



*Visitation Inter-Parish School
exists to create a Catholic learning environment
that nurtures the total person in a family-like atmosphere.*

Friday, September 16, 2011

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Teachers:

Grandparents' Day was a great success yesterday. Thank you to everyone who helped with this. The Kindergarten and First Graders did a wonderful job reading at Mass and bringing up the gifts; each of the fourteen students had a role in the service. Msgr. Makarewicz called all the students to the sacristy steps and had them hold up their arms in a blessing for the grandparents. Miss Hernandez, Mrs. Weidinger, and the students made appreciation buttons for our guests. The parents sent in a variety of delicious treats and bingo prizes—all were appreciated. The students are happy that they get the leftover treats as desserts at lunch for a couple days. The Seventh and Eighth Graders were busy doing interviews and photos for the Journalism Club parish newsletter as well as calling and checking bingo. The students and staff set up and cleaned up. Shane Backues made a quick trip to school to help us get the volleyball net down. This was truly a team effort. At the end of the party, one of the guests said to me, "You all really know how to do it up right here!" Another said, "I look forward to this every year!"

Yesterday was also mid-quarter; the year is one-eighth over already. Progress reports will go home next week on Friday. The mid-quarter progress report gives a snapshot of how your student is doing so far in the core subjects and allows time for improvement before the end of the quarter. The mid-quarter grade does not go on the permanent record. It is simply a means of communication between school and home. Remember to contact the teacher first when you have concerns about academics. They are here to help your students be successful, and good communication with the parents is an important part of that. We are blessed with a wonderful staff, caring parents, and great kids!

The St. Aloysius Parish Festival is Saturday, September 17, beginning at 1:00 P.M.

Wednesday, September 21, Stan Varner of Three Rivers Electric Coop will do his "Efficient Everyday Energy" presentation for Grades 6, 7, and 8 in the gym at 12:30 during their Science class time.

Friday, September 23, the students may wear their Visitation Spirit shirts in honor of St. Padre Pio. That day I will be in Columbia for the Diocesan Principals' Retreat, which will be followed by the South Region Principals' Meeting. These meetings will take place at the new Fr. Tolton Catholic High School.

From September 19-23, Mrs. Marilyn Bassett will be celebrating Multicultural Week in her Social Studies classes for Grades 5-8. I encourage you to ask the students about the costumes, foods, and things from foreign lands that she will have for them to try and see. Mrs. Bassett went to the Baltic States this summer. She enjoys sharing with the students what she learns from her world travels. Other schools have begun asking her to be a guest speaker in their Social Studies classes.

As with hair clips, ribbons, and pony tail holders, girls may wear feathers as long as they are not distracting themselves or others from their studies.

Permission slips for the Grades 4-8 Filed Trip to the Bridal Cave on Columbus Day, October 10, will go out after details are finalized next week. Parent/guardian drivers (at least 25 years old) will be needed—please check your calendars. Mrs. Kemmerling is coordinating this educational trip as part of science instruction.

Blessings! Principal Linda Stuckenschneider