

September 29, 2006

Dear St. Francis Xavier Families,

This was the first full week of fall. One can feel it in the air, although the weather this week has been beautiful. We hope that you will have an opportunity to enjoy some sunshine this weekend.

**Chess Club** started today. We are so pleased that Caleb Baker, the St. Michael's student who has been running our chess club for the past two years is able to return. Chess club meets Fridays during the school year from 2:40 to 3:40 in the library. Students of all ages are invited to participate.

Parishioner Carol Redmond is offering ceramic classes to students ages 10 and up. Classes are held in her home studio in Winooski on Fridays from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. Please call Carol at 655-9141 if you are interested.

**The Jump Rope and Hoops for Heart** fundraiser will be held during the afternoon of Friday, October 6. All children **MUST** have a signed permission slip to be able to participate. **Permission slips** are due **Monday, October 2**. If you need any extra copy, please see Mr. Becker. If you would like to raise money, the deadline for that is also near. All donation forms and money are due by **Monday, October 9**. Thank you for your support in this very important effort.

The **cross country team** is in full swing and doing fine. So far the team has had three meets and each time they have improved their times. They have done a lot of traveling, and we would like to thank those parents who are taking the time to support our team and provide transportation. We still have three more meets and we hope that you will come see our team race. Keep up the great work Patrick, Pierrette, Alicia, Grant, Liz, Braelynn, Joey, Lizzie, Persephonie, Haley, Natalie, Beth, Kylie, Danielle, Brigitte, Deborah, and Nora.

Things are going well with our after school programs, and we are still accepting **registrations** for **Drama, Woodshop, Martial Arts, Instrumental Music and Chorus**. Additional information about these programs and registration forms are available at the front office. If your student is interested in these activities, yet is currently participating in fall sports that conflict, please talk to the teacher(s). In most cases, they are able to make accommodations.

**Homework Club** is back! The program is open to students in grades 4 –8. Homework Club runs **Monday through Friday from 2:40 to 4:00** in Ms. Pell's classroom, right next to the Extension Program room. The cost is \$5 per day or \$10 per week. This is included in the fee for the Extension Program if your student is enrolled for that day. Students should check in with the Extension Program staff and the Homework Club supervisor will then bring them into the classroom.

We are looking into the possibility of starting a **cheerleading program** for girls in grades 5 through 8. If you are interested, please call Nicole Goulette at 655-9727.

Please consider saving the date of **Friday, October 6**. We are very fortunate to be holding a benefit **opera concert** at beautiful **Elley-Long Music Center at St. Michael's College**. **Soprano, Leslie McBride**, the sister of SFX parent Susan Rosato, will be performing. This promises to be a wonderful evening featuring the music of Mozart. Tickets are \$15 per person and **all proceeds will benefit our great new playground**. For **tickets, please call Jane McCormick at 660-4996** or email her at [jbmcvt4@yahoo.com](mailto:jbmcvt4@yahoo.com).

We have an announcement from the Diocesan Office of Catholic Formation:

The **Diocesan Middle School Youth Rally** is here! Last year's successful rally energized our youth to embrace the fullness of our Catholic faith in Jesus Christ, our Lord, and we hope to continue that momentum into this year! The date is Saturday, October 21, from 10 AM to 6:30 PM and the location is St. Monica Parish School in Barre. The Rally invites our young people to really listen to God when they pray, and allow Him to help in times of adolescent difficulties so they may achieve the true joy made possible through actively living their life in and for Christ. The cost for the event again this year is only \$10 per person. Lunch and two snacks will be provided (one snack at mid-day and one for the ride home after the celebration of the Vigil Mass for the 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time). **The registration deadline for youth participants is September 29. Late registrations will not be accepted.**

For more information on the Youth Rally, please see the flyer on the bulletin board in the school lobby or contact Rob Szpila at 802-380-0327 or [RSzpila@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:RSzpila@vermontcatholic.org). Sign up and registration is available at the school office.

We are participating in the **Price Chopper Tools for School Program**, and a letter with information went home earlier this month. If you have not registered your AdvantEdge card, you may do so online, at Price Chopper, or here at the school. We are also continuing to **collect ink and toner cartridges, and outdated cell phones. Bxotops for Education, Campbell's Soup Labels and Hannaford Helps Schools** programs are ongoing; you may drop those items off here at school or at the back of the church at any time. Please spread the word about these programs. They are easy ways to help our school.

We are looking for a **second crossing guard** to assist from 2:35 to 2:50. If you are interested and available any weekdays, please sign up at the office. We are also looking for **additional volunteers** to help with **servicing lunch and/or supervising students on the playground during lunchtime recess**. Both of these help keep our students safe and we would like to have people start as soon as possible. Your volunteer efforts count toward service hours.

Thank you again to all the students, faculty, families and friends who work so hard to make our school and our school community such a special place. Have a great weekend!

Mrs. Maria Horton

Mrs. Kathryn LaVigne

Mr. Simeon Lewis