

October 8, 2010

Dear Families:

Autumn is a beautiful time of year! The glory of God's creation is everywhere. It's nice to spend time outside picking apples, playing football, and decorating pumpkins.

### **Christmas Fair**

A smaller version of our annual Christmas Fair will be held on **Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup>** in the church hall. We could use some donations for the fair. On **Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>**, we will have Toy/Gift Day. We would appreciate donations of new toys and gift items. Please remember that Basket Week begins **Monday, November 1<sup>st</sup>**. Each classroom has a theme. These beautiful baskets will be raffled at the fair.

### **Christmas Concert**

Our Christmas Concert will be held in Blessed Sacrament Church on **Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00PM for preschool, kindergarten and grades 3, 5, and 8. Grades 1,2, 4, 6, and 7 will perform at 7:00PM on **Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**. Families with children in both shows will receive tickets for both shows at no additional cost. More information will be coming.

### **Home and School Association**

The Home and School Association mostly meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30PM in the prayer room. Many events are being planned. It was great to have so many new members join us last Tuesday.

### **Prayer**

Our theme for October is "Sowing Seeds of Faith". The pumpkin is our symbol. October is the month of the Holy Rosary. It would be so nice if you could pray the rosary with your children. A rosary group will meet in the rectory chapel every Thursday at 5:00PM. Please consider attending when you can.

### **Academics**

Progress reports will be given today during the Parent/Teacher Conferences. It is hard to believe that we are in the middle of the first trimester. Report cards will be distributed on **Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>**. If you were unable to see your child's teacher today, please be sure to make other arrangements. It is very important to show interest in your child's academic progress.

### **Terra Nova Testing**

The Terra Nova testing is **October 12<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>** for students in grades 3-8. Please make sure that the children get to bed early and are on time for school.

### **October Highlights**

During October we observe Fire Prevention Month. Fire safety will be discussed, and we hope to have some firemen visit our school. Our students will be made aware of the dangers associated with drug and alcohol abuse. The teachers are planning several activities for Red Ribbon Week.

I hope you are planning to attend the Monster Bash sponsored by the PTO on **Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup>**. It will be an evening of costumes, dancing, games, and refreshments. The deadline for tickets is **October 13<sup>th</sup>**.

### **Lunch and Breakfast Program**

If you think your child might qualify for a free or reduced lunch, please return a completed lunch application. Additional applications are available in the office. The breakfast program is also available. Breakfast is served to bus riders and daycare children when they arrive. Breakfast is available at 8AM in the cafeteria for any other children. There is no charge for the breakfast.

Also, children who want breakfast need to enter by the back door at 8AM and report to the cafeteria immediately. Children who arrive by bus or attend morning daycare must enter by the front door and report to the kindergarten room immediately. The children are not allowed to go to their lockers or classrooms to retrieve homework materials. Homework should be complete upon arriving at school.

### **Safety**

I'd like to thank the parents who returned the Safe School Environment forms and the disclaimer forms. Parents who want to volunteer in the school and/or attend field trips need to complete these forms. Please remember that the disclaimer form must be signed by a Notary Public and be accompanied by a copy of a photo I.D. The disclaimer process must be repeated every three years.

In addition to fire drills, the school must conduct evacuation, lockdown, and shelter in place drills. The evacuation drills will be **March 29<sup>th</sup>** and **May 3<sup>rd</sup>**. The shelter drills will be **January 4<sup>th</sup>** and **February 1<sup>st</sup>**. The lockdown drills will be **December 7<sup>th</sup>** and **March 15<sup>th</sup>**.

### **Service**

Our middle school students will hold a walk-a-thon on **Thursday, October 21<sup>st</sup>**. Instead of collecting money, they will collect food for the needy. The food will be donated to the R.I. Food Bank. We hope to collect a lot of food!! Please send the food to your child's classroom.

Marygrace LaRocque in grade 3 has donated several inches of her hair to Locks of Love. What a wonderful thing to do!

### **Congratulations**

I am happy to announce the October Students of the Month. Students who are selected display outstanding Christian values, are respectful towards adults and other students, work to

their potential, and are always willing to help. The October Students of the Month are: Daniel Larios-K, Selena Stevquoath-Gr. 1, Pella Edwardsen-Gr. 2, Arendy Torres-Gr. 3, Christian Archilla-Gr. 4, Jessica Gaviria-Gr. 5, Amanda Garcia-Gr. 6, Andi Kiriacos-Gr. 7, Ashlie Alarcon-Gr. 8.1, and Oriana Rose-Gr. 8.2.

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### **Odds and Ends**

I'd like to thank our wonderful parishioners for responding to the Wish List that I posted in the church bulletin throughout the summer. Through their generosity we were able to purchase room dividers, playground balls, a rug, classroom dictionaries, some science equipment, and some leveled readers.

Nigel Richards in grade 6 played Fagan in the Swamp Meadow Summer Children's Theatre's production of Oliver. Great job, Nigel.

If anyone is interested in an adult ESL group, please let me know.

The winners for the first two weeks of the Ten Week Club were Joshua Barrett and Dorothy Masoian.

Thank you and may God bless you for all the good that you do.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Spencer

### **Looking Ahead:**

**Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> – No School – Columbus Day**

**Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> – No School – Veterans' Day**

**Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Fair**

**Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> – No School- Thanksgiving Recess**