



ST. MARGARET MARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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

Easter

The sacrifice and preparation of Lent has ended. The world reflects the celebration of the resurrection as spring bursts with new life. Even our music reflects the joy of Easter as we welcome back the "Alleluia" in our song. For fifty days we will reflect on the new life all around us. New members of our parish entered into the life of our church when they celebrated baptism, confirmation and came into full communion during the Easter Vigil. Among the new members of our church were three parents of our school children. We congratulate **Susan Allen, Lisa Sokel, and Jason Zeinert** who were welcomed into the faith on Holy Saturday.

There are many feasts that fall in the fifty days between Easter and Pentecost. The first of these is Divine Mercy Sunday which was celebrated on the first Sunday of Easter. On the day, we celebrate the unending mercy of Christ; the reminder that God is merciful and forgiving and that we must show mercy and forgiveness to others.

Morality

During the month of April, the members of the TCCES community are reminded that we strive to become representatives of Christ in the local and global community by anchoring our choices in the mind and heart of Jesus. These choices are guided by an informed conscience.

- The TCCES community provides a theological basis for making ethical decisions.
- The TCCES community recognizes human examples who have lived according to the teachings of Jesus and promotes the imitation of those qualities in its members.

The church recently celebrated the feast of St. Katharine Drexel. She was born to a prominent Philadelphia family. She used her fortune and devotion to God for others. We can imitate this devotion to God and help others.



Twin City Catholic
Educational System

REMINDERS

April

16.....Luke Peters Day

16.....PK to Heckrodt Preserve

17.....Ms. Rippl's Wedding.....

17.....Celebration of Support for Luke Peters at Waverly Beach 4-11 p.m.

20.....Grade 3 to Voight Farm

20.....FACES Mtg. 8:15 a.m.

22.....Spring Plant orders due

22/23.....Health & Wellness
speaker

24.....Clipper Dash

24.....Confirmation 5:00 Mass

25.....Timber Rattlers Game-
St. Margaret Mary Day 1:05 p.m.

26 - May 7.....MAP testing

29/30.....Reach Counseling

28.....Kindergarten Screening

29.....Gr. 1 & Gr. 4 Field Trips

Luke Peters Celebration

This **Friday, April 16th is Luke Peters Day at TCCES**. All students may wear their t-shirts and bracelets in support of Luke. We will also sell "Jean Passes" for that day. Any child who wishes to wear jeans with their t-shirts may buy a pass for \$1 from the school office. All money from shirts and jean passes will go toward the celebration. Children who did not purchase t-shirts may decorate a shirt in honor of Luke.

The **Celebration of Support for Luke is Saturday, April 17th at Waverly Beach from 4-11 p.m.** Tickets for the event and raffle tickets are available in the office. Please come out and show your support for a wonderful first grader from our school community.

TCCES SPRING PLANT SALE

Think spring! Our last 2009-2010 TCCES sponsored fundraiser to receive tuition credit to your account is here! Choose from \$10 gift cards from four different garden centers or beautiful hanging baskets from Pansies! Be sure to share the order form with family and friends. **Orders are due Thursday, April 22nd** and will be ready for pick up on Thursday, May 6th – just in time for Mother's Day on May 9th! Order form is attached to today's newsletter or you can find it on the TCCES web page. Contact Pam Pingel at 751-3771 or tpping@sbcglobal.net with any questions.

Spring Break Dates Change for 2010-2011 School Year

After publishing our preliminary calendar, TCCES learned that both Neenah and Menasha public schools have chosen the week of March 21-25, 2011 for spring break. Based on this new information, TCCES decided to change our spring break to that same week rather than the week of March 28, 2011 as previously announced. When possible, we align our spring break with Neenah and Menasha public schools to coordinate busing schedules.

Zephyrfest

Thank you to everyone who attended, supported and donated to Zephyrfest. It was a great success and we truly appreciate everyone's support. Once again, we are amazed at the generosity of our volunteers, donors and supporters. Thank you for all that you have done to support Catholic education in Neenah and Menasha.

