

Madonna Memos

Thursday, September 1, 2011

Volume 12 Issue 3

TOMORROW

Tomorrow is an early dismissal day. Students will be dismissed at 11:30 AM. Bus transportation will be available. No breakfast or lunch is served on early dismissal days... even though a lunch selection was printed by mistake on the September menu.

OUR LITTLEST MUSTANGS

Orientation for our Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten students and their families will be held tomorrow, Friday, September 2nd at 9:30 in the cafeteria. Spaces are available! If you know a family with a child age 3, 4, or 5 who would like to reap the benefits of our wonderful program, please encourage them to call the school office. Thank you!

BAND

We are pleased to welcome Miss Chrissy SanAgustin to our Instrumental Music program. Miss S is a Madonna alumni! She joined us yesterday to provide a demonstration of instruments for interested new members in grades 4-8 and to meet all returning band members. Band and instrumental lessons will be held on Wednesdays this year. Today's folder includes a green form for all students in grades 4-8 and a white form for returning members.

There will be a **BAND PARENT MEETING on Wednesday, September 7th at 7:00 PM** in the cafeteria for all new Instrumental Music students and their parents.

MIDDLE STATES UPDATE

We have been notified that the chair of our Middle States visiting team is Mrs. Grace Guaetta, a principal from the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese. She will lead the visiting team as they observe in our classrooms and interview members of our school community from October 16-19th. This team visit is part of the process for re-accreditation from the Middle States Commission on Elementary Schools. For more information about Middle States visit www.ces-msa.org.

IMPORANT

Should your address, telephone number, or any contact information change at any time, it is imperative that you call the school office immediately! If your child is absent, you must call the office during the first hour of the school day. Homework requests can also be made at that time. No homework requests will be taken after 10:00 AM, as the teachers need ample time to get assignments ready. Thank you for your cooperation!

CAFETERIA NEWS

Madonna Catholic Regional School participates in the National School Lunch Program. Applications are available for free/reduced lunch. All students may eat breakfast in the cafeteria beginning at 8:00 AM. Adults are welcome to purchase breakfast and join their children as well. A **COMPLIMENTARY CUP OF COFFEE** is available for adults enjoying breakfast with their children at MCRS! Hot lunch is also available each day. Back by popular demand, salad/breadstick, yogurt/breadsticks, and PBJ are also alternates available daily for lunch.

Our first family breakfast is dedicated to grandparents on September 13th. Please see the enclosed flyer!

WANTED - YOU!

There are many ways your efforts can enrich our school, whether for a few hours or on a regular basis. Please give prayerful consideration to the idea of becoming one of our volunteers. The need is great and you will find your own life enriched as you share in the life of our school community. The close ties between family and school reinforce moral values and nurture our faith tradition.

The Diocesan Safe Environment Policy mandates that all who wish to volunteer, and have regular contact with minors must obtain a background check and child abuse history clearance. A database application must be completed and will be electronically processed and the results supplied to the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Additionally, attendance at a Protecting God's Children workshop and a pastoral code of conduct must be signed. Information regarding the Safe Environment policy and the link to the database application can be found on the diocesan website www.diopitt.org.

REMINDER - SCHOOL PICTURES

Grilli Studio will take our school pictures next Tuesday and Wednesday. **Uniforms do not have to be worn for school pictures. Students may wear appropriate dress clothes on picture day.** Please send in a separate order form with payment for each child on their assigned day.

ASSIGNMENT BOOKS

Students in grades 2-8 were issued a ticket when they paid for their "Good News Student Planner for Catholic School" by Tuesday. The winner of the basket of school supplies was fifth grader Anna Vogt. We thank all families for paying for the assignment books in a timely fashion!

FAMILY DIRECTORY FORMS ARE DUE

A great way to both familiarize and keep in touch with our school families is the Family Directory. If you have not done so already, please complete and return the purple form from last week's family folder by Wednesday, September 7th. Thank you for your cooperation.

REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11th

Immediately following our first School Mass next Friday, September 9th at 1 PM, we will hold a prayer service to commemorate the 10th anniversary of 9/11. Please join us!

UNIFORM REMINDER

Madonna T-shirts, gym shorts and sneakers are permitted as the daily uniform until **Thursday, September 8th**. Madonna t-shirts, Spirit Wear, beach towels, and lunch boxes are available for purchase while supplies last. If your child is in need of school uniforms, and you would like to take a look through our used uniform boxes, please contact the school office.

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION NEWS

- The first hoagie sale will be delivered on September 29th. Order forms will be sent home next week. They are due by Friday, September 23.
- Registrations for *Basketball and Cheerleading* will be coming home on September 15th with a **FIRM DEADLINE** to register by September 30th.
- We remind all players that no one may practice or play any sport without a signed physical form and paid registration.
- Good luck to our Volleyball and Soccer teams as they begin their season. Go Mustangs!

GOLF OUTING NEWS

Sunshine and a great time equaled a successful Golf Outing this past Saturday! Kudos to chairperson Christy Galilei for a fantastic job! Our profit was nearly \$6,000.00!

FREE MONEY - READ HOW IT WORKS

Gift cards are the easiest way to use money you are already spending toward meeting your fundraising assessment or TUITION credit! The percentage of profit is listed on the order form because it varies with each vendor. **In just one month if you were to spend:**

Giant Eagle - \$500.

Eat 'n' Park - \$25.00

McDonalds - \$25.00

Sheetz - \$100.00

Starbucks - \$20.00

The Children's Place - \$50.00

Payless Shoes - \$40.00

Rite Aid - \$25.00

You would earn - \$43.00!

A little planning can REALLY add up! Call the school office for more information!

FUNDRAISING NEWS

In today's economy, parents need to be savvy shoppers! What better way to make your dollars work for you than COUPON BOOKS! ***We have three books for sale in the office:***

Enjoy Books are much the same as last year and are available at the same great \$27.00 price! You earn \$10.00 profit toward your assessment. Order forms were in last week's family folder

Entertainment Books cost \$30.00 with \$6.00 per book sold going toward your assessment. See the enclosed flyer for more details. Entertainment Books have not been shipped yet, but will be available soon.

KID STUFF coupon book is back by popular demand! The cost of the book is \$25.00 and you earn \$12.50 toward your assessment. You can also earn FREE KIDSTUFF books!

The books are available in the school office. You are welcome to stop in and take a look at the books before making your purchase. If you have questions concerning any of the books, please call the school office at 724-258-3199.

Requests for the **September \$2.00 Lottery Ticket** sales were overwhelming! For that reason, we had to limit the number of tickets per family, and orders were filled on a first come first serve basis. Tickets will be sent home in the family folder. Thank you for your enthusiasm!

Steeler Football Squares are going very, very quickly. Only 20 remain! Please return the gold form from last week's family folder to get in on the fun. Squares cost \$80.00 each with \$30.00 going toward your assessment. The football pools will be sent home in next week's family folder.

Be sure to return the enclosed blue **2012 Lottery Calendar** request to ensure your hold out numbers. We need to sell ALL 1,000 calendars. You earn \$25.00 per calendar sold toward your assessment. They make great gifts!

Cases of **Sarris** candy bars are available for sale. Families earn a hefty 50% of candy bar sales toward their assessment! Use the enclosed flyer to place your order. Information concerning our Sarris Christmas Candy Sale will be sent home soon. Christmas candy orders with payment will be due at school by Monday, November 7th. Christmas candy will be delivered to MCRC on Monday, December 5th. Holiday sales earn 30% toward assessment. That really adds up!