

ASCENSION SCHOOL

Family Newsletter

Vol. 10, Issue 5

Sept. 11, 2009

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

Ecclesiastes 2:26

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

Ascension Walk-a thon!

Just two more weekends to get pledges! Our Ascension Walkathon is Thursday, Sept. 24. Students, we need you to think of friends and family members who would sponsor you to walk 5 kilometers or more (3 kilometers for K-1). Parents who have volunteered for various roles in the walk will be contacted by other lead volunteers. Thank you for your support! Information packets went home individually with students after the kick-off assembly last week. All but a handful of permission forms were returned so it is looking like close to 100% participation by the students in the walk!

Tues., Sept. 15 - Early Dismissal

Early dismissal on Tues., Sept. 15 will be at 1:00 for an afternoon teacher in-service. Kettering, Dayton, Beaver Creek and Sugar Creek Buses will arrive early at 1pm. The Sugar Creek bus will take the students directly home on this day.



Parents who deliver students by car please remember to drop students off in the morning by way of the upper lot. Students may not be dropped off in the lower lot prior to 8:00.
Students arriving after 8:00 must be escorted into the building by their parents. Students arriving late are not admitted to class until parents sign them in.

Diagrams for AM drop off and PM pick up are found in the school handbook online.

Federal Survey

All of our school families are asked to review and complete the enclosed survey. This information is very important to ensure our continued participation in the Federal programs. These programs provide a variety of materials and services for our children, teachers and school. It is one of the benefits our children receive from your tax dollars and we do not want to lose it. **Please complete and return the survey by Mon., Sept. 14.** Even if you have already submitted free and reduced lunch applications this form must be completed also.

My Child is in a Catholic School! Now What?

On Oct. 14, 7:00 at Immaculate Conception Parish Fr. Satish Joseph Ph.D, along with Tim Garielli & Andrew Black, all from the University of Dayton will present to the parents of the children in our Catholic schools an evening on what it means to have their children in a Catholic school. The presentation will be hosted at Immaculate Conception with families of Ascension, St. Helen, IC, St. Anthony and St. Luke's invited. The main topics to be covered are the Catholic identity, being a non-Catholic in a Catholic environment and finding the common bonds between Catholicism and other faiths.

Family Handbook

Your school handbook is enclosed for those who requested a handbook. If you did not receive a handbook that means your family is either, preferring to use the online copy of the handbook or your family has not turned in the signature sheet. Please read & discuss all appropriate sections with your children, particularly highlighted sections in italics that are revised or newly added to the hand-book this year. When completed, return the last page with both sides signed. **All students must sign the form too!** This signature sheet or the one sent in the summer is required of all families. Thank you.

Parking Restricted for Afternoon pick up

No parking after school directly right in front of church in the single row of 10 or so parking spots along Woodman Drive. There is a safe zone of 10 feet around the buses during loading that prevents any cars from being parked that close to the buses. Kettering bus drivers have remarked that Ascension has one of the more orderly and safe dismissals of any of the schools they work with. They were pleased to hear that cars would be prohibited from parking near the buses so that our dismissal could be even that much more safe.

New Media Center Materials - First Book & NEST Videos

Mr. Devitt made application with the First Book Foundation through a grant with our local Target store to receive \$500 worth in books to add to our School Media Center. The 83 books have arrived just this past week and will be processed as soon as possible.

In a grant request to the Education Ascension Fund the complete set of NEST animated Bible videos on DVD were purchased over the summer. There was a summer special and our parish Education Ascension funds were approved to acquire these materials. These DVD's will replace some of the VHS video used over the years that were restricted to classroom use. It may be possible the VHS videos will be put into student circulation for families who may still have VHS players in their homes.

Terracycle Juice Pouch Collection

The collection of juice pouches mentioned last week is for pouches only (no boxes), and the pouches need to be COMPLETELY empty (every last sip!) and straws must be removed for proper collection and recycling. Thank you.

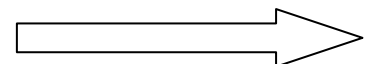
Strategic Planning

Ascension School has involved a dozen or so key members of the Ascension School Community and Parish over the past 7 months in an Enrollment Management Process. The school has benefited greatly from the suggestions and input of these members.

In the Enrollment Management Process we are concluding with a series of 3 Strategic Planning Sessions that will broaden the input from even more members of our community. The meetings are scheduled for the following dates: **Thursdays, Sept. 17, Oct. 22 and Nov. 19** from 7:00-9:00 pm in Room 118 of the Ascension Witzman Center.

We see it as very important to get your input, perceptions and advice about school enrollment at Ascension. So we invite you to participate in these meetings. **If you are interested in sharing your voice at these meetings please send a note through the school envelope and an agenda will be sent to you on Monday.**

Over Please...



