

ASCENSION SCHOOL Family Newsletter

Vol. 11, Issue 19

Jan, 14, 2011

*"For God gives those who please Him wisdom, knowledge, and joy."
Ecclesiastes 2:26*

www.ascensionkettering.org/ascension-school/ Ph: 254-5411

Catholic Schools Week 2010

The theme for this year's Catholic Schools Week (Jan. 30-Feb. 5) is "**A+ For America Catholic Schools.**" A complete calendar of events for Ascension will be enclosed in next week's school envelope.



Gr. 1-8 students interested in representing Ascension School at the Miami Valley Catholic Schools Week mass at Precious Blood Church, hosted by Mother Brunner School on Weds. Feb. 2 may sign the enclosed interest and permission form.

We are once again having lunch with parents as part of the week's celebration – flyer enclosed.

Families have the opportunity to support the school by posting a School sign in their yard. Details are enclosed!

Martin Luther King Holiday 2011 Reading Challenge

If you plan to complete the challenge this MLK weekend here are the guidelines: Each student in grades 1-6 who reads a picture book using the QuickReads steps listed below will be entered in a drawing to win 1 of 10, \$20 gift cards from Mama Mimi's.

1. Recruit a **proficient reader** to read with. This could be a parent, grandparent or older sibling.
2. Pick a picture book. Discuss what you think the book is about.
3. Together, read the book with your reading buddy, like you would sing in church, read the book as a chorus.
4. Your proficient reader now reads the book aloud to you. Discuss what the book is about.
5. Read the book alone for 1 minute. Count how many words you can read in that time.
6. Finally, discuss the:
 - Setting – Where did the story take place, is it fiction or non fiction...
 - Problem in the book – What kind of struggle did the main character have in the story.
 - Outcome – How was the problem solved?

All of this should take 15 minutes. Many families have already returned the information and verification forms. If you've lost the form then a note verifying you have read a book following the steps above will get you included in the drawing.

2010 Patriot's Pen contest winners

Ascension Gr. 7 & 8 Award winners in the area 2010 **Patriot's Pen** essay contest were:

Marissa Thayer - 1st
Taylor Wallace - 2nd
DJ Sommers - 3rd.



Marissa's essay will now go on to be judged at the state level. All three winners received monetary awards as well as being invited to a recognition dinner. Congratulations! We thank the VFW post on Wilmington Pike for sponsoring the contest.

Science Fair Judges Needed

Ascension School seventh graders are having their Science Fair Thurs, Feb 17. We need interested adults who are enthusiastic about education and enjoy talking to students about their work. Please call the school at 254-5411 or email Jenny Voelkl at voelklj@ascensionket.org to volunteer. Judges briefing will be at 8:30 in the Witzman Center. Refreshments will be provided. Judging is usually over by 11:00

School Uniform Clarification - Boots

Students who wear boots to school need to bring another pair of shoes to be worn while in school. In the recess section of the school Family Handbook 340.00 it reads, "Wear boots, gloves, hat and coat in the winter. When boots are worn to school, inside shoes must be available for wear during the day." It is impractical and unsafe in some situations to be wearing boots of any type indoors in our school environment where it is very warm, with many steps, and movement activities in some classes. Some of the boots with bigger treads also track dirt around the building. There is also the matter of families/ students buying big oversized boots to be fashionable and that is contrary to the philosophy of our dress code, which is moderation.

Phone Contact with Parents

The school office staff reports that while calling parents about the unexpected early dismissal by Beavercreek this week and in other recent attempts to call parents lately, it was discovered that at least 14 family phone numbers are no longer in service and there was no current phone number to call. This is a serious problem to have no way of contacting families, especially if we have an ill or injured child needing attention. Please send us current phone numbers including cell or work numbers that we can get a hold of parents during the school day.

Weather Announcements

During the winter season, families may consider signing up for WDTN 2 or WHIO 7 texting alert for school closings and delays. This would help a great deal since it takes hours for the office to contact parents when students are in school and a change is made in the pm dismissal. Email and our school Education connection are not effective in these situations due to the delays. Channel 2 & 7 are also the same television stations to tune into for the most dependable news about early morning delays and school cancelations. The stations also have websites that are fairly reliable.

Also be reminded that when a district such as Beavercreek does not have school and Ascension is still in session and parents must drive students in at the beginning of the day there are no buses for that school at the end of the day.

Ascension Parish CYO Sports Sign-ups

Track and baseball sign-ups will be held after all masses this weekend. Fee is \$40 for track and \$45 for baseball if paid by January 22 (the online athletic handbook says Jan. 15th but sign ups have been extended by one week).

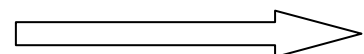
Intramural Basketball

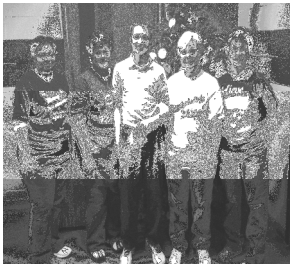
The intramural basketball program for K-3 students began Sun, Jan. 9. For the K- 1 attendees the camp starts at 5pm. For Gr. 2-3 it will start at approximately 6pm. The camp will last one hour in duration and will be every Sunday in January and February except for Super Bowl weekend. Please make certain your child has the appropriate gym attire. Call Chris Draper at 937-509-7223 if you have any questions.

