS

As of February 23<sup>rd</sup> we have now missed 3 1/2 days of school due to snow.

- We already had built one snow day into the schedule – that takes care of one.
- We will plan to make up the half-day on Good Friday which falls on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Dismissal will be at noon and this will also mark the beginning of Spring Break.
- The remaining two days will be added on to the end of the school year. That means that at this point our final day will be Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. We know this is not ideal, but it is what it is!
- The date of 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation will not be adjusted.



## ST. BALDRICKS DAY

Once again this year St. Agnes will have its own St. Baldrick's event. At the Fish Fry on March 12 a team of barbers will be on hand to shave heads. What will make this year's event very special is that the evening will be dedicated to our own Riley Pfeiffer who continues to be at home while he undergoes treatment for leukemia. There are two ways to be part of the event: either have your head shaved or sponsor someone who will be having his/her head shaved. Eighth grade students John Kurtz and Joey Gardner, along with their Capstone mentor Suzanne Feller, are chairing this event. Let's really show our St. Agnes Spirit in supporting Riley through our whole-hearted participation in this event! For more information contact the website: [www.StBaldricks.org](http://www.StBaldricks.org)

## CARNIVAL T-SHIRT

The annual students contest to design this year's St. Agnes Carnival T-Shirt is now under way and open to any student in Grades 5-8. Guidelines have been posted in the classrooms, and design entries are due by Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup>.



## GROUP GUITAR LESSONS

From past surveys we are aware that some St. Agnes parents would be interested in the opportunity for instrumental music lessons for their children as part of our enrichment program. There have been attempts in recent years to have a band program, but there was not sufficient interest to do this well! Mrs. Cross, however, has been investigating an opportunity for group guitar lessons that she feels would be of interest to some of our students and a complement to our school music program

### Learn to Play Guitar!

### After School Beginner Group Lessons at St. Agnes No experience necessary!

There are a number of different popular styles of guitar: rock, country, alternative acoustic, jazz. Yet, the necessary basic skills are very much the same for these styles: knowledge of chords, rhythm, and melody. In this group class we'll learn to play chords, rhythm patterns, read and play melodies on the guitar, basic finger picking. It's a fun and easy way to be introduced to playing guitar while opening a door to further learning. Classes are open to students in the 5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Maximum enrollment is 8 students.

**Mondays, March 15 - April 26th (6 sessions)**

**Times: 3:05 P.M. - 3:50 P.M.**

**Location: Meeting Room C**

**Tuition: \$90**

**Instructor: Brian Barnes** (Brian Barnes is a professional musician who has taught private and group lessons for more than 20 years, and has performed for more than 30 years.)

**Contact: 502-407-1660**

[info@brianbarnesmusic.com](mailto:info@brianbarnesmusic.com)

*\*Student must have own guitar, either acoustic or electric\**

If interested, contact Mr. Barnes by phone or email no later than March 5.

## TALENT SHOW

The annual Student Council Talent Show will be held on Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup>. Auditions will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday March 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> after school. However, the Audition Forms (open to students in Grades 4 - 8) are due on Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>.



## ENGINEERING

Please be aware of the following opportunity for Middle School Students, especially those who might be interested in exploring a career or opportunities in engineering. The Speed School of Engineering opens its doors for the annual Engineering Exposition to spark interests and feed the flames of students looking at engineering as a future career. The day is on Saturday, March 6<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM and includes:

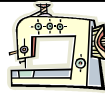
- The keynote address made by Joe Adams, president of the Discovery Science Center in California (and former Disney Imagineer!!)

- Hands-on activities such as motor building, marshmallow launchers, and wind power

- Student competitions such as the bridge building contest, robot competitions, and contests pertaining to each of the engineering disciplines

- Lab tours to explore the Speed School's cutting edge campus

Further information about events and registration is available at <http://www.engineering-expo.com>.



## SEWING FOR SERVICE

Parishioner Mary Ann Sheets is willing to work on Wednesday afternoons from 3:00 – 4:30 with any 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> grade students interested in being part of some sewing service projects. Mary Ann is happy to help the students learn to sew in order to participate. The first project will be making prayer blankets to be distributed to parishioners who are suffering from serious illness. Mary Ann is anxious to have some student helpers for this project. Please call her at 458-1785 if you are a Middle School Student who would like to help!

## YOUTH MINISTRY

On the Edline home page you will find information for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students' families about the upcoming evening at Walnut Street Baptist Church's Activities Center. This is always a fun evening for our students. As always, Mary Furmanek depends on parent help in order to make this evening possible. Please contact her if you are available to help with part of that evening.



## NEW KDG. PACKET

Included in this week's BEE is an individualized hard copy packet for families who will have a new Kindergarten student next year.



## SIX FLAGS READING PROGRAM

Unfortunately the Six Flags Reading Program seems to be part of a bigger Louisville loss. Ms. Johnstone has no knowledge of any alternate reward. In this case, reading will have to be its own reward.



## A REMINDER

As we explained at the beginning of the school year, our buses are full. It is not possible to add students who are not regular riders, even for a single day. We must be equitable in our policies and cannot make exceptions to this rule.

### Attachments and Enclosures

- Lent 4.5 Handout—Week 1 Food
- Operation Parent (Edline homepage)
- Lunch Charges (as applicable)
- Packet for New Kindergartners (as applicable)
- 7th-8th Grade Social (Edline homepage)