



# ST. MARGARET MARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

*The Mission of St. Margaret Mary School is to nurture a Christ – centered Community of Life-long Learners.*

## REMINDERS

Conferences 10/8 and 10/13

Book Fair 10/8 to 10/13

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Dance Camp 10/11, 10/18, 10/25, and 11/1---information sent home last week or check the TCCES website

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Jr. Zephyr Basketball Club -----Meeting tonight at 6:30 at SMC

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### **SMC HOMECOMING PARADE ----PLEASE RETURN FORM BY FRIDAY 10/9/09**

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Elementary Soccer Game -----Prior to the Varsity Game on Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 at Zephyr Fields

#### Future Dates:

November 10<sup>th</sup> -----7:00 p.m.-----  
-FACES Meeting

Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup> -----  
-Barnes & Noble Night

There are many celebrations in October. For Catholics, it is the month of the Rosary. In school, we will take time this month to learn about and pray the rosary. It has been a major devotion for almost a thousand years. We celebrated the feast of the Guardian Angels last Friday, following the feasts of Michael, Raphael, and Gabriel, the archangels. We will be collecting pet food throughout this week in honor of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron of pets. Don't forget to bring a picture of your pet to add to our gallery of "God's Creatures." We celebrate St. Teresa, the Jesuit Missionaries, and later in the month, the Feast of our Patron, St. Margaret Mary. All of these feasts reinforce the belief that we are all members of the Body of Christ, praying for each other and helping each other reach the Kingdom of God.

October is also Respect Life Month, devoted to appreciating the special dignity of human life and celebrating that we are all children of God and worthy of respect. Our monthly school theme, environment, should echo that attitude of respect. Our environment includes the way we treat one another. When there have been difficulties in the classroom or on the playground during the last week, the teachers have reinforced that concept for our children. It is an on-going lesson; we treat everyone with dignity and respect. Many families reinforce this concept at home as well. It makes our home/school partnership strong when children hear the same message from all of us.

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There will not be a Mass this Friday. Fr. Mike is on the Parish Mission Trip to Kentucky with approximately twenty parish members and the Fox Valley Mission Group. They are working for the Christian Appalachian Project and will be living at and working on projects at Camp Andrew Jackson in McKee, Kentucky. They will also have the opportunity to meet and work with the Appalachian people. We are anxious to hear about the trip on their return.



## Conferences

Please see the schedule for conferences that was sent home with your youngest child today. We tried to come as close as possible to the times that families requested. If there are any problems with the schedule, please call the office. **Fifth grade conferences are cancelled for Thursday evening.** "Specials" teachers will be located at one of the three elementary campuses. Mrs. Glatczak and Mr. Arboleda will be at SMM. Ms. Loughrin and Mr. Srnka will be at St. Gabriel; and, Ms. Tews and Mr. Orth will be at St. Mary. Remember that students in grades 3, 4, and 5 should accompany their parents.

## Student Pictures

All student pictures and retakes have been taken. If you wish to order pictures, please have your order in the office by the end of the week. If you would still like to have a retake, please check in the office for the portrait number and you can go directly to the studio.

## Brewfest

Brewfest is the major fundraiser for St. Gabriel School. It takes place on Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. There is a flyer attached to today's newsletter. Tickets are available in St. Margaret Mary School office. All tickets purchased before Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup> will be entered in a drawing for a \$100 gas gift certificate. This is a fun event and helps to support Catholic education in Neenah/Menasha.

## Ice Arena

The Tri County Ice Arena is starting fall and winter programs for skating and hockey. They have contacted the schools to pass along the information. If you are interested in information, please call 731-9731.

## New Arrival

We welcome Gretchen Marie Strande, new baby sister of Allie Strande in PK. Congratulations to the entire family and welcome to our school community!!

## Arboleda Family

Mr. Arboleda, our Music Teacher was featured in an article in *The Compass*, the Diocesan newspaper. The article spoke of his love of God, family, teaching, and music. We are proud to have Mr. Arboleda as one of our teachers and to have his family as a member of our school family. The same weekend, his daughter C.J. was honored by our parish Human Concerns Committee for her poster, "We are the Heart and Hands of Jesus." Both articles are displayed outside of the office.

## Book Fair

The Book Fair is in full swing and will be open during conferences both nights. There are still many volunteer opportunities for helping with the sale. Please see the sign up sheet outside of the office door.

