

October 13, 2006

Dear St. Francis Xavier Families,

As difficult as it is to believe, we are already in the middle of October. All is going well, and students and faculty continue their hard work. Next week is a short week; the teachers are off on Thursday and Friday for inservice meetings. The Extension Program will be open on both days.

Our thanks to everyone who helped coordinate the two fundraisers held last weekend for our playground fund. Both the Opera Concert and the Special Bingo were very successful, and we appreciate all the time, effort and energy that went into these events.

Picture retakes will be done on **Tuesday, October 24**. We were told that all group pictures were lost by the photographer and so all group pictures will be retaken on that day. All students should be in Mass uniforms for the group pictures. If students are also retaking individual pictures, they may bring a change of clothes for those pictures.

Last year we implemented the **Child Lures Program** in grades K through 8 to help ensure the safety of our students, and it is now a regular part of our curriculum. This year we will be teaching this program during the month of November. In grades K through 5, you will be receiving a note from your student(s)' homeroom teacher(s) regarding specific dates. In Middle School, the program will also be taught by homeroom teachers, and a separate note will be going home.

Every year the Catholic Church recognizes October as **Respect Life month**. We encourage you to take advantage of the opportunity this special month provides to pray for the respect for all human life and to help bring the Respect Life message to your student(s). The U.S. Bishops' Respect Life program flier "Created, Loved, Redeemed by God" is available in our lobby for our school community. The fliers are located on the table beneath the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The message is thought provoking. In addition, the U.S. Bishops have a number of resources and articles about the sanctity of life and the dignity of the human person that can be found at www.usccb.org/prolife/programs/rlp .

We are still 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 nice weekend!

Mrs. Maria Horton

Mrs. Kathryn LaVigne

Mr. Simeon Lewis