Art Department

Mrs. Meyer, our school art teacher, is looking for a family with a baby that could save the rectangular plastic baby food containers with lids. Please contact Mrs. Meyer through the school.

Over Please...





Lucky Tray Day winner of Dayton Gems tickets - Alan Vest, Gr. 8 with the Ascensible Café staff.

Gr. 8 Math Placement

8th grade will be taking the math placement test for high school next Tues (Jan 18) during their regular math class.

BINGO Volunteers

We thank the following volunteers for BINGO: **Stephanie Wonderly and Katecee Bowman.** The PTO encourages all families to volunteer at least one time at BINGO in the PAC from 6:00-9:00 pm on a Thursday night. To sign up please and volunteer please call our coordinator of our BINGO volunteers, Jessica Green at 554-8813 or email her at jgreen14@woh.rr.com.



State of the School Address

Mr. Devitt has prepared a power point show filled with facts showing some of the changes in the school in just the last 10 years. Another slide from the show is reproduced in this Newsletter. To see the full State of the School Address slide show go to the school website home page and click on the link for **2010 State of the School Address.**

• Student : Teacher Ratio

2000	20.2 : 1 Teacher
2010	16.8 : 1 Teacher

14:1 – National Average

United States Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools 2009-2010
The Annual Statistical Report on Schools, Enrollment and Staffing

• Tuition

2000	\$1,240 1 st child tuition
	\$2,480 for NC & NP
2010	\$2,540 1 st child tuition
	\$4,300 for NC & NP

\$3,363 - National Average

United States Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools 2009-2010
The Annual Statistical Report on Schools, Enrollment and Staffing

Food Pantry Collection Next Week

Thank you for your very generous support of the Food Pantry collections in Nov. & Dec, which helped enable holiday baskets to be shared with our 150 families in our neighborhood. Our next Food Pantry collection is being held this weekend, Jan. 15 & 16. Special needs this month return to basic items that are always needed, including canned pork & beans, canned pasta (e.g., SpaghettiO's and Chef Boyardee products), jelly, boxed puddings and Jell-O, bath soap (bars), dishwashing liquid, laundry detergent, and toilet tissue.

In addition to our collections on the 3rd Sunday of each month, there are always specially marked boxes in the Bride's Room for your Food Pantry donations. Thank you for helping your neighbors in need.

Helping Families Better Afford Catholic Education

For Families interested in enrolling in Catholic Schools, Ascension Parish is hosting a Parent Seminar, *"Helping Families Better Afford Catholic Education"* on Jan. 25, 2011 – 7:00 pm at Ascension Church, Witzman Center, 2001 Woodman Dr. Kettering. Childcare provided on site. Please call ahead 254-5411. Topics & Speakers include:

Ohio EdChoice Scholarship Program for eligible Dayton residents helps pay the full tuition cost for incoming kindergarten students and students transferring from eligible public schools.

PACE Parents Advancing Choice in Education Scholarship Program provides assistance for Montgomery Co. resident students to attend nonpublic schools.

Partnership 4 Success offers employment opportunities for Catholic parents and teens to help pay for Catholic education at all levels – elementary, high school and college.

PSAS (Private School Aid Service) tips on how to complete forms required of all families requesting tuition assistance at St. Helen, Ascension and Immaculate Conception elementary schools and Carroll High School.

All Families with incoming Kindergarten and School age children welcome!

Calendar Update

Jan.	15-16 S-SU	Ascension Food Drive, All Masses
	17 M	MLK Holiday, No School
	18 TU	Quarter 3 Starts
	18 TU	Faculty Report Card Prep
	19 W	Staff Mtg, Principal, POB4, 3:30-5pm
	19 W	Report Cards Printed
	20 TH	Gr. 4-8 Out of Uniform for Good Behavior
	20 TH	ARTIC/IAT Mtg, Rm104, 3-4pm
	20 TH	Education Ascension Mtg, POB2, 5:30-6:30
	20 TH	PTO Exec. Mtg, Rm202, 7-9pm
	21 F	Mass, 9am
	21 F	Report Cards Go Home

Enclosures

- Gr. 1 Catholic Schools Week Mass Permit
- Permission for DAI Gr. 3 Trip
- Gr. 1 Ed Outing Permit to Meijers
- Science Judging Flyer
- Parent Seminar Flyer
- CSW Parent Lunch form
- School Sign flyer
- School Spirit Flyer from Archdiocese
- K of C Free Throw Championship (Age 10-14)
- FKAL Baseball
- Carroll HS cheerleading Clinic

Return Date

- Tues. Jan. 18
- Tues. Jan. 18
- Tues. Jan. 18
- Tues. Jan. 18
- See Details
- Mon. Jan 24
- Tues. Jan 18
- None
- None
- See details
- See Details

Quotation

"Everyone can be great because everyone can serve."

-Martin Luther King