

Notre Dame Catholic School



Website: www.ndischool.org

October 2009

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THE MONTH OF PEACE

This month we celebrate the feasts of St. Theresa and St. Francis of Assisi, both saints noted for simplicity and peace. Let us pray to them that we, as a nation and a world, may truly understand what it means to be instruments of peace to our brothers and sisters.

October is also the month of the rosary. On Saturday, October 11th, St. Theresa Church and St. Frances Cabrini Church will be joining with other parishes around the nation for a public Rosary Rally. We are all invited to join in praying the rosary on the front grounds of St. Theresa at 11:30 or at St. Frances at noon. Bring your lawn chairs, bottled water, and your rosary to join with the rest of our nation in praying the rosary



BLESSING OF ANIMALS

Sunday, October 4th is the feast of St. Francis. On Monday, October 5th, we will have the blessing of our pets on the school grounds at 2:30. Parents may come earlier with their pets and we will have the children outside so Father can bless all of our special family members.



ITBS TESTING

Testing for grades 3 to 8 begins Monday, October 5th. Please have your children here on time and ready to test all week. It is important that they have a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast, but they do not need any additional studying to pass the testing. There is no such thing as pass or fail. It is simply a test to see if they are learning.

The ITBS is not used as an instrument to decide whether to retain a child, or to evaluate the effectiveness of an entire instructional group. Rather it is used as one of many tools to evaluate growth and performance.

POWERSCHOOL



The first marking period will end on October 15th. We will not be issuing report cards because you are able to view your son's/daughter's grade on PowerSchool.

If you haven't activated the program yet, please do so because after the 15th you will be viewing the 2nd marking period.

GUEST SPEAKER FOR 8TH GRADERS

A representative from Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School will be here to speak to the 8th graders on Thursday, October 22nd, at 2:15. Parents are invited to attend and learn more about the high school. Join your son/daughter to hear what our local Catholic High School has to offer.

VOLUNTEERS

All volunteers must have safe environment training before they can be at school with the children in any capacity. It has now become mandatory that any adult who is in a role of "care, responsibility or supervision of children" must have a Level 2 Screening. The cost of this screening is \$50. Therefore, any parents who intend to accompany a field trip group, work one on one with a student in the school, or volunteer in any supervisory role, must have a Level 2 screening. All this is mandated to provide for the protection of our children.

Please check our web site to find the links that will give you more information regarding the safe environment training and the fingerprinting.

TEACHER HONORED

On Saturday, September 19, 2009, the Knights of Columbus awarded Karen Grover, our first grade teacher, as the teacher of the year.

She is well deserving of this award, as her resume indicates:

Experience: Elementary Teacher for 4 years in Long Island
Elementary Teacher in Pasco County Public Schools for 2 years

Teacher at Notre Dame for 18 years

Education: BA in Elementary Education from Ladycliff College, Highland Falls, NY

MS in Elementary Education from C.W. Post College, Long Island University

Certification: New York Certification in Elementary Education EC-6

Florida Certification in Elementary Education and Primary Grades

Diocese of St. Petersburg Advanced Catechist Certification

At the present time, Mrs. Grover is also actively serving as a co-chair of the leadership committee working on Notre Dame's re-accreditation.

We are very fortunate to have Mrs. Grover as a member of our Notre Dame family.

FYI FOR PARENTS

Please check the Parent/Student Handbook regarding absences and tardiness. School begins promptly at 8:00. If the student is not in the school building by the time the 8:00 bell rings he/she is required to sign in at the front office and is marked tardy.

When a student is absent, a parent is required to call the school office before 9:00. **Upon returning to school, the student is required to present a written excuse stating the date, reason for absence, and the signature of the parent.**

Failure to bring a written excuse will necessitate a phone call to you to come to school with a note before your son/daughter is admitted to class.

STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Congratulations to our new Student Council Officers for the school year 2009-10. President: Katie , St. Theresa; Vice President: Christie , St. Frances Cabrini; Secretary: Angie ; St. Theresa; Treasurer: Ashley ; St. Frances Cabrini; Commissioner for Religious Affairs: Jessica ; St. Theresa; Commissioner for Safety and Ecology; Zachary , St. Theresa; Commissioner for Public Relations: Jasmine , St Frances Cabrini.



YEARBOOK NEWS

It is that time again. We have begun to put this year's memories together, along with a few from last year.

We were very excited and pleased with our book last year. We will continue with the amount of pages and have the book in full color. We will still need your help in obtaining pictures. We have already had one special event , the Grandparent Breakfast. We would appreciate any pictures taken on that day.

This year's sales will be the same as last year. Early purchases, October 1st – December 18th, will be \$18 a book. Purchases from December 18 – March 5, will be \$20 a book. Any book purchased after March 5 will be \$22. All other particulars will be spelled out on the order forms. Please don't wait until the last minute. Our goal is to pay for the book and have no out of pocket expense.



PICTURE RETAKE DAY

Retake day for students and graduates will not be set until all the graduates pictures have been viewed by parents. These proofs are not in yet. Any other students wishing to get retakes done must return the first set of pictures.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

ENJOY YOUR SPECIAL DAY

- 10/2 Ashley
- 10/6 Kayla
- Shelby
- Daniel
- 10/9 Julianna
- 10/12 Kaylie
- 10/13 Christopher
- 10/21 Gregory
- 10/22 Tiffany
- 10/26 Jeffrey
- 10/27 Sydney
- 10/28 Craig
- 10/30 Dominick
- 10/31 Maude
- Joseph

