

November 3, 2006

Dear St. Francis Xavier Families,

We had a wonderful week this week. On Tuesday, students celebrated Halloween, and the early education students held their parade through the school. It is an event to which we all look forward. On Wednesday, it was nice that so many families joined us for the Mass on the Feast of All Saints. On Friday, the Middle School and other classes joined together to pray a rosary before the Blessed Sacrament in the church in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and for our families. We are often reminded of what a special school we have, and how blessed we are.

Last year Mrs. Magnani contacted the Visiting Nurse Association to arrange for a flu shot clinic for our faculty and staff. This year, we would like to offer this to our families. We will have flu shots here at school on December 7 from 11 AM to Noon. Shots cost \$25 and are available to family and friends who are 18 and older. If you are interested, please contact Charlotte Magnani, our school nurse, to arrange a time.

We are now participating in the **Federal Free and Reduced School Meal program**. As part of the process to set this up, we sent home an **application form and instructions**. You can apply at any time. If you believe you might qualify, we encourage you to complete an application form. If you need another application, please contact Nancy at the front office.

We are again conducting a **Thanksgiving Food Drive** to help support those in need. This year our food drive is through Joseph's House in Burlington. Each class has a grocery bag with a shopping list of items to collect for the drive. We will deliver the bags on Friday, November 17. Any additional non-perishable food items collected will go to St. Stephen's Food Shelf. Thank you for your support of our neighbors in need.

The Student Council has organized a **Middle School dance** to be held Saturday, November 11 from 6:30 to 9:30. All 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders are invited. The cost is \$5 per student and music will be provided by Super Sounds. To ensure that the dance is a safe and fun event, Middle school students were given the school's **conduct and dress expectations** for the dance. The expectations will be coming home today with the students, and we suggest that parents familiarize themselves with them.

The **6<sup>th</sup> graders** are finished their first **Christian service project**: collecting old eyeglasses on Sight Night/Halloween. The Gift of Sight Foundation and the Lions Club recycle these old glasses. They clean, repair, and classify them by prescription, then hand deliver them to people in developing countries. This was a very successful service project. We appreciate your support. Thank you!

The **5<sup>th</sup> graders** are beginning their **Christian service project**. They will be fundraising throughout the year to support Mississippi Home Again. This non-profit organization is helping victims from Hurricane Katrina get back into their homes. For more information, please visit their website: [www.mississippihomeagain.org](http://www.mississippihomeagain.org). Their first fundraiser is to collect donations in the collection box that will be located at the front office. Thank you for your support, and we will keep you updated on their service project as the year progresses.

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