

September 21, 2006

It is always encouraging for us to see so many parents attend Back-to-School Night. We appreciate your understanding that this is a time for teachers to give you an overview of the upcoming school year – quite a challenge in a 20 minute timeframe. Remember that if you have individual concerns or questions, you are most welcome to contact the teacher and/or schedule a conference. Continue to stay “connected” with your student’s education by reading our weekly communication (every Thursday – don’t forget to return your Communication Envelope each week), SchoolNotes, and information sent home by individual teachers. Help your children to develop responsibility by taking care of themselves in getting ready for school. Children who learn to follow through have a big advantage in the classroom. Along with their being responsible for their schooling, children also have a responsibility to their families. If they have specific chores to do, they learn that actions have consequences. The self-discipline that results also leads to school success. In Catholic school especially, it is also important to remember that responsibility also means being helpful to others. Your personal example of community is always the best lesson!

The Acceptable User Forms go home today and need to be signed and returned in order for your student to be allowed access to the Internet in school. Please note that Internet etiquette is expected to be observed for your child to maintain the privilege to use technology at school. It is best if you and your child read over the document together before it is signed in case there are any questions your child needs answered.

**IMPORTANT!!** The Stationery/Technology Fee of \$150 per child may be paid throughout the course of this year in installments but must be paid in full by the April tuition payment. The school office staff will be tracking this payment so if you have any questions, please call the office. Remember that this fee replaces the Spring stationery fee. There will be no additional billing in the Spring.

We are still missing 26 family emergency sheets and 15 website sheets. If you have not returned them, please do so ASAP. We will begin emailing a copy of “Notes” each week as a reminder to check the website. We only send home necessary “hard copies” (like lunch envelopes) if you request them on the website sheet. What this means for you is that you are not receiving all the communication that the rest of our families receive. Stay informed!

Lunch envelopes are enclosed and due on 9/27. Please be sure to meet the deadline. We do not order nor do we cook extra food so it is important so the deadline is not flexible. Thank you!

On Monday, October 2 at 7:00pm in the Church Hall, a coffee grower from the Chanchamayo Region in South America will be speaking. The evening is sponsored by Catholic Relief Services. Our students are welcome and this is a good opportunity for

them to experience South American culture and traditions especially those who are or will be studying South America.

--Our first Tag Day will be Thursday, 9/28/06 and, of course, don't forget that all Cherrydale Farms orders are due on Friday, 9/22. Thank you for your support.

Don't forget to read our "attachments."

Included in today's communication:

1. AUP – Acceptable Use Policy for Technology.
2. Lunch envelope order forms.
3. Tag Day flyer.
4. Breathing Room flyer.
5. Fall Social & Benefit Auction information.

Gratitude is a remarkably powerful force that turns everything into a joyful experience. I thank the following people for literally being our support system in helping us to "ready" the school for 2006-2007. When you walk in the building this year, you will be treated to a transformation made possible through the generosity of Alan Criswell (father of Alex, grade 6) who donated enough office furniture to allow each classroom and both 1st floor offices to replace our well used but worn furniture. Thank you to our muscle: Rory Arnold, Barbara & Joey Burnosky, Dan, Elena, David, Maria & Tom Cipolla, Georgina Hagarty, Joseph & Joe Ermigiotti, Len Longo, Alexis & Joe Lukach, Kevin & Sue Plunkett, Kevin & Maureen Rae, Alex Schmauk, Connor & Roberto Stanton, Joe & Michael Zeccardi. Special thanks to Mary Zeccardi for helping to shape and develop our ideas into reality. Her creative energy was instrumental in our finishing the job. To Pat Stanton & family (Sloane Moving & Storage) – thank you for your patience and understanding and your good natured persistence in helping us to recycle, move, and remove the "big stuff" more than once.

Our library is one step closer to completion, too, thanks to Zach Good, Joseph & Joe Ermigiotti, Dennis Mizzoni, Bobby, Ted & Teresa Zygala. Our new shelving is loaded with books and now only two table sets to go!

All through the last weeks of the summer, students dropped in to help us cart books, clean, shred, etc. Daily life being what it is, we can use a little help! Thank you to Emily Blake, Joey Burnosky, Maria Cipolla, Cattie Domineske, Carla Ferro, Ally & Molly Gardiner, Christen Hussie, Colleen Martin, Darcy O'Hara, Kate O'Hara, and Keira Wingert.

**FORMS! FORMS! FORMS! MEDICAL EMERGENCY CARDS** need to be returned ASAP. E-mail addresses for communication purposes are also requested on a separate form. From your summer mailing, please return your Emergency Phone Chain information, your pretzel order forms, and LaCrosse gym short orders. Get this fun and

repetitious paperwork out of the way and we all can breathe a sigh of relief! On a serious note, we need this vital information to care for your child.

After our summer mailing went out to families, there were further changes in staffing. Ms. Chirillo will take over the morning 7th grade homeroom duties, and Mr. Cooney is returning to teach Social Studies and ILA to Grade 7. The structure of the middle grades is now akin to a separate middle school. Please keep this in mind when communicating with teachers and direct any inquiries to the teacher directly involved with your student. Sadly, Mrs. Schmauk will not be teaching piano for us (although I have a sense that she will be in attendance at our concerts!). She has accepted a teaching position at the Community Music School in Trappe (my neck of the woods).

An addition to the parish parking lot is an Abitibi paper recycling bin. Newspapers, magazines, office paper, school paper, catalogs, mail are all accepted. Please do not include cardboard, plastic, glass, metals, or trash. Help us to make every page count. It's painless, extra income for the parish – just like our cartridge recycling. Thanks for your support.

Please remember that uniforms must be purchased from our uniform suppliers. The ONLY exception to this is the white turtleneck, white button down shirt, and the long gym sweat pants. This is a longstanding requirement and only medical reasons warrant exemptions. Shorts, skorts, and pants that are not uniform regulation are noticeable and not allowed. Note: The Used Uniform Sale will be held on our Back to School Night on September 20, 2006 at 6:30pm.

Included in today's communication:

1. Lunch Ordering instructions, menus, and 2 lunch envelopes.
2. Cherrydale Booklets – the sale begins!
3. Parents' email address form.
4. Music information & sign-up sheets.
5. Last Chance for Auction donation!