
THE WILDCAT WIRE

Volume 15 Issue 1

St. Ignatius School

August 7, 2009

Email articles to: WildcatWire@saintschool.org

School website: www.sainti.org

REILLY REPORT

Greetings from School! We hope you are enjoying a relaxing and healthy summer. We are very busy getting ready for an exciting school year and can't wait to have the building full of eager students.

First Day of School is Tuesday, September 1st. As usual morning care is available from 7:15-8:15. Cafeteria is supervised 8:15-8:45 and homerooms open at 8:45. Instruction begins at 9:00AM. Opening liturgy will be at 2:00 PM. School will dismiss at 3:25. We will follow a regular schedule for grades 1-8 on the first day. Kindergarten parents: please refer to the "Welcome Letter" you should have received in June for your individual first week schedule.

Parents (only) of all new students, as well as parents of all kindergarteners, are asked to attend a "St. Ignatius 101" meeting in the gym at 7:00 PM on Thursday, August 13th. This is an important informational meeting that will make your St. Ignatius school experience successful. Parents of students in kindergarten are invited to meet with the kindergarten teachers at 6PM in the classroom

Kindergarten students should already have a **screening appointment** scheduled for Monday, August 24th or Tuesday, August 25th. You may contact Mrs. Seifert, our school nurse with any questions at 389-3242, ext. 4.

Ice Cream Social for Kindergarten, First Grade, and new families will be held at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, August 26th. More info is in the School News section of this wire.

The **widening of North Bend Road** has been delayed. It sounds like they may move utilities soon but we should not have to deal with road construction during the opening of school.

Arrival and dismissal by car procedures have changed. You may have noticed the completion of the sidewalk the entire length of the school. Car riders will be dropped off and picked up along the

sidewalk and not in front of church or Hilvert Center. In the AM, please pull up as close as you can to the Kitchen ramp door and let your children exit the car on the passenger side only. If you are walking your child into school, please park your car in a marked space and cross them in the crosswalk between the parish office and the cafeteria entrance.

Afternoon car rider pickup will be the biggest change from past years. Please park your car in any marked spot, and walk to the sidewalk along school to pick up your children. **ALL STUDENTS WHO ARE CAR RIDERS WILL WAIT FOR PARENTS ON THE SIDEWALK BY SCHOOL.** If you have little ones in your car, feel free to have your school age children ask us to walk them to your car or you may wait until the traffic has cleared and pull up to the sidewalk and we will help them in. As far as we know, **bus transportation** through your local public school has not announced any changes.

PowerSchool software is being updated to a new version. It is likely you will not have access to PowerSchool until shortly before school begins. Look for log in and password information in your 1st day packet. These should be the same as last year.

The **State of Ohio budget** hit parents of children in nonpublic schools very hard. For the second time in six months, the Administration in Columbus has handed down cuts to students in nonpublic school while not making the same cuts to students in public schools. This breaks a practice of parity in Ohio that dates all the way back to the early 1970s. The current estimates are \$148,322.97 fewer tax dollars being invested in your children here at St. Ignatius. We are in the process of sorting out our options. Preserving state personnel serving students will be our top priority and books, materials and supplies will be at the bottom. You will hear more about this as the damage becomes clearer.

Later in the Wire you will see a detail listing of our **Emergency Parent Communication Protocol**.

Please review the procedures now so you are familiar with them.

**Our email addresses:

The Wildcat Wire: WildcatWire@saintschool.org

See below for info regarding the Wire

Office: office@saintschool.org

Principal: principal@saintschool.org

Staff/Teachers:

FirstInitialLastName@saintschool.org



Please join us in welcoming three new teachers to our staff!

Miss Heather Koch will be teaching sixth and eighth grade math classes. She graduated from Xavier University and is a St. Ignace alum!

Mrs. Anne Burgan will assume the religion position in sixth and seventh grades. She graduated from Northern Kentucky University and earned her Masters degree from Xavier University.

Miss Shelley Stephens will teach our new Spanish program to grades six, seven, and eight. She is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati and received her Masters degree from Northern Kentucky University. She looks forward to the excitement and challenge of introducing Spanish to our curriculum.

VOLUNTEER CORNER

Please check your calendars and call the contact person if you can help. Thanks so much.

Volunteers are needed to greet children on the first day of school, Tuesday, September 1st. Directions and maps will be provided to help you find the classrooms. If interested, please call Kathy Smith.

