

# OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

October, 2008

During the month of October we honor Mary, Queen of the Holy Rosary. Let us try to increase our devotion to the Blessed Mother by saying the rosary as often as we can. The Mother of God stands at the center of the Church's devotional life both as a teacher and object of devotion. Mary is our intercessor before God and as such is ever ready to listen to our petitions. The Parish Rosary Makers have made each student a pair of rosary beads that will be used especially during this month and hopefully will carry over into their daily lives.

## **DATES FOR OCTOBER**

- October**
- 3 - First Friday Mass 9:00 A.M. Brunch (Juice & Donut)
  - 10 - Butter Braid Fundraiser begins.
  - 11 - School Sisters of Notre Dame **OCTOBERFEST**
  - 13 - **COLUMBUS DAY – NO SCHOOL**
  - 14 - **TEACHERS' INSTITUTE – NO SCHOOL**
  - 19 - Halloween Trunk or Treat 5:00-6:30 P.M. in the church parking lot.  
Pre-K 3 to Grade 8
  - 24 - Yankee Candle Fund Raiser ends October 24, 2008. 40% of the funds raised is applied to your assessment.
  - 26 - **SUNDAY FAMILY FUN DAY** – (Walk-a-thon) 1:30 – 4:30 P.M. on the Parish Grounds. A bulletin has been sent home about this.
  - 31 - Student Council is sponsoring a "Costume Day" and/or a "Black and Orange Day" for grades 1 to 8. There will be a donation of \$2 which will be used to purchase 11 trees and 11 sets of lights for the "Trees of Hope" for the Ronald McDonald House.

**NEWS FROM THE NURSE:** 377-7041

Adrienne Prandi, R.N.

I've started vision and hearing screenings with Grades K-6 and Grade 8. Grade 7 is not screened. I will send home a letter if your child fails either test, requesting that you make an appointment with your doctor for follow up. Please send this form back to me after the doctor visit.

I again remind you to call in your student's absence and send in a "return to school" note the **FIRST DAY THEY COME BACK TO SCHOOL**

## **PLEASE NOTE:**

Since everyone wears the same kind of sweatshirt, sweater, and fleece pullover, it is imperative that you print your family name in indelible ink on the tag in the back of the sweatshirt, sweater, and on the inside of the emblem of the fleece pullover.

When sending in notes about your child, please enclose the note in an envelope. Very small notes are easily lost in transmittal. Thanks for your cooperation.

Students should come to GYM CLASS properly dressed for the weather. Now that it is autumn, it is chilly early in the morning so students need sweatshirts and pants especially for the early morning classes.

TO PARENTS: When you enter school you will find a book on the table. When you write on the top sheet, please make sure the piece of cardboard is under the second sheet. The top name card is your visitor's pass to be in school, and the carbon copy remains in the book. Thank you for following this procedure for the safety of our children.

You should be receiving a revised list of fundraisers for the year. Thank you to everyone who made suggestions and to those who volunteered to help. Every little bit helps and is really appreciated by all of us. Please make one correction: **CROSS OFF** the flower bulb fundraiser. Thank you.

### **BOX TOPS**

We are collecting Tyson Project A+ labels as well as the General Mills Box Tops for Education. Please try to bring in Tyson labels and General Mills Box Tops for your child's class. Each box top should have a child's name written on the back of the Box Top. Each month if the class has collected at least 100 box tops, a box top is picked out for a reward.

### **ORONOQUE PIE FUNDRAISER**

Once again instead of fresh pies, you can purchase vouchers towards one pie (any type). Vouchers are \$12 each. \$4.00 goes toward your assessment. Two sites are available to purchase pies: Route 110 in the White Hills Section of Shelton and a store in Stratford center (across from the train station). Vouchers will be available through the end of 2008 but can be used at any time. There is no expiration date. Any questions please call Michele Krasznai at 218-1957. Cash or checks should be made payable to St. Catherine of Siena School. An information sheet has been sent home to all families.

### **INTERNET SAFETY**

We are sending home a Parent Permission Form regarding Internet Safety and Computer Equipment form with the youngest and only child, that needs to be signed annually and kept on file in the school office. Please sign and return as soon as possible. New families in Grades 1-8 will receive a copy of the policy and permission form. Please sign and return the form not the policy. If anyone else in school would like to see another copy of the policy, please request one from Mrs. Franko.

