

St. Augustine School

Faith + Family + Future

Principal's Newsletter January 2010

The Saint for the month is Mother Theresa Maxis Duchemin.
The Value for the month is Patience.

In the Year of the Priest, we honor this month, Pope John XXIII.
The value for the month is Openness/Change.

****IMPORTANT TO ALL PARENTS****

Beginning this month we are “paperless”. All mail and fliers from school, HSA and SASAL will be done by email. All fliers are posted on our school website. Please take the time now to go online and see what is there.

If you need to update the school with your email, please do so.

From the desk of the Principal ...

I hope all had a Blessed and Merry Christmas. I prayed that your vacation would be relaxing and enjoyable. May the Lord bless you and your families with peace, love, and joy in 2010. Let's work together towards an exciting and successful second half of the school year.

May St. Augustine and St. Monica, his mother, intercede for all in the St. Augustine School Family that we continue to meet the mission of our school, “to transmit Christian values, ethics, and beliefs within a nurturing atmosphere of academic excellence and to provide the climate necessary for our students to make their own personal commitment to Christ.” We are a school of “Faith + Family + Future”. I am honored to be your Principal.

God bless you and Happy New Year.

I would like to take this opportunity to again thank all our wonderful teachers and Mr. Azarow for all their hard work and effort in preparing for the Christmas Pageant. It was an amazing evening! All the children, who participated, are to be commended for their performance. The performance was an excellent way for our school family to prepare for the birth of Our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Thank you, Mrs. Fitzpatrick, Miss Connie, and Mrs. Costello, for the fantastic Pre-K presentation of their "Living Nativity Play". Our "little ones" found their own unique way to honor the birth of the Baby Jesus. What a beautiful Advent gift to give to the Baby.

Thank you, Mrs. Tice for the superb Christmas Concert. Our Band members were great. It was a wonderful evening!

Website - Please view our website - www.saintaugustineparishschool.com for all information - upcoming events. School closings will be posted here as well. Thank you, Rocco Fiore for your continued assistance with the site.

Catholic Schools Week - This year's theme is "Catholic Schools Dividends For Life". We will begin our celebration of Catholic Schools Week at the 12:00 Noon Mass on Sunday, January 31st, followed by Our International Day in the school auditorium, 1-5 P.M. I hope everyone will attend our Annual Open House on Wednesday, February 3rd, from 9:30-11:30 A.M. Be on the lookout for the schedule of Catholic Schools Week events we have planned. It will be sent home shortly. There will be an Information Night on Wednesday, February 3rd, for perspective parents. Please pass the information along.

Report Cards - Grades K-8 will receive their Report Cards on Monday, February 8th.

Asbestos Inspection - The Asbestos Inspection occurred on Thursday, November 19, 2009. I am happy to announce that we passed the inspection.

Registration for the 2010-2011 School Year -

Registration for new students in Grades K-8 will be held on:

February 9th - 9:30-11:30 am & 1:15-2:15 pm.

February 10th - 9:30-11:30 am & 1:15-2:15 pm.

Children who reach 5 years old by December 1, 2010 are eligible for Kindergarten. Please call the school office to find out what certificates and records are needed to apply for registration.

Pre-Kindergarten - Registration dates for our Pre-K are: Wednesday, February 10th, 9:30-11:30 am and Thursday, February 11th, 9:30-11:30 am.

We offer a 3 Year Old Program, 4 Year Old Program, and an all day program. The After Care School Program is available for full day Pre-K students who might need it.

If you are interested or have any questions, do not hesitate to call the school.

Let your neighbors and friends know about our Pre-K!

Class News:

1st Grade:

On January 6th, Mrs. Fran Newman McCarthy of the Hudson Valley Developmental Disabilities Services Office visited the class and presented her program "Making Friends." Using dolls, the children learned about the special challenges faced by the blind, the deaf, and those unable to walk. Most importantly they learned that the disabled still can be good friends! It was a wonderful learning experience for all!

5th Grade:

On November 19th, grade 5, Mrs. Guarino and Mrs. Gilhooley visited the Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art (HVCCA) located in Peekskill, NY. This center opened in 2004 and houses some 200 artist studios. The museum's emphasis is to engage the community, especially the children through the language of art and the imaginative process. The exhibit seen by the students was "Double Dutch" which organized the exposition with work from 16 young Dutch artists, in honor of the 400th year anniversary of Dutch settlements along the Hudson River. The students participated in a scavenger hunt and made crafts. They received a T-Shirt and a miniature pair of red wooden shoes.

DARE graduation will occur on Thursday, January 28th.

Student Council Activities: During the month of December the Student Council held a Christmas Raffle. Christopher Fraser, in grade 1, won the Nativity Set, donated by the Home School Association. The Christmas Baskets, donated by Student Council members, were won by Joanna Todd in grade 7 and Shannon Kelly in grade 4. Congratulations to our winners!

Box Tops - Our Student Council is collecting General Mills Box Tops. If you purchase and use General Mills products, please clip the Box Tops For Education and send them into school. The Student Council will receive 10 cents for each box top they redeem from General Mills. Thank you.

Campbell Soup Labels for Education - Save your Campbell soup labels and other Campbell product labels. Just look for the emblem that states Campbell Soup Labels for Education. Thank you for your support!

Coupons - Sister Diane would greatly appreciate receiving all the manufacturer's coupons that you do not use. It would be helpful if they were not cut out. Thank you.

Catholic Schools Week Prayer

Bless us, Jesus, as we celebrate Catholic Schools Week. May it be a time of Thanksgiving for the opportunity to study and practice our faith every day of the week. Bless our students, our staff, and all who make it their life's work to give witness to You and Your Gospel. Jesus our Savior, with Your help we want to change the world for the better. Help us to share with others the spirit of Your peace as we make a difference. Thank you for our faith, Jesus. Thank you for our school.

Amen