Volunteers are needed to help scoop and serve ice cream at the ice cream social on August 26th at 7 PM. Please call Kelly Reupert.

LUNCH MENU

(fruit and milk are served daily)

- Monday NO SCHOOL
- Tuesday Chicken patty and corn
- Wednes. Cheese coney with potato rounds
- Thursday Ravioli, green beans, and buttered bread
- Friday Hamburger or cheeseburger with fries

UPCOMING EVENTS

- August 10 PTO Jump Start meeting, 7pm, Cafeteria
- August 13 Kindergarten & New Parent meeting (Parents Only), 7:00 pm, Gym
- Aug. 21-23 Parish Festival
- Aug. 24/25 Kindergarten Screening
- Aug. 25-27 Teacher meetings and In-service
- August 26 Ice Cream Social for Kindergarten, 1st grade, and new families, 7pm, Cafeteria
- August 31 NO SCHOOL
- Sept. 1 FIRST DAY of School
- Sept. 7 NO SCHOOL, Labor Day holiday
- Sept. 8 Teacher Introductions, Gr.1-8, 7pm, Gym
- Sept. 10 School Picture Day
- Sept 11 Magazine Drive kick-off
- Sept. 11 Parish Picnic at Stricker's Grove, 5 PM

UPCOMING LITURGIES

- | | | |
|----------|---------------------------|------|
| Sept. 1 | Opening Day Mass, Grade 1 | 2:00 |
| Sept. 8 | Mrs. Nieman, Room 216 | 9:15 |
| Sept. 10 | Mrs. Meyer, Room 303 | 9:15 |

SCHOOL NEWS

The **Ice Cream Social** will be held on Wednesday, August 26th at 7:00 PM. This is the official welcome party for students and families in kindergarten, first grade and all new students. Kindergarten and first



grade teachers will be in their classrooms to meet you and to help make the transition to St. Ignace smooth. We will serve ice cream in the kitchen serving line (to get new students used to the process of buying lunch and ease any fears they may have!) In the cafeteria you will also have a chance to meet representatives from various parish organizations including scouts, athletics, PTO, and School Committee. This is a good time to get the "scoop" on the many facets of life at St. Ignace and explore the building. Please plan on joining us!

STUDENT BADGES

We are going to start off the school year with last year's student name badges as part of the dress code. New students will be receiving a free badge. Please stop by the school office during the Ice Cream Social to have your photo taken. Replacement badges may be purchased for \$5 during the first week of school. All badges will be replaced with new photos after school pictures are taken on September 10th. Badges are to be kept in the classrooms and are a great help to everyone

trying to get to know each other. If students forget their name badge, temporary sticky nametags are available in the school office for a \$0.25 fee per day.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

The family handbook, school calendar, school supply list, and Wildcat Wire have been updated for this school year on the school website at www.sainti.org/school/index.htm. You can also find a link directly to PowerSchool on the website.

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Saint Ignatius school apparel is available from the following vendors:

- * Campus Outfitters
35 Tri County Parkway (513) 772-4250
- * Fox's Uniforms
8786 Colerain Avenue (513) 245-5180
- * Schoolbelles
6415 Glenway Avenue (513) 921-3417
- * Lands' End (www.landsend.com/school)
Preferred school code: 900126830

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

If you ordered school supplies through PTO, you should have received a confirmation slip in late May. Unlike in years past, you will not have to pick up your child's packet after a Sunday Mass in August; instead your child will receive his packet in his or her homeroom on the first day of school. Many thanks to Amy Beal for organizing this convenient service!

WILDCAT WIRE

This is the only Wildcat Wire that will be mailed to your home. Please advise the school office if you received duplicate copies. The Wire will be distributed to the youngest student in each family on Fridays. The deadline for submitting articles to the Wildcat Wire is **Tuesdays at noon**. Articles can be e-mailed to WildcatWire@saintischool.org. Approved articles will be published once, with attachments being eliminated or reduced. Dates of events will be listed in the upcoming events section. Approved flyers will be distributed with the Wire on Flyer Friday, which is the third Friday of each month. The Wildcat Wire can also be viewed online at the school website.

FREE AND REDUCED LUNCHES

St. Ignatius participates in the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program. Eligibility is based on family income. Forms are available in the school and kitchen offices. Families may apply at anytime

throughout the year. Please contact Nancy Bachman or Tim Reilly if you have any questions.