TCCES Kohl Award Recipients

At the end of March, Mrs. Chris Benrud, a teacher at St. Gabriel School, received the Kohl Award for excellence in teaching. Congratulation to Mrs. Benrud! She is the 12th TCCES educator to receive the Kohl Award since 1999. Mrs. Kellermann, Mrs. Stoffel, and Mr. Arboleda are also recipients of the Kohl Award. SMC is also proud to announce that Jillian Harper, a senior, was chosen as a recipient of the 2010 Kohl Excellence Scholarship.

Best Buy Reward Zone Program

Support the Best Buy Reward Zone® Program for Schools, part of Best Buy's @15™ Commitment, by donating your Reward Zone program points to local schools. All points earned on purchases made at Best

Buy Stores can be donated to St. Margaret Mary School. Choose to donate your points today and together we can help to provide the latest and greatest learning technologies for our students.

Clipper Dash / Health and Wellness

Our third annual Clipper Dash will be held on **Saturday, April 24th**. The Clipper Dash is open to ALL students, preschool through 5th grade. There is a registration form attached to the newsletter. This is a great event. This year, with our emphasis on Health and Wellness, it takes on even more meaning.

We are in the need of 3 to 4 EZ UP tents and tables for the Clipper Dash. If anyone has one that they would be willing to set up or let us borrow that morning, please contact Tracy Schroeder at tc8198@tds.net.

Please see the flyer attached to today's newsletter with suggestions from our Health & Wellness Committee to make next week a special "Health & Wellness Week."

We have a special speaker and program on **April 22nd and 23rd**. Charlie Wittmack will be speaking to the students about an adventure that he is participating in called the "World Triathlon." It will include swimming the English Channel, biking from France to Nepal, and conclude with climbing Mt. Everest. The Discovery Channel will be filming this adventure and may be joining us for Charlie's school visit and the Clipper Dash. We will follow Charlie's travels next year as part of our Science and Social Studies classes. Join us for the presentations if you are able.

Vacation Bible School – Which Week of August?

We have been approached by some parents to move our SMM Vacation Bible School (Bible Camp) from the first week of August (2,3,4&5) to the second week of August, which would be Aug. 9, 10, 11 & 12, 2010. The reason for the request is that swimming lessons and Park & Rec activities would all be completed by the second week of August, and there would be no (or fewer) scheduling conflicts for families. The camp would run from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Please let us know which week would work best for your family, by sending a response to: dbaumann@tcces.k12.wi.us Thank you for your input!

Summer Study Information

There are several programs that children can use at home during the summer to keep up their skills. These books are great for independent summer reinforcement. Several companies have already notified us about ordering their books.

- *Summer Skills* is a series of books, one book for each subject; a separate book for each grade level. We have a sample of *Summer Skills* in the office and order forms available. The order form can be filled out and returned to school by April 30th. We will place an order from school and the books will be in before the end of the year.
- *Summer Quest* is also a workbook series. However, it is one workbook per grade, covering all subject areas. Although we do not recommend one over another, *Summer Quest* is purchased online and a percentage of sales is returned to St. Margaret Mary. There is information in the office.

- *Summerbook* Company also has a book for each subject and anticipates a child completing a page a day. This book company provided an order book that went home with each child PK-5 today. Books can be ordered through the form provided, over the phone, or by email.
- *Summer Solutions* is another company that provides individual books for each subject area. If books are preordered through school, the cost is \$10 per book, mailed to your home with no shipping or handling charges.

All of these programs provide practice during the summer months to help children retain the knowledge learned during the school year. All are optional, but a great idea for cool, rainy days or to provide “something to do when I’m bored.”

Son-Sational Summer

The TCCES summer program, Son-Sational Summer, will again be offered this year. In addition to the K-5 program, this year a 3 and 4-year-old preschool program will be offered. A brochure is available on the TCCES website.

Talent Show

The Talent Show will be taking place on **Thursday, May 13th**. Sign up sheets for students are available in the entrance hallway of the school. This is a fun family evening! We are also looking for some willing workers. Please see the sign up list and ticket information attached to today’s newsletter.

Knights of Columbus

We have an opportunity to purchase tickets for a Milwaukee Brewers Baseball game through the Knights of Columbus. This fraternal organization has been very generous to Catholic schools. There is information attached to the newsletter about ticket purchases and how funds can be returned to schools.

