



OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Good morning Jesus, my best friend, I want to thank you once again for morning things that come my way to start me on another day. Thank you for the morning breeze that wakes me with gentle ease. Thank you for friends to share my fun. Thank you for teachers to help me learn. I offer this bright new morning to you, please help me to serve you in all I do. I know I'll be safe in my work and my play, with you at my side throughout this day. Amen

As you can see we have a VERY busy month ahead of us! This is the first of three months where we have major holidays. As each of these fun events approach you will be receiving information from your classes. Please let us know if you have any questions. It's going to be a great month!

Calendar Reminders for October:

10/9/09 – Diocesan In-service for the Teachers – NO SCHOOL

The entire staff will be attending the 2009 Diocese School In-service on Oct. 9th at Xavier. Teachers and staff will be attending Mass with the Bishop, meetings, and taking courses towards their Ministry Certification or renewal of their certification. We look forward to a day of prayer with all staff members from preschool thru High School within the Diocese of Phoenix Catholic Schools.

10/12/09 – NO SCHOOL

10/14/09 – Donuts with Dad from 8:15am – 8:45am (MW 3's, PreK)



10/15/09 – Donuts with Dad from 8:15am – 8:45am (TTH 3's, PreK, K)

Dad's come with your child before school to share donuts, see the classroom, and participate in some special time with your child. Regular class will start at 9am, and Dad's can leave at that time.

10/16/09 – Parent Board Meeting at 9am

10/24/09 – "Night of Hope" Diocese School Fundraiser

10/28/09 – Saint's Day Parade – During Class (MW 3's & PreK), 9:10 AM in courtyard. See below for more information.

10/29/09 – Saint's Day Parade – During Class (TTH 3's, PreK, K), 9:10 AM in courtyard. See below for more information.

For the Saint's Day Parades, the students in the 3's and PreK classes will be making their costumes at school, their theme is "Things that God Has Made". In Kindergarten, each student provides their own costume and will dress up as their favorite saint. If you would like to come in and help with the making of the costumes, please see your teachers as to what you can do to help. We have found that making the costumes helps us keep the theme focused on the celebration of All Saint's Day. During the Parade days, the students will parade around the courtyard of the church and receive small trinkets from some of our church staff members and parents. If you would like to join us and watch the parade, please join our church staff members at approximately 9:10am in the courtyard. You can bring about 50 treats to hand out to the students, small trinkets such as rings, stickers, etc or any individually packaged sugar free items would be great. Make sure to bring your cameras! It's a great parade! Once done with the parade (20min) the students will go back to class. **All students will be wearing their school uniform under their costume.**

Kindergarten students are asked to dress up as their favorite "Saint" if you need ideas please check the school library or the internet for pictures and information. Simple costumes are best, especially home-made (Example: pillow case (cut hole in it & wear like a dress, blue fabric over head with a ring of flowers and a baby doll for Mary) The school does have some items you may borrow, please ask Mrs. Lacea.



10/30/09 – Family Pumpkin Carving Night in the Social Hall

Pumpkin carving night in the social hall at 5:30pm-7:30pm. More information will be coming soon. Pizza Dinner will start at 5:30pm. This is a family event to have a fun night with our school community we will be having food, carving pumpkins (**bring your pumpkin and your own tools**), games, prizes, family pictures taken with your cool pumpkins, etc. Event is located in the Parish Social Hall. Pre-registration is required for this event in order to have enough food & drinks. Registration forms will be in your parent boxes soon

10/23/09—Our Teachers and Heather have an in-service at noon at Saint Maria Goretti School with OLPH and Pope John XXIII school Kindergarten, First Grade teachers and administration. We meet with them 2 times a year to go over curriculum.

11/6-8/09—Church Women’s Club Mouse Boutique will be in the social hall.

11/25/09—Noon Release

11/26-27/09—NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break

NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOMS!

Kindergarten Class - The children are responding remarkably well to the lessons included in the Treasures curriculum. I am so pleased with their progress in Language Arts and Math. We are working so hard on number writing and problem solving. The children love their weekly homework! What an awesome group of children!

The kindergarten students have been working on their science program using their curriculum from Houghton Mifflin Science Discovery Works taught by Mrs. Goodman and Mrs Lacea. They are looking forward to learning about spiders, bugs, and insects this month.

PreK Class –

The children are settling into their daily routines nicely. They are doing a wonderful job using self-control during circle time. The children will continue to work in teams during their work time. In October, we will be doing lots of fun things around the theme of Halloween -making their own costumes for our All Saints Parade – carving pumpkins – making bats, to name a few. We will be working with the virtue of caring and learning about caring for all of the wonderful things God made.

Science--in September &October our 4’s/PreK class science program will be “Ms. Maureen’s Science Machine.” The students will be introduced to our hand-made robot that will appear every time we have science on Fridays. They had so much fun with their lesson on how things grow, and planting in the prayer garden.

3’s Class -

We are finishing up our Welcome to School theme and will be transitioning into Our Five Senses theme while continuing to build and strengthen the children’s alphabet recognition and fine motor skills. Additionally, we have been working on finding our “calm spot.” God has given each of us one and it is up to us to find it when we are upset, frustrated, or both. If they are having a difficult time in school, I have asked them to pretend to blow out birthday candles until they have let their calm spot grow large enough to remove the “yucky” feelings. This allows the children to calm down and use their words to communicate what is wrong. As always, feel free to stop by if you have any questions.

All Classes –

Blessed Sacrament Students Help Donate One Million Books to Children in Need

Our school is joining Super Bowl MVPs Peyton and Eli Manning and Scholastic Book Clubs to help donate one million books to disadvantaged children.

