
THE WILDCAT WIRE

Volume 15 Issue 13

St. Ignatius School

December 4, 2009

Email articles to: WildcatWire@saintschool.org

School website: www.sainti.org

IMPORTANT TIME CHANGE:

You are invited to explore the true meaning of Christmas as taught by the fourth graders. The annual Christmas Pageant tonight is at **7:30 P.M.** in church. This is a change in time!!!!

REILLY REPORT

After 15 weeks of planning, the Health Department will hold a H1N1 Vaccine Clinic here at St. Ignatius on Wednesday, December 9th during the school day. The vaccine will also be administered after our dismissal at LaSalle and Visitation until 6:30pm. Letters were sent home with the children this week confirming the permissions and "reservations" that parents submitted about 5 weeks ago. If you have not received your letter, please check your child's backpack. If you had registered for the vaccine after school hours, you have received that paper from your child this week. This letter must go with you to LaSalle or Visitation. At this time, no more changes, except cancellations, may be made!

It is hard to believe the first week of Advent is almost complete. It is uplifting to hear from the students the various traditions St. Ignatius families follow. One of my favorites is "preparing a bed" for Jesus. Each family member places a straw in the middle of the Advent wreath and names a good deed they performed that day. One variation is having the family members name a good deed they saw someone else complete. The culmination of the tradition is placing a statue of Infant Jesus on the bed of straw/good deeds on Christmas Eve.



Student Council agreed to sponsor a "mix it up day" in the cafeteria on each Wednesday in Advent. The goal is to challenge students to get out of their comfort zones and interact with a variety of classmates. The Student Council leaders had students in grades 5-8 sit at a table according to birth month for the first day. Conversation starters

and reflection questions were placed on each table to help the "mixing." As I listened in, my favorite part was hearing students get beyond "favorite color" and list ways they see Christ living through their classmates. That might be a new Advent tradition to try in your home!

Speaking of traditions, we invite students to wear their Musketeer gear next Friday (December 11th) in anticipation of the Cross Town Shoot. Okay, Okay, Okay... the official word is: students may be out of uniform if they wear UC or XU gear!!!

Everybody Counts! volunteer sign-up sheets were sent home this week. (See article below with details.) Don't miss this opportunity to make a difference!

The 7th grade just completed the Writing Sample this week. The students did quite well again. If you have any questions about the score or the process, please contact your child's language arts teacher or the office. The whole west side owes Mrs. Brickner, Mrs. Altenau, and their volunteers a big thank you for organizing the scoring here. Thanks!

We would like to congratulate Madalyn H., Derek S., Brian K., David G., Kyle R. and Sarah M.. They will be competing for St. Ignatius in the 2010 Bible Bowl which will be held at St. Ignatius on January 14th. Good Luck!

For your review, we have reprinted our Snow Delay and Closing procedure:

If a **snowfall** during the night causes cancellation of classes, listen to the radio or TV Stations. Since the majority of our students live in the Northwest School District, we will follow the decisions of Northwest Schools and ALL of our students need to watch for Northwest delays or closing. It is a problem if Cincinnati Public or Oak Hills is delayed and Northwest is not. In this case, school is officially open and in session on time, and students living in Cincinnati and/or Oak Hills need to either get a ride to school or realize their bus will arrive well after school has started. These students will be posted as tardy, excused (90 min), or 1/2 day

excused absence. We understand the difficulty and realize that you will do what you can. Fortunately, this situation is extremely rare.

A.M. Kindergarten is cancelled when we have a two-hour delay.

The **extended care** (morning & after-school) programs will be cancelled if school is closed. For delays, students who use the morning care program may arrive at the usual 7:15 A.M. time. The cost will remain the same (\$3.25). In case of a delay that is changed to a cancellation, you are asked to provide the name and phone number of someone who will be able to come and pick-up your child by 11A.M.

LUNCH MENU

(fruit and milk are served daily)

Monday Cheese filled breadstick with salad
Tuesday Cheese Pizza with carrots & dip
Wednesday Chili Soup, crackers with carrots & dip
Thursday Cheese coney with fries
Friday Popcorn chicken and corn

UPCOMING LITURGIES

Dec. 8	Immaculate Conception	9:15am
	Miss Burrill, Rm 213	
Dec. 8	Immaculate Conception	2:00pm
	Mr. Meyer, Rm 316	
Dec. 15	Mr. Foley, Room 306	9:15am
Dec. 17	Mrs. Decker, Room 108	9:15am