Downtown Neenah Gift Certificates

See the flyer attached to today’s newsletter. Here is your opportunity to support Downtown businesses and save some money. Notice that there is a pre-order opportunity.

Vacation Raffle

Tickets are available in the school or parish office for a chance at a vacation. Please notice that there has been a change of dates for the purchase, drawing, and announcement of winners. Sorry for any confusion.

Backpacks for Afghanistan

Thank you to all the families who helped to collect school supplies for Afghanistan during Lent! On Friday Ange Staner shipped eight boxes totaling 233 pounds of school supplies for needy children who until now didn't have a notebook or pencil. Thank you for helping your children learn the importance of helping others.

Dress Code

We will change to our “Warm Weather Dress Code” on the first of May. Students may wear shorts (knee length; non-athletic), capri pants, and sandals with backs. There will be a table set up outside the office with “Uniform Exchange” clothing. Chic Repeat in Downtown Neenah will also be carrying a variety of dress code items for your children.

Kindergarten Screening

Kindergarten screening for students who will be in Kindergarten for the 2010-1011 school year will be on Wednesday, April 28th. Letters are being sent home today for all students registered for Kindergarten. If your child attends PreKindergarten at St. Margaret Mary, we will test those students during the normal school day. If you know of other families who would like to register for Kindergarten, please inform them that our screening is taking place at the end of April.

Golf

Our students (K-5) recently finished a mini unit in golf during P.E. classes. We are grateful to Steve and Carolyn Howe, golf professionals, who provided the equipment and services of a golf pro for the classes.

Timber Rattlers Game

A letter went home on Monday to all of the families that participated in the Timber Rattler Fang’s Reading Club. The letter contains an order form for tickets. **The order MUST be in school this Friday, April 16th** so that we can get the tickets ordered and distributed at school for the St. Margaret Mary Game on Sunday, April 25th at 1:05.

Touch a Truck

Neenah Park and Recreation Department sponsors a free event called “Touch a Truck.” We have taken our preschoolers to this event since it began. However, it has become extremely popular and is very crowded. After taking the PK class last year, we decided that this is not a safe environment for a field trip, but would encourage parents to take their own children. A flyer for the event is attached.

Fifth Grade Retreat

Our fifth graders will be participating in a *Spiritus* Retreat at Mt. Tabor on Wednesday, April 21st. This is a wonderful day for our 5th graders to reflect on their past years in school and to think about their lives in Middle School. They will be attending with the students from St. Mary and St. Gabriel. Please keep them in prayer as they look toward the future.

Trip Opportunity

Myrtle Beach Summer Vacation Villa for a Week - For Sale

Due to unforeseen circumstances, our high bidder for the Wines around the World grand prize trip to Myrtle Beach is unable to make these trip dates and is interested in re-selling this trip to someone else. If you were interested in the trip before, please take another look at your calendars and let us know if you’d like to purchase it from him. Price is negotiable, but will go to the highest bidder that is interested by

April 30. Please contact Patti Purcell if you are interested in this trip at 558-4425 or purcellscamp@new.rr.com.

Trip details:

Celebrate the end of the school year with your family in beautiful Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Spend one week (June 5-12, 2010) at Harbour Lights, a beautiful 4-star resort, in a 2-bedroom-2bath, 1150 sq. foot villa with occupancy for 6-8 people. Have the summer vacation of a lifetime in the city that Southern Living magazine has awarded "favorite beach, favorite family destination and favorite weekend getaway!" Also awarded "America's Top 100 Great Public Courses" by Golf Digest Magazine, Myrtle Beach is well-known to golfing enthusiasts. But Myrtle Beach is about much more than golf. In fact, this 60-mile stretch of oceanfront vacation land features some of the best beaches, shopping, restaurants and family entertainment you could ever ask for. See attached "Sunny Fun Smilebox" slideshow for photos of villa and Myrtle Beach highlights

<http://www.bluegreenonline.com/explore/resortDetail.aspx?ResortID=8>

Please check the Lost and Found table. Lots of winter items looking for homes.