
THE WILDCAT WIRE

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St. Ignatius School

November 20, 2009

Email articles to: WildcatWire@saintschool.org

School website: www.sainti.org

REILLY REPORT

As you know, last week I spent time away from school. For two days I was serving on the executive committee of the National Catholic Education Association. Along with 9 other principals from across the country, we advise the Director of the NCEA. It was exhilarating to become part of a group that can discern the pulse of Catholic Education across the country.



It didn't take long to realize how blessed we are in Ohio, Cincinnati, and especially at St. Ignatius. There are states out there with fewer Catholic Schools than we have just on our side of Vine Street in Cincinnati! From the sound of it, average tuition in grade schools must be over \$5000. I spent the next two and a half days in workshops.

My biggest surprise in most of the workshops was how the information seemed dated to me and ground breaking to others. I left with the impression that we are way ahead of the game on many levels. Thanks to your support of the magazine drive and a good number of unsolicited donations, as well as solid generous support from the parish and unmatched (though shrinking) support from the state, we have been able to offer our staff continuous professional development. We receive great cooperation from area universities, especially Xavier, as well as local education agencies. And, of course, we have a faculty and staff always ready to improve and learn more.

One area we can look to improve is development. It seems like most of the schools represented at the sessions have a well-established development program that provides financial stability to the school. As our state funding becomes less secure, and costs continue to rise, it makes sense to me that we ramp up our efforts into development possibilities. If you have a talent or interest in this area, please let me know.

As you read in a letter from Fr. Pete recently, as a result of direction from the Archbishops, our admissions policy will be different for next school year. The key change for parents of current students has to do with the parish subsidy. As you know, tuition for one is \$2430 this year; you may not know the parish subsidy is \$2920! To qualify for the parish subsidy (and for any additional assistance through PSAS) for the '10-'11 school year, families need to establish "continuous record of participation in the liturgical life of the parish". The only way we can think of to document the participation is through the use of church envelopes. Please hold onto the fact that it really isn't about the money. No one is trying to force a donation. In fact, an empty envelope will work to establish attendance at mass. Of course, we all have to embrace the fact that we have a budget to meet. Since the letter was sent, we have experienced an increase in the number of envelopes in the weekend collection. As soon as the new policy has final approval, we will publish it. With the policy, we will publish a FAQ. If you have questions now, please share them to help us construct a meaningful sheet.

Our all school Thanksgiving Mass is next Tuesday, November 24th. Students are invited to bring a toy for those less fortunate. New toys are sent to the Sisters of the Good Shepherd who minister to families in McCreary County, Kentucky. The gently used toys are donated to St. Leo's Parish on Baltimore Avenue, here in Cincinnati. Volunteers at St. Leo's hold a flea market to raise funds to meet other needs of the families in that community.

Conferences will continue on Monday evening, November 23rd. Please remember to arrive early. If you did not get the opportunity to meet during conference times and would like to meet, please feel free to call the teacher and schedule a time.

The Catholic High School Entrance exam is tomorrow, November 21st. Keep the eighth graders

in your prayers. They are well prepared, but any three-hour test is a challenge!

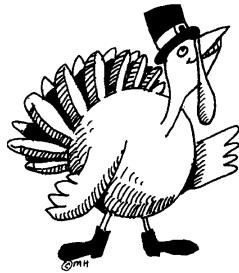
The annual 4th grade Christmas Pageant will be Friday, December 4th. You can see the performance at 2:00 P.M. and 6:30 P.M. in church.

Good Luck to the St. Ignatius Boys 7th/8th grade team! Coach Vitucci, Olson, & Partin's team includes: Noah O., Danny V., Michael V., Gian S., Ben W., Jared B., Benjamin K., Alex D., Greg P., Ben K., Logan N., Daniel R., Michael B., Jacob F., Ian P., Jaihoon N., Kevin U., Simon W., and Shawn B.. They have made it into the State "Sweet 16" and play their next match Saturday at Milford at Finley Ray Park. The game is at 10:30 on Field SK5. Here is a link for directions: <http://www.ohiosay.org/direction.php>

The PTO is organizing some secret Christmas event. They distributed a letter and an envelope to the students this week. We were told to have questions directed to Rita Wood.

There will be no Wire next week.

We all wish you a Happy Thanksgiving and count each of you and your children among our blessings.



LUNCH MENU

For the week of November 23rd
(fruit and milk are served daily)

Monday Hamburger or cheeseburger with fries
Tuesday Pepperoni Pizza with carrots and dip
Wednesday No School
Thursday No School
Friday No School

For the week of November 30th
(fruit and milk are served daily)

Monday Chicken nuggets with green beans
Tuesday Sausage, french toast and hash browns
Wednesday Meatball hoagy with potato rounds
Thursday Burritos with corn
Friday 3 ways with crackers

FLYER FRIDAY

Partners in Faith
Family Advent Calendar
Coke Rewards
Pace Order Form
Christmas Cookies
Teacher Gifts