MORNING CARE PROGRAM

Morning care will be available from 7:15 to 8:15 in the cafeteria for \$3.25 per day. For registration or questions, please contact Mrs. Bachman at 389-3242, ext. 2010.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE PROGRAM

We are pleased to announce that we are continuing our After School Program for the 2009 - 2010 school year. The program runs from 3:25 to 6:00 PM on school days and costs \$8.00 per child per day. For more information or to register, please contact the school office at 389-3242.

ALUMNI NIGHT AT THE PARISH FESTIVAL

Former students and employees of St. Ignatius are invited to stop by the Alumni Booth at the St. Ignatius Festival on Friday night, August 22nd. The booth is located near the main award.

WILDCATS ON THE MOVE

Wildcats On the Move is back. All students are encouraged to participate in this program. We will be recording miles for this school year as well as lifetime miles. For those new to the school, the goal of our "Wildcats On the Move" program is to promote physical fitness and to offer students another healthy option at recess by walking, running, or wheelchair rolling on our track. Each lap of the outer loop is just short of a ½ mile. Recess volunteers and staff will keep track of the miles during school hours. Under adult supervision, students are also encouraged to log miles on their own time. In order for laps to count outside of school hours, students need to submit a note or mile voucher stating their name, homeroom, grade, number of miles, and a parent/guardian's signature. Pre-printed mile vouchers are available in the school office. Look for new members of the 10, 50, 100, and 250 Mile Clubs listed in the Wildcat Wire.

COME TO A PTO MEETING!

The St. Ignatius Parent-Teacher Organization sponsors numerous activities throughout the academic year that support the mission of the school and that provide enrichment opportunities for members of the school community. A few of the activities we plan and organize are: After School Enrichment, Bowling, Bus Buddies, Chess Club, Everybody Counts, Faculty and Staff Appreciation, Family Fun Night, Homeroom Parents, Ice Cream Social, Olympic Day, Speech Contest, and Yearbook. The PTO meets once a month

throughout the school year, and you are always welcome to attend any meeting. So whether you are thinking about volunteering for some of the PTO's activities, or want to observe before deciding, or just want to meet other parents and find out what PTO is all about, come to a meeting! The first PTO meeting of this school year will be held on August 10 at 7PM in the school cafeteria. After that, meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 7 PM in the library. This year's PTO Board includes: Jen Klosterman and Jen Langen (Co-Presidents); Anissa McBreen (Vice President); Kim Glassmeyer (Treasurer); Kerri Gutekunst (Secretary); and Lisa Arling (Past President). Feel free to contact any member of the Board if you have questions regarding PTO.

MAGAZINE DRIVE

The annual Magazine Drive will begin shortly after the school year opens. St. Ignatius School receives 40% of the proceeds from all subscription orders and renewals. Support of the Magazine Drive in the past has been so strong that St. Ignatius has been able to avoid holding other fundraisers for the exclusive benefit of the school. Please help keep that trend going! Also, if you can volunteer a few hours to prepare sales packets, tally orders, attend the LaRosa's lunch for top sellers, or otherwise help out, please contact our Magazine Drive Coordinators: Julie Harvey or Gayle Unkrich.

S.O.S. SAVE OUR SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Magazine Drive Kick-off date is September 11th. If you have subscriptions that need to be renewed or you would like to order a subscription to a new magazine, please SAVE your orders for our students. Plan to give a magazine subscription as a gift during our Drive. Let your friends and relatives know about our Magazine Drive and ask them to save their subscriptions for our program as well.

ATTN: GROUP LEADERS & COORDINATORS

If your group or organization would like to set up an informational table at the Ice Cream Social, please contact Kelly Reupert. This is a great way to share information about your group and its activities.

PACE

Have you ever heard of St. Ignatius PACE and wondered what that meant? "PACE" is an acronym for Program for the Advancement of Catholic Education. The PACE Committee sells gift cards to hundreds of restaurants and other merchants. Included are Skyline, Bob Evans, Subway, O'Charley's, Longhorn, Holscher Hackman Garden

Center, Lowe's, Home Depot, Macy's, Kohls, and many others (for a longer list, check out the website of our main supplier, www.glscrip.com). Although you buy the gift cards for face value, the merchant rebates a percentage of the card's face value to St. Ignatius. That rebate generates a profit which St. Ignatius uses for programs aimed at providing education about the Catholic faith through St. Ignatius School, the Parish School of Religion, and other parish activities. To support this program, visit the Parish Office where selections of popular gift cards are available for immediate purchase. You can also order gift cards from one of our PACE Coordinators: Leslie Odioso, Sue Newland, and Carol Lecher.

