



“THE BRIDGE”

POSITIVE ATTITUDES

COURAGE

PATIENCE

WISDOM

PEACEFUL WAYS

St. Mark Catholic School

A BRIDGE BETWEEN SCHOOL AND PARENTS

“Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.” 1Cor. 16: 13-1

December 4, 2009

Parents,

I hope that you are in the midst of enjoying the start of the Advent season. We are doing many things at school to help celebrate Advent including a living Advent wreath in the gym on Monday that the entire school attended. We also are doing a giving tree in the middle school to help those that are needy to have some Christmas gifts. All the students are learning of Crisstt the Dragon and how we can do away with our bad actions and do good things for all people.

As we continue to seek ways to improve our school, we had all students in grades 2-8 do a survey on bullying. The questions included: Does bullying exist at your school? Where does bullying occur? When does bullying occur? How can we stop bullying in our school? Have you ever bullied another student? All surveys were done anonymously. No names were used on any part of the survey. The data from the survey will be used to help us to continue to improve this global problem and to be proactive in solving the issues that goes along with bullying. We need all parents to help us reinforce to their children that we are all in agreement that bullying has no place in our school, our homes, and our world.

The season of Advent and Christmas is one of the most memorable and important seasons for all children and adults. We appreciate all of the time and talents that you, the parents, give to St. Mark Catholic School during this season of Advent. Our Christmas music program will be Thursday, December 10th at 7:00 pm in the Church. We have 2nd grade Reconciliation on Saturday, December 12th at 10:30 am in the Church. Our second grading period has only two weeks remaining and we are continuing to build our students' character, spiritual growth and academics.

I welcome continued dialog with our parents. The only way we can continue to grow and provide you with the best Catholic education possible for your children, is for your thoughts on what we are doing well and what we need to improve on to be heard. I have had many great ideas come from parents and students. You are in touch with what motivates your son or daughter and it is our privilege to help provide the growth they need to be successful. The best advertisement for St. Mark Catholic School is you, the parents!

Have a great weekend and God Bless,

Rusty Albertson
Principal
St. Mark Catholic School

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: The St. Mark School Christmas program will be Thursday, December 10 at 7 pm in the church. All students in grades K – 5, Jr. High Choir and Band are involved. All participating students should arrive by 6:45 pm. Band and choir students will report to the gym. Kindergarten and first grade students should sit with their parents in the church. Students in grades 2 – 5 should report to the cafeteria. All students should leave their coats with their parents.

Attire is dress pants and shirt for the boys and skirt & blouse, dress, or dress pant and shirt for the girls. All shirts should have collars. No jeans, please.

There will be an afternoon performance at 1 pm for anyone who would like to attend. Come and celebrate the season!

RECONCILIATION SERVICE: On Saturday, December 12, at 10:30 am, our 7th & 8th grade students will be spiritual mentors to the 2nd grade children preparing for the sacrament of Reconciliation. The service should take about an hour. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to call Mary Lynn Cavanaugh at 787-8246, ext. 103.

H1N1 VACCINE will be administered through the Marion County Health Department on Tuesday, December 8, starting at 12:30. If you have any questions, please call Diane Burgler , 221-5700, at the Marion County Health Department.

COMING SOON...SANTA'S SECRET SHOP: The 8th graders have been busy working with Santa's elves to bring St. Mark Catholic School an exciting shopping experience. The children will have an opportunity to purchase Christmas gifts for moms, dads, grandparents, siblings, and even the family pets! Every item will be \$2 (candles, holiday towels, snowglobes, tools, etc). We'll also have a 25 cent Treasure Table (pencils, erasers, etc.). Preview Day is Tuesday, December 8 with shopping done on Wednesday and Thursday, December 9 & 10. We'll also be open on Friday the 11th before school starts for those who missed out or remembered another name on their shopping list. All proceeds benefit the 8th Grade Class Trip to St. Louis. Any questions, call Sharon Van Auken at 787-4165.

DOING YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING ONLINE THIS YEAR? Start your search from the St. Mark Website and 6-12% of your purchase could benefit St. Mark!! Visit www.stmarkindy.org/school for more information

REMINDER: Please be sure to sign in at the office before going to a classroom. Thank you

FUNDRAISING

8TH GRADE FUND RAISER: Our 8th Grade Students are selling Mike's Car Wash coupons to raise money for their end of year trip. The coupons are great as stocking stuffers or small gifts. Please feel free to contact Theresa Crabtree (chair) 418-1491, Marla Lutgring 753-6109 or see your favorite 8th grader.

MARKET DAY PICK-UP is Wednesday, December 9, from 5:15 – 6:15 pm in the Music Room.

SCOUTING

PACK 92 NEWS: At the November 25th Pack meeting, the following Cub Scouts were recognized for achievements in Scouting:

Bears: Ryan Burns, Grant Horsethemke, Jacob Hon and Jacob Jackson earned their physical fitness beltloop.

Webelos 1—Avery Vick earned his Athlete pin. Andrew Jaeger, Liam Collier, Alex Kalschur, Mark Zehnle and Isaac Hogsett earned their Athlete and Fitness pins.

Webelos 2—Aaron Adrian, Michael Bailey, Joe Burns, Connor Cleary, Devon Frigon, Zach Gaither, Isaac Garcia, Ethan Knox, Quentin La Follette, Bain La Follette, and Tyler Swiezy earned their colors.

FROM THE CAFETERIA

LUNCH MENU - DECEMBER 7, 2009

Mon. - French toast sticks, warm syrup, sausage patties, banana

Tues. - Tacos, Mexican rice, shredded lettuce, diced tomatoes, salsa, pineapple tidbits

Wed. - Chicken patty on bun, tator tots, lettuce, tomato, mixed fruit

Thurs. - Baked Idaho potato, Turkey chili w/beans, diced onion, pears

Fri. - Cheese pizza, garden salad, grape tomatoes, mandarin oranges

SPORTS

Sports Notes

<u>Event</u>	<u>Day of Week</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Time, Location</u>
December 4-11			
4 Boys BB	Saturday (12/5)	Holy Spirit	9:00, St. Mark
56C Boys BB	Saturday (12/5)	OL Mt. Carmel	10:00, St. Mark
56B Boys BB	Saturday (12/5)	OL Lourdes	11:00, St. Mark
56A Boys BB	Saturday (12/5)	OL Grace	11:00, OL Grace
Cadet B Boys BB	Sunday (12/6)	OL Mt. Carmel	2:00, CYO Center
Cadet A Boys BB	Sunday (12/6)	Little Flower	3:00, CYO Center