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 4	4 th Gr. Christmas Pageant 2 & 7:30pm
Dec. 7	Middle of 2 nd Quarter
Dec. 10	Confessions – Grades 3 & 4
Dec. 11	Spelling Bee
Dec. 15	Confessions – Grades 5 & 7
Dec. 15	Christmas Concert, 7pm
Dec. 16	School House Symphony Gr 5 & 6
Dec. 17	Confessions – Grades 6 & 8
Dec. 18	Spirit Day – Jesuit/Col Fathers
Dec. 18	Kindergarten Grandparent Christmas Concert
Dec. 18	Christmas Assembly
Dec 21-Jan 1	Christmas Break
Jan. 4	School Resumes

SCHOOL NEWS

WILDCATS ON THE MOVE

Congratulations to Kevin B., Emily D., Marissa F. and Tyler W. for reaching the 10 Mile Club. We also offer a special congratulations to Nicole M. and Riley M. for reaching the 50 Mile Club and Christina H. and Katie W. for reaching the 100 Mile Club. Way to go and keep moving!

DAD'S WEEK IN THE CAFETERIA

It's sign-up time for our annual Dad's Week in the cafeteria. This year Dad's Week begins on Monday, Dec. 14th and ends on Friday, Dec. 18th. We would need your help from 11am until 1:30pm. The dads help us with all of our lunchtime duties and enjoy seeing their children at the same time. Just give us a call at 389-3242 extension 5 to sign up for the day you would like to help. We look forward to seeing you then!

JUST A REMINDER

Monday will be the last day to contribute to the Teacher's Gift project. Make checks payable to St. Ignatius PTO. Be sure to put your child's name and grade on the envelope and return it to the office. Teachers will be given gift certificates to their favorite stores with a plate of cookies before Christmas break, compliments of the students. If you have any questions, please contact Rita Wood.

SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADE NEWS

Seventh and eighth grade students will have the opportunity to try out for the "It's Academic" teams on Wednesday, December 9th during their study halls. The "It's Academic" competition is a tournament for 7th & 8th grade students from area schools and will be held at LaSalle High School on March 2nd and March 4th after school hours. The competition covers all areas of the curriculum as well as current events. The preliminary try-out will be a written test, followed by a buzzer round to determine the seventh and eighth grade teams. We hope all students will consider this opportunity to test their knowledge!

EVERYBODY COUNTS! VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Did you know that St. Ignatius has a long tradition of supporting children with disabilities? Our school received the prestigious Inclusion Award in the past - proof of this admirable philosophy. It is in this spirit that we offer the Everybody Counts! Program. Come be a part of it!

The Everybody Counts! Program will be held the week of March 1, 2010 for grades K through 8. Please participate! We need 4 to 6 adults per class! No experience necessary. Materials are provided. It requires only a few hours of your time and has many, many benefits. The schedule and signup sheets were sent home earlier this week. Please return them Fri., Dec. 11. If you have any questions, just call one of the coordinators: Cathy Allaben, Doug Nienaber, Sandy Auberger, or Jodi Louder. Thanks!

FLYING PIG KIDS MARATHON

Kindergarten is trading in its Frog Legs for Pig Wings! We'd like to invite everyone to join us and be a part of the Flying Pig Kids Marathon.

We would like to invite students, ages 5 – 12, to participate in the Kids Marathon Final Mile. The event will be Saturday, May 1, 2010 as part of the Flying Pig Marathon Weekend of events.

Participating students will walk, run or wheelchair the 25.2 mile distance in increments during the months leading up to it. Participants cross the actual Flying Pig Marathon finish line as part of the Flying Pig Marathon Kids' One Mile.

It is a \$10 registration fee, and all participants get a t-shirt and medal at the finish line. You can register online, download your Hog Log, and find answers to frequently asked questions at flyingpigmarathon.com. (Parents who would like to accompany their child must also register.)

Older students can participate in other events, including the 5K or 10K. More information is online for these events.

Watch for suggestions for your Hog Log in the cafeteria. Let's make exercise and healthy eating a lifelong habit of all St. Ignatius students!

SIMPLIFY YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

Make your Christmas shopping easy this year by purchasing all the gift cards you need from the St. Ignatius PACE Committee. We offer gift cards in a variety of denominations from numerous retailers,

both local and national. NEW THIS YEAR ... We have PREPAID VISA CARDS in denominations of \$25, \$50 and \$100 -- perfect for anyone on your list! St. Ignatius receives rebates from the sale of these gift cards and uses the proceeds for the benefit of our Catholic education programs. For more information or to place an order, please contact Leslie Odioso, Sue Newland, or Carol Lecher.