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS

Kroger's gives St. Ignatius 4% of any grocery and gas purchases you make while using a Kroger Community Rewards card. The card is free to get and free to use, and it works like a re-loadable gift card. Simply estimate how much you'll spend during a trip at Kroger and load your card with that amount. You can load your card at the Customer Service Desk, the Fuel Center, or a cash register (before the cashier starts scanning your purchases). Then use your card to pay for your purchases. You can use a Kroger Community Rewards card in conjunction with a Kroger 1-2-3 MasterCard, a Kroger Plus card, Kroger Fuel Rewards and any other coupons or discounts that Kroger's otherwise honors. This benefit has tremendous fundraising potential. If your family spends just \$100 per week on gas and groceries at Kroger, St. Ignatius could be receiving \$208 per year, just based on your family's purchases. This can be used by anyone who shops at Kroger, your college student, your parents and anyone else who's willing to support Catholic education at St. Ignatius! If you do not already have a Kroger Community Rewards card, you can get one at the Parish Office or by contacting Leslie Odioso, Sue Newland, or Carol Lecher. Special thanks to Kathy Weeks for helping with this program!

WIN GIFT CARDS OR TUITION CREDITS

You can win prizes when you purchase PACE gift cards or use your Kroger Community Rewards card. For every \$25 you spend on PACE gift cards in a given month, you receive a chance at a prize; at the end of each month, one winner is selected from that month's purchasers to receive a free gift card. Similarly, for every \$50 you spend using your Kroger Community Rewards card, you receive a chance to win a prize; at the end of each quarter, two winners are selected from that quarter's Kroger

Community Rewards card users to receive \$250 each in tuition credits. If the winner does not have a student attending St. Ignatius School, another prize of an equivalent value (typically \$250 loaded onto a Kroger Community Rewards card or \$250 of PACE gift cards) will be substituted.

CUB SCOUTS

New Cub Scout registration is scheduled for Wednesday, September 2, 2009 in Hilvert Center at 7PM. However, on Tuesday August 25th the Cub Scouts would like to invite potential new scouts to our monthly pack meeting. Boys interested are invited to bring a friend, a parent, a bike and a helmet in order to participate in the activity. Please arrive by 6:45PM in the Hilvert area; we will conclude at 8PM. Parents will receive information about the program and registration forms will be available if you are interested in pre-registering that night. This is a family oriented program and the boys will have lots of fun opportunities throughout the year including outdoor/camping activities. Please consider sharing your skills, time and talent as a leader or as part of the committee to help the St. Ignatius pack provide a great program for the upcoming year. Please contact Angie Frigge with any questions or concerns.

Emergency Parent Communication

As part of statewide protocol, we'd like to advise you of our policies concerning parents in regard to Emergency/Safety Procedures. This is not to alarm you but to let you know that we are prepared with a plan if the need arises. We also practice these plans without prior notice and need your complete cooperation. Your child's safety is our top priority. The following steps are in place for these emergencies:

Tornado/Severe Thunderstorm: If there is a Watch issued for our area, we will dismiss as usual. If there is a Tornado Warning, we will not release students until it is cleared. (We will locate to a designated safe area in the building and no one will be released.) If there is a Severe Thunderstorm Warning, we will use our best judgment to decide if the schedule needs to be interrupted.

Lockdown: A Lockdown is necessary if an internal or external threat is present. School is completely secured which means no one in or out, including parents. Signs will be posted on all outside doors, 911 will be called, and the Parish Office will be notified. If the Lockdown lasts for more than 30 minutes, information will be posted on the sainti.org website.

HAZMAT/Shelter in Place: In the unlikely event of a chemical, biological, nuclear, or explosive threat, HAZMAT/Shelter in Place is determined. The school will be completely sealed from outside pollutants and we will be stocked with a three day supply of water and food. Signs will be posted on all outer doors and emergency personnel will be contacted. If our school is contaminated in any way, we have established liaisons with several other schools in the area in order to evacuate.

Calamity Days: If school is cancelled due to weather conditions, we follow Northwest's plan. School will either be closed or we will operate on a two-hour delay. You can find this information on TV, radio, or the TV station's website. In the event that there needs to be an early dismissal, the oldest student enrolled in school will call a parent to determine how they will get home. We need to be sure arrangements have been made so no one arrives home unsupervised without the parent's consent. Busses will run their routes as usual unless you are notified.