



Saint Teresa of Avila School

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Faith Grows • Excellence Abounds

The mission of St. Teresa of Avila School is to provide a foundation in the Catholic faith as we integrate Christian values with the spiritual, intellectual, emotional, social, and physical development of the child. Committed to the highest standards of academic excellence, we enrich our students with the knowledge and skills essential for life-long learning in the 21st Century.

MID-WEEK EXTRA

February 1, 2012

Dear Saint Teresa of Avila School Families,

We are in the midst of our annual Catholic Schools Week celebration and we have much to celebrate!

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK CELEBRATIONS: OPEN HOUSE There was a wonderful turnout of current families as well as twenty new families who are interested in our school. Special thanks to the members of the PTG board and others who acted as tour guides for the new families. Also, a great number of our eighth grade class also assisted with this event.

New families were given a sign-in card to complete and one of the items that was requested was “How did you learn about our school?” The great majority answered “another school family.” We continue to be convinced that our greatest “PR” comes from each of you!

CELEBRATING SERVICE: THURSDAY, 2/2/12 It is exciting to realize that all of our students and faculty will be going out tomorrow to provide “the hands and feet of Jesus” to others near and far! Some reminders about the various grade levels:

- Kindergarten leaves at 9:30 a.m....Packed lunch including a drink...return about 12:15 p.m.
- Grades 1 and 5 leave at 9:00 a.m....Packed lunch including a drink...return about 1:30 p.m.
- Grades 2 and 3 leave at 10:15...Pizza lunch at Mama Lucia's...return about 2:30 p.m.
- Grade 4 leaves at 9:30 a.m....Packed lunch including a drink...return about 1:30 p.m.

- Grade 6 leaves at 8:45 a.m....Pizza lunch when returning to school...return about 1:00 p.m.
School dress code will be in effect tomorrow...no dress down passes, please.
Chaperones are asked to arrive at school 15 minutes before scheduled departure.

REPORT CARD CONFERENCE DAY: SOME REMINDERS:

- Please be prompt for your conference. Some of the teachers' schedules for the day are very "tight" so it is important that everyone is on time and keeps to the fifteen minute time allotment. If for some reason you are not able to keep your appointment, kindly call the school and we will notify the teacher(s) concerned.
- It is possible to schedule only one conference per student. If you would like to see another teacher, please check her schedule and sign in if time slots are available.
- **LOST AND FOUND** Please check the Lost and Found Cabinet near the office...gloves, hats, scarves, books, and lunch boxes are among the items that are currently finding a home there. They are all waiting to be claimed by their owners. The cabinet will be emptied this coming weekend.
- **CONSIGNMENT SALE** Various school dress code clothing and spirit wear will be available in the main hall for a nominal price. You may want to look through what is available.

SAFETY CONCERNS Henninger Auditorium, our school gym, is one of the most heavily used areas in our school. Over the past few years a number of improvements have been made there, and we want to keep it in good shape and have it as a place of welcome to all of our visitors. This area is also the space that many of you and your families spend a lot of time at various sporting events.

I would like to call your attention to two important areas of concern:

- **GYM STAGE** Our students have been reminded that they are only to be on the stage when an adult is also on the stage for adequate and appropriate supervision. When the curtains are closed no one should be on the stage. In fact, the whole area, from the steps from the auditorium, to the stage to the hallway and stairwell behind the stage are basically "off limits" at all times. Sometimes students like to go up to that area to "play." I respectfully ask that you monitor the whereabouts of your children during practices and games and be certain that they stay away from that area.
- **OUTDOORS/PARKING LOT** Often during practices and games, students, younger and older, are outside, unsupervised, playing basketball, running around the parking lot, running up and down the concrete steps as well as the hilly, grassy areas outside. I call this to your attention in an effort to prevent injuries and accidents. There is also much vehicular traffic in that area and with children playing unsupervised, this could be a problem. Again, you are asked to provide adult supervision for your children in that area. We, of course, have the safety of each and every child as the highest of priorities!

Thanks for your cooperation in both of these areas.

REPORT CARD DISTRIBUTION Report cards are still available for distribution in the office. They may also be picked up any day between now and conference day. Any report card not picked up by February 3 will be mailed on Monday, February 6, 2012.

Report cards are available to all families whose tuition payments are current as of January 1, 2012.

IRISH FEST Since this event on February 25, 2012, benefits our school, we hope you can make it! It really is a very entertaining evening with a delicious meal, lively entertainment and great people! See the flyer from the February envelope!

STUDENT COUNCIL CLARIFICATIONS:

- Carnations and candy grams can be purchased for \$1.00 each.
- For international food day, non-perishable food items, that is, those that do not require heating or refrigeration, may be brought in to school when the students arrive. All other “delicacies” should arrive between 1:45 and 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 21, 2012.

EARLY REGISTRATION FOR 2012-13 New student registration began in January, 2012. Families having students who will enter our prekindergarten or kindergarten in the coming year are invited to register early to “save a space.” (This year our four year old program was closed at twenty students.)

You may find the necessary forms on our website at www.saintteresas.org. Complete them and return them to school. For students entering Grades 1-8, a formal appointment is necessary.

“DIME-OND CLUB” Thanks to all who participated in the January dime collection! A total of **\$982.70** was collected which will benefit the renewal of our middle school science lab as well as the purchase of iPads for our students in Kindergarten-Grade 3!

Our fifth grade class won the prize for collecting the most dimes per student. This class donated \$177.36, or \$6.82 per student! Congratulations! This class will receive a “popcorn and video” treat in the near future!

HELP YOURSELF! Remember to purchase Bonus Bucks that are available for sale at the beginning and ending of each school day. By purchasing these gift cards to over 40 establishments in our area, you are also able to “pay down” your fund raising fee and/or tuition.

If you are purchasing large amounts (\$300.00 or more) of any one gift card, please call at least a week ahead so that there are sufficient cards available.

GRADEBOOK Please take the time regularly to review your child’s grades on line. Our teachers make a conscientious effort to record all grades regularly (all within one week of submission). Your review of grades, and also any comments, will help to insure that your child is on task as well as to note areas where reminders and other kinds of encouragement may help the student to “be the best version” of himself or herself as a student at St. Teresa!

TUITION PAYMENTS Your timely payments enable us to be accountable stewards to all to whom we are responsible. The ninth of twelve payments is due today, February 1, 2012. Gradebook is currently available to all families whose tuition is current as of January 1, 2012.

Please remember in your prayer all those who have died, all those who are ill, and for peace in our world.

Blessings,

Sister Karen Brink, OSB, Principal

REPEATS OF IMPORTANCE:

LOOKING AHEAD...INCLEMENT WEATHER In the event that weather causes a delay or cancellation of school, St. Teresa of Avila School follows the plan of the North Hills School District. Once I am informed, I immediately notify KDKA and WPXI and the announcement is posted on their screens and listed as a radio announcement. A call is then made to One Call and you will receive that call at about 6:00 a.m. (10:00 p.m. if I receive the information in the evening). The information is also posted on our website.

If we have a two hour delay, Morning Care is available at 7:00 a.m. If families do not use Morning Care, then students may arrive at 10:00 a.m. and go to their homerooms at that time. Classes will begin at 10:30 and the lunch schedule remains the same.