PACE CARDS AVAILABLE AFTER MASSES

Members of the PACE Committee will have a selection of popular gift cards available for immediate purchase after the 8:30, 10:15 and Noon Masses on Sundays, beginning December 6th and continuing through December 20th. Come see what we have to offer!

ATTENTION KROGER SHOPPERS!

Don't forget that St. Ignatius receives 4% of any purchases you make with your Kroger Community Rewards cards! Please remember to reload your cards when you shop for groceries and gas. Also, if you plan to take advantage of Kroger's gift card promotions this holiday season, please consider using your Kroger Community Rewards card to pay for any gift cards you buy. Don't have a Kroger card? You can get one from the Parish Office, or fby contacting Leslie Odioso, Sue Newland, or Carol Lecher to get one!

NOTES FROM THE PTO

The St. Ignatius PTO continues to provide enrichment opportunities for students and support for the faculty, staff and administration at St. Ignatius School.

In October, this year's group of 78 Homeroom Parents organized Halloween parties that our students thoroughly enjoyed. This month, those same parents are busy planning Christmas parties. It takes a lot of creativity to come up with the crafts, games and other ideas that make these parties so much fun, and our school is lucky to have so many people willing to fill this role. Thanks to all of you!

In November, the PTO sponsored a very entertaining carnival-themed Family Fun Night. Thanks to everyone who attended this event, and especially to Kelly Barkman and Deanna Bowden, who did a wonderful job coordinating it. Look for the next Family Fun Night to be held in March.

Kelly Reupert has organized the very popular bowling league for St. Ignatius students. Competition began in November and will continue through March at Heid's Lanes. Bowlers also receive some coaching and instruction in bowling etiquette. Thanks for volunteering your time again this year, Kelly!

Lorry Witzgall has taken on the role of coordinating Campbell's Labels. Last month, she sent in about 61,000 labels that St. Ignatius redeemed for calculators. We now have enough labels to order the "land skis" for Olympic Day. Thanks to all who have sent in Campbell's Labels, and to Lorry for undertaking this project! Please continue to send any labels you can find to the school office so that we can add to our wish list.

The Teacher Christmas Gift project is under way this month. It is an excellent way to recognize all those who interact with your child at school, including teachers, aides, specialists and administrators. Thanks to Rita Wood for organizing the project again this year.

This is always the busiest time of year for the St. Ignatius PACE Committee. "PACE" is an acronym that stands for Program for the Advancement of Catholic Education. True to its name, this program generates funds that support the Catholic education programs here at St. Ignatius through the sale of gift cards. The Committee -- Sue Newland, Leslie Odioso, Carol Lecher, Kathy Weeks and Jennifer Stuttler -- will dedicate much of their time this holiday season to this important fundraiser. Thanks for your efforts, ladies!

For more information on how you can get involved in the St. Ignatius PTO, please contact Jen Langen or Jennifer Klosterman, or come to the next PTO meeting on January 11th at 7 p.m. in the school library. We hope to see you there!

PARISH NEWS

SERVERS NEEDED

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

LADIES SOCIETY CHRISTMAS PARTY

Make plans **NOW** to attend the Ladies Society Christmas Dinner!! Get your friends, family and neighbors together for this fun night!

WHEN: Friday, December 11, 6:30 pm

WHERE: St. Ignatius Community Center

COST: \$18/person or \$150 for a table of 15
(if reserved by Dec 7)

WHY: Why not? You deserve a night out and a chance to win one of over 70 door prizes. Not to mention having a dinner that you didn't have to prepare and being waited upon by some handsome fellas! Price includes drinks, including the famous bourbon slushies, appetizers, a catered dinner and desserts.

To book your reservations, drop off a list of attendees along with payment by check (made out to St. Ignatius Ladies Society) to either the parish office or Julie Dwyer.

ENRICHMENT NEWS

INTRO TO DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS

Cost \$65.00 – 1/7,14,21 & 28 (Thurs) 7-9pm

Adult students (age 16 and over) must provide their own digital cameras and bring instruction book to class. Students will learn the camera controls, the basics of digital capture, all features on the mode dial, as well as learning to crop and view pictures on the computer. To register, send payment to Bill Magness at St. Ignatius, Digital Photo Class. If you have any questions, please contact Bill Magness at billmagness@gmail.com.

GREEN TOWNSHIP FAMILY WINTERFEST

You are invited to stir up the magic and wonder of Christmas past and celebrate the 200th birthday of Green Township. The Family Winterfest will be held on Friday, December 4th from 6-9pm at the Nathanael Greene Lodge, 6394 Wesselman Rd. For more information please contact Jennifer at 574-4848.