



ST. GABRIEL

Centered in Jesus, St. Gabriel Catholic School is committed to excellence in developing our faith, academics and service.

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK... *Jesus.* Your child often hears the name of Jesus in religion classes. We talk about Jesus; textbook material is based on Jesus, the Son of God; and we pray, always in the name of Jesus. The students are comfortable talking about Jesus as they learn more about the faith. But in forming and supporting the faith of a child, the religion class is not your child's main encounter of Jesus. That happens at home.

The Church often refers to your home as the "domestic church." That means that in your home, a small community of faith—your family—lives out most meaningfully the generosity and goodness that Jesus taught. One might say the classroom is where your child hears about Jesus but your home is where your child meets Jesus. Our school community is stronger because your home and your family build up the entire Body of Christ. Thank you for all that you do.

TCCES REGISTRATION... Friday, February 5, is the deadline for tuition assistance consideration for the upcoming school year for families with students in grades kindergarten through grade 5. Assistance cannot be guaranteed after that date. The registration fee is also going to change. If you have any questions, please call the school office or Jennifer Miller at 722-7796, ext. 206.

MAPS TESTING... Students in grades two through five finished the second round of the MAPS testing program last week. The battery includes the areas of math, reading, and language. Teachers will be using these results to tweak their curriculum for the rest of the year—what areas are students proficient in, what areas and skills need to do revisited, and what areas (learnings) need to be taught yet in preparation for the next school year. Students will also be meeting with their math teachers to discuss goals they wrote up in the fall for their math growths this year. They will have the opportunity to change them as needed. The MAPS tests will be given again in May. At that time parents will receive a graph of their child/ren's growth over the entire period that they have been taking the tests.

LEARN from yesterday; **LIVE** for today; **HOPE** for tomorrow.



UPCOMING EVENTS...

...31-February 6—Catholic Schools Week: *Dividends for the Future*

All Catholic School Activity Info is on the second page of this newsletter.

February

...3—PTO-sponsored school Roller skating party from 3:30-5:30

...5—Deadline for TCCES registrations including financial assistance requests and placements

...9—School Liturgy planned by Miss Lamecker's kindergarten class at 8:15

...10—PreK and Kindergarten Field Trip to Taft to hear Tom Pease

...11—Counselor here at SG

...15—PTO Meeting at 5:00 p.m. in the school library; everyone welcome

...16—School Liturgy planned by Mrs. Olsen's Kindergarten class at 8:15

...16—Fox Valley Symphony Quartet visits SG to perform for Grade 3

...16—Parent/Student/Teacher conferences 3:30-7:30 P.M. Scheduled times have been sent out

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK, 2010...

Sunday, January 31—PTO-Sponsored Pancake Breakfast and School Open House, 8:30-noon

Monday, February 1—In our Community; School Community (kindergarten through grade 5) will attend a concert at Seton Middle School

Tuesday, February 2—In our Students; School Liturgy at 8:15 a.m.; Career Day at SG (details to come)

Wednesday, February 3—In our Nation; School Community will honor veterans by making cards with their buddies; All-TCCES Liturgy at St. Margaret Mary beginning at 1:15 p.m.; Roller Skating Party after school

Thursday, February 4—Parents/Families are invited to bring lunch and share time with their child(ren) between 11:30 and 12:30; at 12:45, parents/families are invited to our program, *Move to the Groove—singing and exercising with Mr. Arboleda in the gym until 1:30 p.m.*

Friday, February 5—In our Vocations; students will select a favorite saint to introduce to their buddies and classmates.

TCCES PARENT SURVEYS... TCCES emailed out school specific parent surveys on Monday, Feb 1st. If you did not receive a survey, please contact Ann Engelhard, TCCES Director of Advancement at aengelhard@tcces.k12.wi.us or 722-7796 ext. 201 and she will forward a survey to you. These surveys will be available until Monday, Feb. 8th.

The surveys will provide the administrators, principals and staff with vital information about our schools and programs. Please take a couple of moments and share your thoughts and opinions with us. Your feedback is tremendously important as we plan and prepare for the future.

END OF THE DAY TIME FOR READING... It is a custom here at St. Gabriel School that the 5th graders plan a special event each month. They advertise the event on the PA and create posters which are put around the school. Last Friday at 2:15, both staff and students stopped to read for a half an hour. The students brought in pillows and blankets and settled into a very enjoyable time.

THANK YOU... to everyone who helped make our PTO Pancake Breakfast on Sunday a success! We served 273 people...that's a record as far as we can tell. The kitchen crew was great. Special thanks to Ellen Sturm and her team from Kohl's. They donated their time and Kohl's will make a donation to St. Gabe's.

We appreciate everyone who took the time to help and hope you enjoyed spending time with other St. Gabriel families.

Thanks again,

Pam & Mark Seidl and Kat & Sal Vitale, Co-chairs

ANOTHER THANK YOU... One of the St. Gabriel School playground slides was vandalized last fall. Thanks to Jim Luther, father of Christian and Alyssa, who tracked down the original supplier the broken pieces have now been replaced and the slide is like brand-new. We also thank Angela Luther and Andy Miller who helped with the final installation. The PTO purchased the needed materials.

SOUP-ER BOWL... EVERYONE WINS... As of this morning, the school community has collected 466 cans of soup that will be donated to St. Joseph's Food Pantry. The goal was 444 cans. The number was chosen because this is the 44th Super Bowl. It is the fifth year the school has held its own Soup-er Bowl. Because the goal was met, **Friday, February 5, will be an out-of-dress code day for everyone!** The group has been further challenged to have 600 cans by this Friday. We thank the 5th graders for chairing the soup drive for the school. The collected items will be picked up on Monday morning.

LENT, 2010... It is hard to believe but Ash Wednesday is coming soon, February 17! We will have a school liturgy at 12:15 that day. As a school, we will again be collecting money through out the Lenten season. This year the money will be donated to Fox Valley Warming Shelter to be used for the building of a place for them to stay. At this time they travel on a weekly basis among the churches of the area for meals and shelter. The rest of the money will be designated for Haiti and sent through Catholic Social Services. We will be collecting through Holy Thursday, April 1st.

Children are like wet cement. Whatever falls on them makes an impression. --Haim Ginott