

Wednesday E-Folder

November 2, 2011

On this All Soul's Day, we honor the memory of those loved one's who have left the physical world and returned to the spiritual world of God our Father. This day may also serve as an opportunity to prayerfully reflect, not only as a way to honor the soul of others, but also to examine how we have chosen to prepare our soul for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. With this thought in mind, you are invited to reflect on the following quotation:

*Compassion is preferable to cleanliness.
Reflect that with a little soap I can easily clean my bed covers.
But even with a torrent of tears,
I would never wash from my soul
the stain that my harshness toward the unfortunate would create.*
Saint Martin de Porres

All Souls' Day

Inside the main entrance of our building, you will notice an interesting display. The visible display honors *Día de los Muertos* (Day of the Dead). This celebration is a Mexican holiday that is celebrated throughout the world. *Día de los Muertos* coincides with All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day and celebrates and remembers those loved ones (both human and animal) who have gone before us. The modern holiday draws from Aztec and Catholic traditions. As a school community, we have built an *ofrenda* to show respect for our lost loved ones and honor their memory. *Ofrendas* are often decorated with pictures, flowers, and candles to celebrate life and happiness. Thank you to all who contributed to our *ofrenda*!

FluMist Procedure

Each child(ren) has been given a consent form to participate in the Wicomico County FluMist prevention program. Should you wish to have your child receive the influenza vaccine on Monday, November 14th, please complete this form and return it to your child's homeroom teacher. **This form is due by November 4th.**

If you have any questions relating to this procedure, please contact our School Nurse Office.

Campus Clean-up

This Saturday, November 5th from 9am – 11am marks the long-awaited "Campus Clean-up day". As a community, we will use this day to reduce, remove and recycle all of the items that have found a home in the upper floors of the Parish Center. With that said, I only have a few volunteers for this weekend's clean-up. If you might be able to assist in the move of both heavy and small items on this day, please contact Rob Costante. Every extra volunteer will save Rob's tired back!

Weekly Mass

Students in grades PK-3 are scheduled to celebrate Mass on Wednesday, November 9th at 8:30am.

As always, parents and other guests are invited to attend all of these Eucharistic celebrations.

In the case of rainy weather, we will continue to participate in school liturgies. Although, we ask that each child be prepared to walk to church during such rainy weather. Raincoats or umbrellas are helpful in such cases.

Fall Sports Recognition Assembly

On Thursday, November 10th, our school will honor the members of our girls Field Hockey Team, boys Soccer Team and co-ed Golf Team. This assembly will be included in our community meeting that begins at 8:15am in the Parish Center. Parents are welcome to attend this special program.

Veteran's Day Program

If you have any family member who currently serves or has served in any of the five branches of our military, we would like to extend an invitation for them to attend our Veteran's Day Prayer Service. This event is scheduled for Friday, November 11th at 8:20am in the Parish Center. If you have a military family member who is available to attend this special program, please notify your child's homeroom teacher. We are grateful for the heroism that our service men and women offer the citizens of our country. God Bless America!

This Week in Athletics

Congratulations to the Co-ed Golf team for a great season! Thank you for being such great ambassadors for our school community. A special note of appreciation for the generous donation of time and guidance that Coach Olinde shared with our student-athletes. Thanks coach!

Crab Cake Dinner

On Friday, October 29th our Parish community gathered in fellowship to enjoy an evening of delicious food and tasty beverages. We are grateful for the many volunteers, students, parents and parishioners who made this evening such a success. A special note of appreciation to Susan McGinty and Ingrid Balea for serving as co-chairs for this event. As well, thank you to the Burley Oak Brewery and Pepsi Bottling Company for their generous donations.

As a result of your thoughtful patronage, the School Development Fund earned \$1800 in profit. Thank you for your continued support!

Halloween Events

This past week found our community celebrating the Halloween holiday in grand fashion. The weekend began on Saturday with the *Monster Mash Bash Music and Dance Party*. I was delighted to see our 6th, 7th and 8th grade students realize how much they truly enjoy each other's friendship. A special note of appreciation to Christy Binstead who served as chair for this event.

