



Saint Teresa  
of Avila School

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## **Faith Grows • Excellence Abounds**

### ***MID-WEEK EXTRA***

December 1, 2009

Dear Saint Teresa of Avila School Families,

How did December come so quickly? This month we will be very busy “preparing the way of the Lord!” Our new month opened with the blessing of the school Advent wreath and the distribution of the “mite boxes” for children in foreign lands.

**PITTSBURGH PENGUINS OPEN PRACTICE** Students in Grades 1-8 will attend the Stanley Cup Champion Pittsburgh Penguins open practice on Friday, December 4, 2009, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Students should bring a brown bag lunch which they will eat at Mellon Arena. The \$5.00 fee will cover the cost of the bus since the PTG pays for two other field trips.

Please be certain to return the signed permission form and the \$5.00 fee. Chaperones are also asked to pay the same fee.

Since all of the faculty will be attending this event, if for some reason your child will not be attending the “open practice”, there will be no one in the building to supervise students.

## **TECHNOLOGY**

***GREAT PUMPKIN TRIATHLON*** What a grand success! Thanks to the 83 families who participated in this fund raiser we have raised **\$13,116!** It’s still not too late to send in your gift and assist us as we continue to improve our technology program!

The two “anonymous” donors of \$1,000 each received the first and second prizes, the Blatt Family with gifts of \$478.00 earned the third prize, the Folan Family with gifts totaling \$400.00 came in fourth and the Bertocchi Family with gifts of \$365.00 took the fifth prize. The Geppert Family took the prize for most out of state mailers! We are grateful for the excitement generated through this event and our students and staff will soon be reaping the benefits of this event. Thanks, again!

**DIME COLLECTION** During the month of December we will be collecting “a grand of dimes”...if each student brought in one roll of dimes we could add \$1250.00 in very quick order! Thanks in advance! We hope you will join the DIME-ond DYNASTY! (Flyer was included in last week’s envelope.)

All “coin” gifts are split between TECHNOLOGY ENHANCEMENT and general fund raising.

## **INCLEMENT WEATHER**

As we move into the winter weather, we may from time to time have delays and/or cancellations. As soon as I receive notification from the *North Hills School District*, I notify KDKA radio and WPXI TV. Both post it on their websites and make announcements. In addition, at 6:00 a.m. or later, if the notification comes after 6:00 a.m., all homes will be notified via our ONE CALL telephone messaging system. The announcement will also be on our school website.

**LOOKING AHEAD** Two events that have become part of our Advent tradition will help us to experience the “reason for the season!” On Friday, December 11, 2009, our second grade students will perform the Christmas pageant and we will be entertained by our instrumental band. The performances will be at 1:15 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. On Tuesday, December 15, 2009, at 1:15 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. our students will present the annual Christmas Festival. There will be limited seating at the afternoon performances since the entire student body will attend. Open seating will be available for the evening performances starting at 6:30 p.m. A free will offering will be accepted at the evening performances. Mark the dates!

## **H1N1**

Please continue to use your good judgment in keeping your child home if he or she is demonstrating sickness. Also, if you are requesting homework, it must be requested by 8:30 a.m. and it cannot be picked up until after 3:15 p.m. Thanks for your cooperation and consideration.

## **DIOCESAN DATA BASE/PROTECTING GOD’S CHILDREN**

As part of our on-going effort to provide maximum safety and security for all of our students we are continuing our efforts to have all of our adults who work with our children in any way to have a complete file on our diocesan database. Currently we have over 200 adults registered and are working diligently to have the records complete and up to date. We have **143** adults who have a complete file with all items noted below. All adults who are involved in any school related activity must have, or be in the process of completing the following:

- ✓ **Registration on the diocesan database** - Register at [www.diopitt.org](http://www.diopitt.org). Use password “protect.” Those of you not yet registered are encouraged to do so.
- ✓ **State Police clearance** - Completing the application provides this.
- ✓ **Child Abuse clearance** - When you complete the registration mentioned above, a form will be sent from school which you are asked to return and we will process that for the

individual. **This form will be processed by the Commonwealth and returned to YOU and you are asked to return it to school.**

- ✓ ***Protecting God's Workshop*** - This two and a half hour workshop is scheduled frequently throughout the diocese on line at the above site.

Please register on line at the above website.

- ✓ ***Code of Pastoral Conduct*** - Once the database registration is complete, a copy will be given to you to read and complete the form at the end of the booklet.

While this is a somewhat involved process, I cannot stress too strongly its importance in providing a safe environment for each of our students!

***TUITION PAYMENTS*** Thanks to all who are current in making tuition payments. Seventy percent of the yearly tuition is due December 1. All families having at least 60% of the annual tuition paid have access to Gradebook.

***SANTA'S WRAPPING*** Please continue to send in items for Santa's Workshop.

Please remember in your prayers all who are sick, those who have died, especially Stephen Rieg's uncle, and for peace in our world.

Blessings,

Sister Karen R. Brink, OSB  
Principal

**REPEAT\*REPEAT\*REPEAT\*REPEAT\*REPEAT\*REPEAT\*REPEAT**

***STUDENT ARRIVAL*** Any student who arrives before 8:00 a.m. is required to go to the Library for Extended Care services. No one is available elsewhere in the building to supervise students prior to 8:00 a.m. If you bring your children to school before 8:00 a.m. and do not wish to send them to Extended Care, please have them remain in the vehicle with you until the 8:00 a.m. bell rings.

Our ONE CALL communication was used to notify you that this week's EXTRA is available on line and no paper copy will be sent home.

*Through our doors walk the most important people in the world ~ Our Students.*