

ASCENSION SCHOOL Family Newsletter

Vol. 9, Issue 36

May 29, 2009

"For God gives those who please Him wisdom, knowledge, and joy."

Ecclesiastes 2:26

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

Volunteers

One major strength of Ascension School has been the power and value of our volunteers. In today's family envelope are opportunities for a number of volunteer positions

One particular area where volunteers will be vital is in RTI. Ascension has introduced a new model of working to meet the needs of students called Response to Intervention or RTI. RTI relies on regular short assessments, progress monitoring, small group and individual intervention activities. Volunteers can be an extremely valuable resource in this process. Our school intervention specialists will be offering a training session this summer. The date of that training will be announced in our summer newsletter in mid July.

Other volunteer opportunities that we need help with initially to start the school year or ones we have had a challenge filling lately like lunch room help are advertised in this volunteer form. BINGO desperately needs helpers. Please consider assisting the school and PTO with your time and talent and return your form by Monday.

School Budget

After a good deal of work to develop a school budget for 2009-10, the school and parish staff, in consultation with the School & Religious Education Committee presented a balanced budget to parish Pastoral Council for approval on May 27.

The school staff will be realizing a cost of living increase, however in response to the economy a move has been made to return to an Archdiocesan Column II salary schedule instead of the higher Column III schedule used for some time at Ascension. All instructional programs and staff have been kept intact in the face of economic challenges. Our hope is that current enrollment projections for 09-10 will stay on target and no adjustments or later cuts will need to be made to the budget.

Thank you parents for your commitment to Catholic Education in the form of tuition support and continued Sunday envelope giving. The enclosed summary sheet and graphs reveal that 59% of our school income comes from tuition and 32% from parish support and another 9% from state and outside funding.

Summer Uniform Sale

Educational Apparel, our official uniform supplier has scheduled a summer uniform sale for next school year in the PAC on Mon. Aug. 17 from 12 Noon – 6pm. All merchandise purchased at the school sale is being marked down 15%.

Appleheart is a local uniform supplier with a number of Ascension items available. Flyer/Catalogs are enclosed.

Report Cards

Final report cards will be mailed to families after June 5.

Buckeye Best Schools



Ascension has been awarded a Bronze rating in the State of Ohio's Buckeye Best Schools program. The Buckeye Best Healthy Schools Awards recognize schools that demonstrate a commitment to the health and wellness of their students and staff through the establishment of programs and policies that foster such goals.

These include improving nutrition, increasing physical activity and stopping or preventing the use of tobacco.

Spanish Club - Thank You

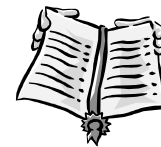
The Spanish Club ended on a high note with Paula Kreinbrink's nephew, a professional dance teacher, showing us a few simple dance steps. Thanks to the students who wrote letters in Spanish to the youth group of our sister parish. Javier Hopun, a member of the Ascensions' Twinning Committee, will be delivering the students' letters this summer. Thank you to all the families who contributed to support our club & made donations to Nuestra Señora de la Luz – we collected over \$202 to send to Lima, Peru's youth group.

The format of the Spanish Club next year will be adapted to include a fall and winter session so that your child(ren) may choose one session. Please look for registration forms at the beginning of next school year. ¡Adiós!

Cafeteria Menu Changes for next week:

"Cook's Choice" Menu next Tues, June 2:

Ravioli OR Taco's
Green Beans, Fruit Choice & Milk



Fri., June 5:

Peanut Butter Uncrustable OR Grilled Cheese Uncrustable
Mashed Potatoes, Fruit Choice, Sherbet & Milk

Chicken sandwiches are still an optional choice and Pizza for 6-8th graders is offered as a choice daily. Salad Bar has been discontinued for the year.

PTO News

PTO expenditures were approved with 110 votes of approval and 3 votes in opposition. Work will begin soon to replace our aging phone system. PTO support of communication and educational outing and fine arts opportunities is so greatly appreciated.

A consensus ballot in support of those who volunteered to take on leadership positions with the PTO is enclosed.