Then on Monday, the Halloween fun continued. During the early part of the afternoon, the kids enjoyed their very own pumpkin patch and hay ride. A special note of appreciation for Amie Palenchar, Glenn Ains and Fred Wilson for their efforts to make this part of the program possible.

As well, many thanks to Sue Nascimbeni for her coordination of the pumpkin and greeting card decoration project. These items served as heartfelt gifts for the residents at the Anchorage Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. The costume parade that traveled to Anchorage was a sight to behold! Many thanks to all of our parent/grandparent chaperones who helped during the costume parade. By the smiles on the faces of the residents at Anchorage, the *Hallo-Giving Parade Project* brought great joy to our neighbors on Carroll Street!

And finally to top-off a great Halloween weekend, the return of Trunk-or-Treat was a huge success. The creativity of our SFdS families was on full display! A special note of appreciation to Jess Emhoff and Kristen Riley who served as co-chairs for this event. Their tireless energy made the *Spooktacular Halloween Event* a memory our students are certain never to forget.

Junior Honor Society

Salvation Army Holiday Project was kicked off with a breakfast honoring those schools who contributed last year. Representing St. Francis at this event yesterday was the National Junior Honor Society President, Jesse Willey and Vice-President, Sydney O'Dell. This project is coordinated by Lizanne Wallace and all of the members of the NJHS. St. Francis was thanked for taking part last year in the Milk Carton Campaign and was awarded a plaque for collecting \$433 last year. Please be on the watch for this year's Milk Carton Campaign box. Thank you in advance for your support of this project.

Principal's Page

As the newest addition to the menu items included on our school website, you can now read a copy of the weekly addition of *School Notes*. I hope you enjoy the ponderings offered within this weekly reflection.

Marriage Encounter

Last weekend at the conclusion of each scheduled weekend mass, leaders of the Marriage Encounter Program offered a meaningful opportunity for the couples of our parish community to participate in one of the many Weekend Encounters that have been arranged for the members of our faith community. For more information, please [CLICK HERE](#).

School Yearbook

Please consider reserving a copy for your child at the rate of \$30. If interested, please [CLICK HERE](#). Questions.....please contact either our parent sponsor, Stephanie Overton O'Hara or our faculty sponsor, Elle Phillips.

Scrip

As we approach the start of the holiday season, many exciting additions to the Scrip program are sent to commence. To learn more about these additions, please [CLICK HERE](#).

Notes from the Nurse's Office

Once again cold and flu season are upon us and we all need to take precautions. Hand washing is the most effective way to prevent the spread of a cold and flu and keeping your child home.

The flu, or influenza usually causes symptoms that make someone feel worse than those of the common cold. Symptoms are abrupt, usually lasting only 3-4 days. There may be fever, chills, aches, fatigue, headache, and sometimes a stuffy nose, sore throat, and sneezing. Symptoms vary from child to child and can change as the illness progresses. If you suspect the flu call your doctor.

Cold symptoms are gradual, fever is rare and there may be aches along with sneezing, sore throat, and stuffy nose.

If your child has a fever, make sure he or she is fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication before returning to school.

In accordance to the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR), medication may not be administered to a child unless there is documented parental permission, signed and dated on a medication authorization form. The medication must be labeled by the pharmacy, or physician with the child's name, name of the medication, dosage to be given, frequency, route of administration, name of physician ordering the medication, date of the prescription, and expiration date. If the medication is prescription, the first dose is to be given at home except for emergency medications such as an Epi-pen. A physician must authorize self- administration of a medication.

An adult must bring the medication to school in the original container and it will be counted and signed. This is to be done every time medication is brought to school, even if it a renewal. Please do not send your child to school with his or her own medication. Over the counter medications, even the simplest things as cough drops are also treated like a prescription medications as per COMAR.

Medication forms can be obtained in the Health Room or in the main office and can be sent home with your child.

Christmas Vacation Schedule

It has come to my attention that the Christmas vacation schedule on the school calendar refers to the re-opening of school on Monday, January 2nd instead of Tuesday, January 3rd as is listed on the Diocesan calendar. That said, please note that our calendar will now reflect a return from Christmas vacation on **Tuesday, January 3rd**. I apologize for any confusion.