

November, 2008
St. Catherine of Siena Newsletter

As the month of November begins, we are filled with gratitude to God for our life, talents, opportunities and the countless other gifts He has bestowed on us. Dear Lord, on this Thanksgiving Day we praise you with grateful hearts for all you do for us and especially for the greatest gift of all, Jesus Christ, Your Son, who is our loving Savior and a friend to everyone.

Many thanks to each family for your gift of time and the talents that you share with us throughout the year. All that you do helps to keep St. Catherine of Siena School so successful.

DATES FOR NOVEMBER

- November 4 - **NO SCHOOL – PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY**
6 - Butter Braid Fundraiser Pickup in School – 2:00-3:00 P.M.
7 - First Friday Mass 9:00 A.M. Brunch (Juice & Donut - \$1.00)
- Fall Social in the Church Hall 6:00-7:30 P.M. Grades 4, 5, & 6
- First Quarter Ends
8 - Reconciliation Workshop for Grade 3 students 9:00-11:30 A.M.
11 - **VETERANS’ DAY PROGRAM**
17 - **SCHOOL PICTURES**
Eighth Grade Graduation Pictures
Pre-K 4 Individual & Group Picture taken during class time.
Please dress up for your pictures.
Grades K-7 Individual Pictures Dress Up
18 - **SCHOOL PICTURES**
Grade K – Dress Up for your Class Picture
Grades 1-8 Class Pictures - Complete School Uniform
Pre-K 3 – Individual & Group Pictures taken during regular class
time. Please dress up for these pictures.
ALL ACTIVITY PICTURES - Bring only your basketball jersey or
cheerleading uniform to school for the sports pictures. All other
groups will wear their school uniform for the activity pictures.
21 - Christmas Greenery Pickup at school
24 - **EARLY DISMISSAL** - Parent Teacher Conferences
For Grades K to 8 12:45 – 3:30 P.M. 6:00 – 8:00 P.M.
PRE-K will have regular classes from 9:00-11:30 A.M.
25 - Kindergarten Friendship Breakfast Church Hall
26 - **EARLY DISMISSAL – 11:50 A.M. - Thanksgiving**
27-28 - **NO SCHOOL - THANKSGIVING**

Christmas Trees for the Ronald McDonald House will be displayed
In the school corridor beginning Wednesday, November 12 to
Wednesday, November 19.

EVENTS

We are most appreciative to those parents who coordinated our Trunk or Treat Halloween event for our students. Especially we want to thank Mrs. Diane Morrisey for coordinating this great event. Many thanks to all the families that cleverly decorated and transformed their cars and to all who baked or contributed candy. It was a fun afternoon for everyone who attended. Look for pictures in next year's power point school presentation.

We have had a very successful Genevieve wrapping paper fundraiser and many families paid off a substantial amount of their assessment. A special thank you to Mrs. Tracy Ferreira for organizing and distributing the many boxes of wrapping paper.

We are most grateful to Mrs. Mahar and Mrs. Hurley for organizing the Butterbraid and Yankee Candle fundraisers. Both fundraisers were very successful.

The Giove's Pizza under the direction of Mrs. Mocchiola has been so successful that it has been extended to December 12, 2008. Vouchers are good until December 31, 2009.

The Backpack and Luggage Tags have ended and we are grateful to Mrs. Rivera for all she did to make this fundraiser successful.

Thank you to Mrs. Spillane and Mrs. Zito for the Big Y and Stop & Shop Vouchers.

The Script Program is progressing nicely under the direction of Mrs. Kingsbury. This is an on-going fundraiser.

Oronoque Pie Vouchers will be available until December 12, 2008 and have no expiration date. Thank you to Mrs. Krasznai for organizing this program.

The Walk-A-Thon was a great success. Thank you to the committee and all who participated in this event. More details to follow.

Thanks to everyone who helps with the Hot Lunch Program.

THANK YOU

Thank you for your generous contributions to the School Sisters of Notre Dame Octoberfest. Everything you donated or baked helped to make Octoberfest a success. You will be remembered in the prayers of the Sisters at Villa Notre Dame in Wilton. Thank you for your support.

If you are planning to register another child in our school this September, please notify the office to get an application. I know that some of you have already completed this application form. Please let us know as soon as possible before we begin to accept other students. Thank you.

NEWS FROM THE NURSE

Adrienne Prandi, R.N.

The American Cancer Society's annual celebration of quitting smoking and leading smoke-free lives is set for Thursday, November 20. The Great American Smoke Out is a great opportunity to encourage people to make their homes and vehicles smoke free. Encourage our family and friends to quit smoking. Your support in helping someone kick the habit just may save a life.

Congratulations to LOUIS SILVESTRO who was selected as a member of the Greater Bridgeport Youth Orchestra in August, 2008.

A recent Illustrating Connecticut Art Competition was held. Congratulations to our students NINA PANULLO, MICHELLE DESANTIS and JAKE BEDDOE who were invited to the awards ceremony and opening reception which will be held on Friday, November 7, 2008 at the Black Rock Art Center, 2838 Fairfield Avenue in Bridgeport from 5:00-7:00 P.M.

Doctor Joseph Mortati recently held a Spelling Bee titled "Spell for the Cure" to heighten cancer awareness. The following students participated in the event:

GRADE 3

**HEIDI STOOK
BRIDGET FATSE
JACOB KRASZNAI
JESSICA BRYAN**

GRADE 4

**EOIN MATTHEWS
RYAN DONEGAN
JOSIE SCULLY
ALYSSA ZITO
ABIGAIL WOLPIUK
BRIDGET MURPHY**

GRADE 5

**ALANA MURPHY
OWEN BONAVENTURA
CECELIA DEBROFF**

EOIN MATTHEWS took First Place and RYAN DONEGAN took Second Place in the fourth grade. Congratulations to all.

OLIVIA KELLY'S design was selected as the winner for the Jingle Bell Run T-shirt contest sponsored by the Nichols Improvement Association. Grades K through 12 were able to enter, and Olivia Kelly will be awarded \$100 for her winning design. The 5K scenic race through historic Nichols will be run on December 6th. All participants will receive a long-sleeved Commemorative T-shirt featuring Olivia's design on the front!

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

St. Catherine of Siena parish is starting Eucharistic Adoration from 10:00 A.M. to

7:00 P.M. on First Fridays beginning November 7. Eucharistic Adoration is a personal conversation with Christ present in the Blessed Sacrament. It is as close to talking with God face-to-face, as we can come in this life! Volunteers are needed to spend one hour a month with Christ. Pray for your own needs and join in our prayer campaign for vocations. Contact Marianne Stook at 380-1408; marianne.stook@sbcglobal.net if you are interested in volunteering.