Festival Used Book Collection

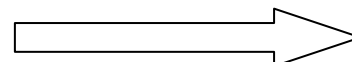
Mrs. Petteys class is the winning class in the used book collection contest to benefit the Parish Festival. Monday will be our Pizza Party day for them. The activity was such a success the Festival Committee wishes to show appreciation to all the students with a popsicle treat at the end of Monday. This pizza party for Mrs. Petty's class will be in lieu of their regular lunch. The cafeteria has been notified. Thank you once again to your most generous response to the Festival used book sale collection.



Surplus Equipment

The school has a number of surplus 25" television sets for sale at \$50 or best offer, 3'x8' tables for \$15, artificial Christmas trees for \$15 and basketball backboards for \$15. Contact the school office with your interest and offers. The items will be sold and released during the week of June 15.

(Over please...)



First Communion Pictures

The parents who've organized the First Communion Reception and photo have left the First Communion pictures in the school and RE offices ready for pick-up. To avoid any possible damage to the pictures it is recommended parents pick them up personally next week. On Friday of next week any pictures not picked up will go home in the family envelope.

Catholic Education Collaborative Summer Opportunities

The Catholic Education Collaborative has an extensive list of summer school and camp opportunities: www.ceccdayton.org

Attention Young Writers!

Are you interested in creative writing and poetry? Students currently in Gr. 3-7 may attend the Chaminade-Julienne Summer Writing Institute, mornings from 8:30-11:30, June 15-19. C-J teachers and students, along with our own Mrs. Elizabeth Petteys, will be facilitating this experience. If you are interested, please see Mrs. Anderson for a registration form.

Swim Lessons

The Carroll Swim Team is again offering private swim lessons. Children learn much faster with individual attention and progress quickly with our instruction. Contact Mrs. Devitt, head swim coach at 260-2642. Private lessons for adults are also available from the coaches.

Babysitting Opportunity

An Ascension School parent is looking for a 7th or 8th grader to walk home two fellow Ascension boy students and babysit with them until 5:00 pm Monday-Friday during the 2009-2010 school year. To set up an interview, call Joyce Connell At 433-1013, ext. 200.

Partnerships 4 Success

Partnerships 4 Success is an organization of Dayton area business persons, Catholic educators, and religious promoting the value of Catholic grade schools and high schools in the Dayton area. Their primary focus is to address the affordability issue, which is the greatest impediment for some Catholic families wanting to send their children to Catholic schools, by identifying the part-time job needs in the business community and the Catholic families willing to work part-time to earn additional income for payment of the tuition.

You may call **George Molinsky 937-231-0468** to get information regarding part-time work or how to share your business needs for part-time workers.

Extracurricular News

Mr. Devitt will be preparing an Extracurricular News and Gr. 8 Awards Special Edition for next week's Family Envelope. Please send any extracurricular news to devittb@ascensionket.org by Weds, June 3.

Tuition Assistance

Those parents who have applied for tuition assistance by way of submitting a PSAS application will be notified later next week by mail of their tuition assistance award for 2009-10.

We realize this may affect your payment amounts on FACTS tuition forms – some of which are still to be completed.

If any families foresee any difficulty at all in completing their tuition commitment for 2009-10 and have not submitted a PSAS form then please consider applying for tuition assistance now. Though the initial round of applications have been processed and will be announced soon it is possible to still submit a request and it will be reviewed. The process is confidential and designed to assist families in need.

Calendar

June 1	M	Gr. 8 Out of Uniform for Good Behavior
2	TU	Gr. 8 Photograph, WC 118, 6:30pm Gr. 8 Commencement, 7pm, Commencement Reception, WC, 118, 8-9pm
3	W	Staff Mtg, Principal, POB4, 10am-12pm
4	TH	Gr. 4-7 Out of Uniform for Good Behavior
5	F	Last Day of School Mass, 1pm Report Cards Mailed Home

Enclosures

Summer/Early Fall Volunteer Forms
PTO Officer Ballot
Appleheart Catalog
Educational Apparel Catalog
School Budget
United Way Helplink Flyer

Return Date

Mon. June 1
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None
None
None
None

Quotation

*The hero is the one who kindles a great light in the world,
who sets up blazing torches
in the dark streets of life for men to see by.
The saint is the man who walks
through the dark paths of the world, himself a light.*

-Felix Adler