## Dress Down Days

The students had a lot of fun with the Jersey Day on Monday. It didn't bring the Packers much luck, but maybe next time. We will have another special dress day on Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>. It is the last day of the quarter and our last school day before Halloween. All students may wear orange and black that day with jeans allowed. Only PK students will be in costume. Those classes have received letters about appropriate choices for the classroom.

## SMC Homecoming

St. Mary Central High School is celebrating their homecoming this week. We have

participated this week with trivia questions and prizes for the students. A letter is included with today's newsletters. It is an invitation to all families to participate in the parade. We would like responses back so that we can plan how many students will be taking part in the parade. Please send those to the office as soon as possible.

### **Tuition Credits**

Besides the three large fundraisers offered throughout the year (Sally Foster, Entertainment Books, Spring Plant Sale) TCCES also provides two fundraising programs that can give you tuition credits all year long.

#### **Market Day**

An order form for Market Day products is sent home monthly. Parents may return the form to school or order items on-line. The items sold through Market Day are restaurant quality food items. The orders are delivered to school for pick up. Parents realize 10% of the total cost of the items as tuition credit.

#### **SCRIP**

SCRIP is a sale of gift cards that can be used at numerous establishments in the area. They include restaurants, grocery, department, and specialty stores. An order form is filled out with payment made by check to TCCES. Within approximately a week, the gift cards are delivered to school. Parents realize a percentage of the profit that is listed for each card, minus a small service fee. The profit is different for each establishment and the profit is applied to the family tuition account on a quarterly basis. SCRIP sales are offered after school on Wednesday s and we are in the process of setting up an 11:00 dismissal sale time also. SCRIP can also be purchased after all of the Masses on Sunday in the Gathering Space.

A small amount of SCRIP is available when orders are placed. Please plan ahead for

ordering. Order forms are always available in the school office or on the TCCES website.

Tuition credits for these five fundraisers are placed on your tuition statements on a quarterly basis. If you have any questions about using these fundraisers for tuition credit, please stop in the office and someone would be happy to help you.

### **FACES**

Our parents' organization has monthly general meetings where parents are encouraged to attend and bring ideas together to help make our school a better place. The time for these meetings is being rotated this year to accommodate more busy schedules. The next meeting in November will be in the evening. The meetings are not long, so please come and offer your suggestions. The next meeting is November 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **Seton Visit Day**

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade Visit Day 8:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.:** Fifth Grade Students will have the opportunity to spend the day at Seton, attend middle school classes, and learn about the academics, co-curricular activities and the school atmosphere.

**Open House 6:30 p.m.:** Parents of elementary school students interested in learning more about Seton will have the opportunity to tour the school, meet the administration and teachers, and learn about academics, co-curricular activities and the school atmosphere and culture.

Please contact Seton Catholic Middle School at 920-727-0279 for additional information on these events.

### **St. Mary Steak Dinner**

St. Mary Parish is sponsoring a delicious Steak Dinner on Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup> after the 4:45 mass. Tickets must be purchased in advance and are available at SMM school office.

## Story Time

TCCES hosts a Preschool Child and Parent Story Time at all the elementary schools each month. The next St. Margaret Mary Story Time is 1:00-2:00 on Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. Please join us.

## Fire Department

This is Fire Prevention Week. We have had visits from the Fire Department in all of our gr. 1-5 classes. Children in first through fifth grade have the opportunity of spending the morning at the Fire Station. They need to return the Smoke Detector Contract by next Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> and will then be eligible for a drawing. The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders are able to submit a drawing to be chosen for the Neenah/Menasha Fire Department Calendar of 2010.

## Theda Clark

We also had a presentation today to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Theda Clark Hospital, a gift to the communities of Neenah and Menasha. An actor dressed as Theda Clark Peters came to school to talk about Neenah at the turn of the century and the establishment of the first hospital. Did you know that Theda Clark was the first hospital in the country to make use of X-rays? Ask your 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders about the visit from Theda Clark Peters.

## Health and Wellness

This was a busy week!! We also had a Nutrition Presentation for all of our K-5 classes on Monday. Dr. Liza DeWitt, a pediatrician and a parent, and Alice Sehkar, a dietician, had a wonderfully informative program for our students. This coincided with the first day of "Fuel it Up," the fun snack week. A group of parents helped prepare healthy snacks for the week which have been very well received by the children.

## National Walk to School Day

Today was National Walk to School Day and we had several students and their families' walk to school or drive to a location in town and join in the walk. One of the parents sent us a picture of one of the groups on their walk. Thank you to all who participated. What a great way to start the day. I'm sure the students were extra energized.