### **PHOTO RELEASE**

Please read the Permission and Release form and return it with your youngest or only child in school. Please be sure you list all the needed information on the form before returning it.

## **NUN-BETTER OCTOBERFEST**

Everyone is invited to the Nun-Better Octoberfest sponsored by the School Sisters of Notre Dame. The fair will feature Christmas and other holiday crafts, homemade baked goods and preserves, and a general store. There will also be food and refreshments, fun for youngsters and prizes. It will be held on Saturday, October 11 from 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. at Villa Notre Dame, 345 Belden Hill Road, Wilton. All proceeds go to the SSND Development Fund to support retired sisters and all SSND ministries.

The sisters would be most grateful if you could share any of your homemade goodies to help this worthwhile cause. We can use cakes, pies, cookies, brownies, muffins, breads, jams, jellies, and homemade candies. If possible, do not cut the brownies. If you bake cookies and have a cookie tin that you could put them in, it would help us in bringing them to Wilton. Mark the bottom of the tin with your name and it will be returned to you. Please clearly label everything you send in to us. We are grateful for anything you can send in – no baked good is too small. Everything helps us.

**NOTE: ALL BAKED GOODS FOR OCTOBERFEST SHOULD BE DELIVERED TO SCHOOL DURING THE DAY ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2008.**

## **PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN – Virtus Training**

Any parent or family member who wants to be involved in school or classroom activities must take this course and complete a background check. The Diocese requires that everyone take this program but you only need to attend once. The program is held in parishes around the Diocese. All registrations must be made through the Diocese. You can register on line by going to the Diocese of Bridgeport Web Site, find Office for Safe Environment and locate Protecting God's Children Program. They will list all programs scheduled. Complete the application on line. You can also call the Safe Environments Office at the Catholic Center to get more information. Once you get your card, please make a copy and send it in to the school office.

## **SUNSHINE CLUB NEWS**

St. Catherine of Siena Sunshine Club is designed to put a smile on someone's face that needs a little sunshine in his or her life. The club is for students in grades 4, 5, and 6. Once a month we will send a note card to people in the parish and the community that cannot get out of their house due to illness or other problems. The children design the cards themselves, color, and address them too. The club comes together a few times a month after school to work on the cards. It makes us feel good to spread sunshine to others and make them feel special too. The club will meet every other Monday from 2:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M. unless a change is announced. Our first meeting is on Monday, October 6<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 to 3:00 P.M. in the grade 5 classroom.

### **WALKING/FITNESS CLUB**

Walking/Fitness Club for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will start on Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. We will meet every other Wednesday from 2:30 to 3:30 P.M. Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Prandi will lead the group on walks through the Nichols area. We'll have fun getting fit while we increase our mileage each week leading up to a "Big Walk" in May.

### **DROP-IN DRAMA CLUB**

Drop-in Drama for sixth through eighth grades will start out meeting every other week on Mondays or Wednesdays from 2:30-3:30 P.M. A sign-up list for specific dates will be placed on the white board at the end of the school hallway. Students may attend any or all of the dates, but will not be constrained by a commitment to attend all meetings. However, students who wish to work together to perfect a piece to be presented to other grades will have the opportunity to do so. Drop-in drama will concentrate on monologues, improvisations, and skits. There will be a separate sign-up for the annual Christmas pageant to be presented in the church right before the holiday.

### **NEEDLEPOINT CLUB**

If you want to learn some basic needlepoint stitches and create some cute gifts, join the Needlepoint Club. It is open to any fourth, fifth, or sixth grader. We will meet on every other Tuesday beginning in November from 2:30-3:30 P.M. in the fourth grade classroom. Mrs. Oleski and Miss Franko will welcome previous members and new members also.

### **ART IN THE AFTERNOON CLUB**

Come be creative on the fourth Wednesday of the month from 2:30 to 3:30 P.M. All 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students invited. Come explore some new methods and mediums like printmaking, painting, and clay. Let out the artist in you. Meet in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade classroom with Mrs. Cavanaugh.

**STUDENT COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE FROM 2:00-2:45 P.M.** on the following Fridays:

October 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>  
November 13<sup>th</sup>  
December 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>  
January 15<sup>th</sup>  
March 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>  
April 6<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>  
May 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>