UPCOMING LITURGIES

Nov. 24	All School Mass, Gr 7 (Toys)	9:15am
Dec. 1	Mrs. Burgan, Room 309	9:15am
Dec. 3	Miss Scarlato, Room 209	9:15am
Dec. 8	Immaculate Conception Miss Burrill, Rm 213	9:15am
Dec. 8	Immaculate Conception Mr. Meyer, Rm 316	2:00pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 23	Scoliosis rechecks
Nov. 23	Parent-Teacher Conferences
Nov. 25-27	Thanksgiving Break
Nov. 30	McAuley/LaSalle Vocal Ensemble, Gr 6-8
Nov. 30	Market Day pickup, 6pm-7pm
Dec. 2	7 th Gr. Writing Sample
Dec. 4	4 th Gr. Christmas Pageant 2 & 6:30pm
Dec. 7	Middle of 2 nd Quarter
Dec. 10	Confessions – Grades 3 & 4
Dec. 11	Spelling Bee



In recent years, we've made keyboarding a part of our curriculum in various ways in several grade levels. This year, in order to improve our efforts, keyboarding has found a home in third grade. The third grade teachers are incorporating Internet resources into their lessons to teach proper techniques to improve speed and accuracy. Keyboarding is a valuable life-long skill to acquire. We thought we'd share a few of the better websites so students in all grades can hone their skills at their own pace. Practice makes perfect!

<http://www.freetypinggame.net/free-typing-lesson.asp>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing/>
<http://www.powertyping.com/qwerty/lessonsq.html>

SCHOOL NEWS

WILDCATS ON THE MOVE

Congratulations to Allison B., Anna C., Ella D., Karen F., Claire H., Zoe K., Josie L., Madeline L., Macy R., William S., Abigail S., Hollee S., Julia W., and Verona S. for reaching the 10 Mile Club. We also offer a special congratulations to Madelyn R. for reaching the 50 Mile Club and Nicholas E. for reaching the 100 Mile Club. Way to go!

GIRLS ON THE RUN

Good luck to: Liz A., Katie M., Brianne H., Hannah P., Katie B., Christine S., Kaitlin B., Vanessa P., Abby O., Lauren H., Kylie J., Hannah S., and Emma Grace G. who will be running in their first 5K race on Saturday. If you would like to come to watch and cheer for the girls, the race begins at 10:00am and will be held at Sawyer Point. Parking is free. We hope to see you there!

SPEECH CONTEST

If you are in the sixth, seventh, or eighth grade and have a desire to perform, this is your chance to shine. Sign ups for the Speech Contest will begin on November 30th. All forms are due by December 18th. The contest will take place on April 24, 2010 at St. Ignatius.

MAKING MEMORIES

As a reminder, please send copies of pictures from parties and school functions you would like to see in your child's class scrapbook. Please send pictures in an envelope marked "Scrapbook Volunteer" with your child's grade and teacher. Their homeroom teacher will know to whom to send the pictures.

KINDERGARTEN VOLUNTEER

We are looking for Kindergarten parents to volunteer to be that grade's scrapbook volunteer(s). Basically, the class picture from each class is decoratively mounted in the album, along with any other school photos collected. The album can be as simple or as fancy as you like and this is done at your convenience. Please contact Judy Belanger for more information.

8th GRADE PARENTS

We need photos from all past grades to make the 8th grade scrapbook in time for graduation. Please include the grade and the event where the picture was taken. Please send these pictures to Margaret Rieger.

MCAULEY/LASALLE VOCAL ENSEMBLE

The McAuley/LaSalle Vocal Ensemble will be performing in the cafeteria for the sixth, seventh and eighth grade on Monday November 30th.

PARISH NEWS

Servers willing to volunteer for Christmas masses should call the parish office to sign up.

CHRISTMAS MASS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Parent volunteers are needed to help coordinate these Christmas masses with the children. If you would like to help with one of these masses, or if you would like more information please call the Parish office (661-6565).

Christmas Eve - 3pm in Church

Coordinate readings, petitions and gifts

Christmas Eve - 5pm

Coordinate readings, petitions and gifts

Christmas Day - Noon

(1st & 2nd grade children's re-enactment of the birth of Jesus)

Coordinate readings, petitions and gifts

Practice with Fr. Wall (Dec 18th 3:30-4:30pm) to help guide the children in the re-enactment.



ENRICHMENT NEWS

SHARING OUR CHRISTMAS

A young man named Thomas Rebold lost his life to leukemia. His request was that a foundation be set up for young people, especially through the performing arts. Today his Foundation helps students throughout the West Side.

Auctions by Maggie would like to invite all the children to come to "Sharing our Christmas" held at the Auction Block at the corner of North Bend and Harrison for a secret gift shop (children only) to purchase gifts for their families. Items are priced \$0.25 to \$5.00 and will be open from 10:00am until 8:00pm December 4th and 5th. All proceeds will benefit the Thomas Rebold Foundation.

Please bring your children to this wonderful Fourth Annual West Side tradition. There will be refreshments for everyone and Santa & his Elves will be stopping by as well for pictures.

UNIFORM SALE

Campus Outfitters will be holding our "Biggest Sale of the Season" November 17th-January 16th. All in-stock merchandise is 35% off. Purchase your uniforms by visiting your local Campus Outfitters retailere at 35 Tri-County Parkway. Store hours are: Tuesday 10am-7pm

