



# 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***

September 27, 2011

Dear Saint Teresa of Avila School Families,

Thanks for taking the time each week to review the contents of this letter. It is one way of keeping you informed about the many happenings related to our school family.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** The following dates are important to note:

- Wednesday, October 5, 2011...School Picture Day
- Sunday, October 16, 2011, Parish Organ Dedication and Social...see handout
- Wednesday, October 19, 2011, 2:15 p.m....Middle States parent meeting...see below
- Grandparent/Special Persons Event, Tuesday, November 15, 2011, at 1:30 p.m.

**TWO NEW INITIATIVES** As previously announced, and as part of our Middle States study we are looking to form two new “working committees”. Please see the information in the October envelope about the “Service Initiative” Committee and the “Science/Technology” committee, both of which will enhance our total school program and need adults who are interested in a particular aspect of our school. Please consider joining one or both of these committees and bring your ideas to the first meetings. We look forward to working with you!

**HELP YOURSELF!** Just a reminder that Bonus Bucks 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. An order form and list of gift cards available are included in the October envelope.

**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!

**TRAFFIC PATTERNS** We continue to work diligently to insure the safety of all of our students and school families and staff. Parents, and others who bring students to school in the morning are asked to observe the following:

- Please pull up in front of the school as close as possible to the flag pole. This enables a number of cars to unload students at the same time, and allows for a steady flow of exiting vehicles, including school busses.
- As a safety factor, please have your student exit on the school side of your vehicle rather than the traffic side.
- The bus drivers have been asked to allow students to exit the bus as close to the entrance as possible. This can happen if there is a steady flow of vehicles.
- If you need to come into the building, please park your car in one of the designated spaces along the hillside.
- Please do not drop off students before 8:00 a.m. as there is no one to supervise them until that time.

If you exit your vehicle at any time, please do not leave it running.

Thank you for your consideration of the above which provide the highest measure of safety possible for everyone on our campus!

**MONTHLY PACKET** The October monthly envelope is being sent home today. There are numerous items of interest in the packet. Kindly return the envelope to school.

**MOBILE AG ED SCIENCE LAB** In this year focused on “science and technology” each of our students, K-8, are experiencing hands-on experiences in the Mobile Ag Ed Science Lab. Students have opportunities for classes in the lab parked near the Henninger Hall exit. The lab is made possible from a grant as well as funds available from The Ehrman-Palumbo Science Lab initiative.

Thanks to the many parent volunteers who are assisting!

**PENNIES FROM HEAVEN** The pennies are rolling in and are most appreciated. These gifts will be added to our Second Century Fund which has been designated for science and technology for the 2011-2012 school year. Over \$800.00, including \$105.00 from last week’s dress down day has been collected as of this writing.

**MIDDLE STATES SELF STUDY** Our on-site visit will take place October 19-21, 2011. The three person team will visit classrooms, interview teachers, staff, Fr. Bob, and parents/guardians are invited to meet with the visiting team on Wednesday, October 19, 2011, at 2:30 p.m. in The Tobin Library.

The self-study document is available for review in the school office.

**TUITION PAYMENTS** Your timely payments enable us to be accountable stewards to all to whom we are responsible. The fourth of twelve payments was due on September 1, 2011. Gradebook is currently available to all families and after September 30, 2011, will be available to all families who have paid at least thirty percent of the total tuition.

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

Blessings,

Sister Karen Brink, OSB, Principal

**REPEATS OF IMPORTANCE:**

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**VOLUNTEER ROUND-UP** The advancement committee is welcoming additional members. Please see the flyer on our website about a variety of roles that need your talents! This committee helps to ensure a bright future for our school and our students!

We also have immediate need for volunteers to help finish the Music Studio on a Saturday in the near future. Carpentry skills and men to help hang heavy wood panels would be welcome, but many other tasks of unskilled labor are needed such as touch-up painting and wrapping panels in fabric. We are also accepting donations of used musical instruments for display and demonstration purposes. Call Andrea McHugh at 412 635 9830 for details on the date and time.