This fall our students have pledged to read 100 books as part of **Scholastic Book Club’s**

ClassroomsCare program. The philanthropy-based literacy campaign is designed to teach children about the joys and importance of reading and giving.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Please check your child's folder in the parent boxes daily outside at the sign in/out table. If you need to leave a note for the teacher or staff place it in the school office (each staff member has a box on the wall).

Book orders for Scholastic:
2. Order forms will be in the student folders in the parent boxes every month. There is no requirement to purchase books. The school wanted to offer this opportunity to enhance your child's reading and build up our school library with the free books we receive with your orders. Please make checks out to scholastic and turn order into the school office
3. Reminder for all parents and students to **please be very careful in the parking lot areas**, please drive slow and watch out for children both before school and after.
4. Please check the parent information board inside the school office along with the outside bulletin board for any new information. The calendar on the outside board will help remind you of school events and is updated as needed. Teachers have mini board's outside that explains what they did in class that day. Please read it and use it as a tool to talk with your child.
5. Assessments—Teachers in all classrooms have been assessing students and developing their student portfolios. We look forward to sharing this continued information with you at our parent/teacher conferences in December. Each student will be receiving a progress report for each semester demonstrating his/her assessed academics, fine motor skills, behavior, and social skills. Our report system is very detailed so you will know exactly where your child is performing.
6. It's that time of year for colds, etc. please check the sick notice on the parent board for updated information. Reminder to please call the school office when your child will be absent and let us know the reason for the absence. By state law we need to document all absences. This also helps other families during the upcoming cold & flu season, to post all illnesses.

Great Free Programs to Support Our School

7. Recycling program: Our school recycles paper, cans, etc. in the large bin located on the back parking area of the church. We receive \$ for each ton of recycled material. You can drop them off any time.
8. Ink Cartridge collection program: Our school collects all computer and copier ink cartridges along with old cell phones. We send them in for \$ for our school. You can drop them off at the school or church any time in the bins provided.
9. Box Tops For Education: You received a folder with information about this great program. You can turn in your box tops anytime in the container at the school. Our first deposit of box tops is due in November so get them in as soon as you can. We get \$.10 for each box top, so they can add up fast.
10. My coke rewards for schools: This program has you check your coke products for a reward code; you then go online and put your reward points under our school name. It's that easy. At the end of the year we can redeem the points for PE equipment for our school.
11. Fresh and Easy on Scottsdale and Shea: You can place your receipts in the box with our school name on it and the school gets \$1 for each \$20 purchase. Our box will be available in a few weeks.

PARENT BOARD NEWS (Minutes from the meetings are always available in the school office.)

Congratulations to the following new Parent Board Members and Room Parents! Please keep them in your prayers for their guidance to help our school and our children.

Chair- Melissa Kapanicas

Vice Chair – Kristin McDaniel

Secretary/Treasurer – Jessica Muller

Facility/Needs of the School – Elizabeth Hayward

Library – “we need you” let Heather know if you are interested we need 2+people
Hospitality/Social – Kim Matura
Pastoral Council Representative – Jeanne Northrup
Outreach— Lisa Swank
Silent Auction— Kelly Stehly (chair) Julie Quigley and Maureen Carlson (co-chairs)
Parent Room Coordinator—Carla Worthington
Fundraising – Melissa Glennon
New Family Guardian Angel’s— Candace Terris

Room Parents

M/W 3’s---Ryan Bodinet & _____
T/TH 3’s –Suzie Jazwin & Kristin Butler
PreK MWF—Kristin McDaniel & Heather Johnson
PreK TTHF—Kimberly Matura & Jessica Muller
K—Carla Worthington & Julie Quigley

The next Parent Board Meeting is on October 16 @ 9:15 am! See You There!!!!

Parent Board COMMITTEE NEWS

Reminder to please sign up for a committee. We need more help in all areas. If you are interested please ask a parent board member or Heather for information.

LIBRARY-Book Donations thank you to the families who ordered Sept. Scholastic books thanks to you our school received 8 new scholastic books for our library. The students will start the library program here at school during the month of October. A letter will be sent home to describe our program.

PARENT ROOM COORDINATOR- Our room parents are getting ready for the classroom All Saints Day parties. Look for more information from your room parent. Depending on the class students will be looking forward to the parade, treats, pizza, games and prizes.

SILENT AUCTION-Mark you calendar’s for May 7th. If you are interested in helping with this event, please contact Kelly Stehly.

Upcoming November Parent Board Sponsored Events

Outreach



Coming soon from the outreach committee: In November we will be collecting for our first school outreach program St. Vincent De Paul. We will be collecting food items to be donated for thanksgiving to the poor of our area. More information will be coming in October. If you would like to help with this event please let Lisa Swank or Heather know

FUNDRAISING-Honey baked ham-Our school will receive 10% from all the Ham, Turkey, and Gift Certificates, etc. that people order from us for Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. All you do is fill out our order form and write a check to Honey Baked Ham, they will deliver all the products to our church hall; refrigerator and you come and pick them up. No long lines at Honey Baked Ham and you help out the school! So let your friends, offices, and family know and place your order soon for family get-together’s, office parties, holiday parties, and New years. Order forms will be available soon.

This year the Church is celebrating the Year of the Priest. Please remember to keep all of our priests in your prayers throughout this year.

Heavenly Father, during this Year of Priests,

Bless our diocese with the grace of many vocations to the priesthood from our parishes.

Through the intercession of our Blessed Mother, grant to those You have called, the courage to follow your will. Grant Also to those serving as priests, the grace to serve with the faithfulness of Christ. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.