Title 1 Services

Dayton resident students in Ascension have available the service of a Title I reading and math specialist provided by Catapult Learning, funded with federal funds through Dayton Public Schools. In order for the specialist Carol Weimer to simply assess your student, she needs parental permission. This is not an indication that the teacher necessarily believes there are any concerns. Mrs. Weimer is trained to conduct this assessment (the classroom teachers are not trained on this particular instrument). The assessment does not take long and afterwards parents are notified if your child qualifies for assistance through the Title 1 program in either math or reading. If your child qualifies you will then be given the choice to have your child participate in Title I services during the school day.

It is the recommendation of the school for parents to allow the assessment because Title I services can be a valuable service to your child.

Remember the 3 R's: Respect - Responsibility - Reverence

Coupled with our implementation of the "Well Managed Classroom" and "Common Sense Parenting" strategies the emphasis this year will be for students to continue to become more self disciplined and more responsible, respectful and reverent in their conduct. This requires teaching the students social skills. The first life skill we will focus on next week is

Participating in Mass:

1. Follow quiet hall behavior to church.
2. Fully participate in responses and in song with reverence.
3. Respect others space.
4. Use books & seats responsibly.
5. Follow quiet hall behavior back to class.

Tuition Raffle for Carroll High School.

This is your chance to have a head start with High School tuition for your elementary student! In conjunction with the Fall Gala Oct. 17, Carroll HS is offering a chance to win a one year tuition credit at Carroll High School. This credit can be redeemed anytime from now until 2018. Tickets are transferable. Buy a ticket and win a year of tuition for your child, grandchild, friend or any future Patriot. Tickets are \$25 each, 3 for \$60, 5 for \$100 and can be purchased at Carroll High School, at your church credit union, or by contacting Pam Bartlett at pam.bartlett@carrollhs.org. These tickets are limited so get yours now! The winner will be drawn at the Fall Gala on Oct. 17. Reserve your ticket for the Gala now. Raffle winner need not be present to win. Call 253-3338 for information on the Raffle and Gala.

Don't Miss Carroll High School's Alumni Weekend!

Carroll's Alumni Association is still taking reservations for Alumni Weekend to be held Sept. 24-27. Thurs, Sept. 24 is the annual golf outing held at Locust Hills Golf Club, shotgun at 11 am. Fri, Sept. 25 is Alumni Night at Carroll's football stadium. Alumni band and guard/drill members are invited back to perform with the band during the 7:00 p.m. pre-game show (contact Myrna at 427-3743). An alumni social with beverages, snacks, music, and school tours will be held in the cafeteria after the game until midnight. Sat., Sept. 26 is the Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame at the Hope Hotel, and Sun, Sept. 27 is an 11 am. alumni mass at Immaculate. All are welcome. Be sure to RSVP as soon as possible. Contact 253-8188 x339, or jweitz@carrollhs.org.

Bundle Sunday

Parishioners/School Families are invited to bundle all used clothing and linens into boxes or bags and drop them off at Ascension on Sat. or Sun. Sept. 19 & 20 where volunteers and a St. Vincent de Paul truck will be available to receive the donations. All items donated must be bagged or boxed.

If your family wishes to assist the St. Vincent de Paul Society you may sign up on the enclosed form.

Snacks

Students may bring a snack for themselves. We have a number of students throughout the school with peanut and nut allergies so we ask that none of the snacks contain peanut, peanut oil or peanut protein. **Please check that there are no peanut ingredients in any of the processed foods. It is surprising the number of items that contain peanut products.**

It would be healthy for us all to consider snacks that meet the lunch program's healthy guidelines (no more than 7g of fat and anymore than 35% sugar per item). Here is a list of appropriate snacks that may be brought to school:

Crackers - goldfish, triscuits, graham, etc.
Fruit and vegetables (dried or frozen)
Jello or pudding snacks
Fruit roll-ups
Fruit chewy snacks
Applesauce
Breakfast bars
Pop-tarts
Pretzels
Raisins
String cheese
Yogurt & gogurt
Popcorn - no peanut oil



Often birthdays are celebrated with a treat. **Parents may send in birthday treats, however they must be pre-packaged, individually wrapped so they could be sent home with the students if necessary.** We also celebrate half birthdays for children with summer birthdays. Parents are encouraged to send alternative treats other than food, such as

Calendar Update

Sept. 13	SU	Welcome Coffee & Donuts after masses
14	M	Child Protect Class, St. Helen, Smith Bldg, 7pm
15	TU	Early School Dismissal, 1pm Faculty In-service, Rm202, 1:30-3:15pm
16	W	IAT Mtg, Rm106, 3-4pm
17	TH	School Strategic Planning I, WC 118, 7:00
18	F	Mass, 9am

Enclosures

Federal Survey
Bundle Sunday Volunteer form
Dor-Wood Optimist TriStar Soccer

Return Date

Mon. Sept. 14
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See details

Photo Proofs being sent home separate from the Envelope
Please return proofs and payment by Sept. 28

Quotation

*"To handle yourself, use your head;
to handle others, use your heart."*

Conventional Wisdom