

October 26, 2007

Dear St. Francis Xavier Families,

Last night was International Night and it was absolutely marvelous. We had a fantastic turnout! Teachers and students worked very hard to prepare, and the students were eager to show off all they learned. They did an excellent job. Thanks to all the families that made this event very special.

Tomorrow (Saturday) from 5-8 the Home and School Association is hosting the annual Halloween Party. This is always great fun for kids of all ages. We look forward to seeing you there!

Next week we will have our **school Mass on Thursday, November 1 for the Feast of All Saints Day**. There will be no school Mass on Tuesday, October 30. Students should wear their Mass uniforms on Thursday. Students who have physical education on Thursday should bring those uniforms so they can change after Mass.

The **School Directories** are here. You can purchase them for \$1.00 each at the front office. We implemented new administrative software this past summer, so the process for the directories is much different. We were informed of one error, and we apologize for the oversight. Please review your information for accuracy, and if you find any errors please let us know.

We are continuing to complete work toward our New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) accreditation and prepare for the visiting team who will be here April 6-9, 2008. One seemingly small yet important part of our preparation is to start using fireproof filing cabinets for some of our files. These are generally very expensive. We would like to say a special **thank you to the Knights of Columbus** for donating a **four-drawer fireproof filing cabinet** and a **supply of hanging file folders** for Miss Nancy's office. Thanks also to Bruce Dupont, Anthony Graffeo, Roger Mercure, Leon Sabourin, and Brian Senecal for transporting the (extremely heavy) cabinet down from the Knights room on the third floor. We would also like to thank Mr. Bob and Miss Nancy for their hard work preparing to move out the old cabinet and move in the new.

Spooks are looking for your specs!!! 6th grade is participating in **SIGHT NIGHT**, an **opportunity to donate the prescription glasses or prescription/regular sunglasses** you no longer wear to people who need them. This project is sponsored by the Give the Gift of Sight Foundation and Lions Clubs International. The eyeglasses we collect will be repaired, classified by prescription and given to people in developing countries who cannot afford eyeglasses. Last year we collected over 100 pairs! Please donate your old eyeglasses. You may give them to a 6th grader, or leave them at the main office by Friday, November 2nd. Thank you.

It is not too late to get involved with **St. Francis Xavier Cub Scouts**. The first meeting will be Thursday, November 15 at 6 PM. Please contact Joeie Clark for more information. You may leave a message for her at the office.

We have had many families asking about **physical education uniforms** and we apologize for the delay. Families are able to order plain blue uniforms through www.buckheaduniforms.com. Our **school code is 418** and you can also search using our school name. It is taking a bit longer than anticipated and we have been told that items with the St. Francis Xavier logo should be available within the next two weeks, and we will let you know as soon as that set-up is complete. Thank you for your patience.

The Hood SoxTops promotion ends on October 31. Please bring in your SoxTops!

It was a great turn-out of student helpers for the **Green Mountain Marathon**. Thanks to all the families and students that took some extra time on a Saturday morning to cheer on some marathon runners. It really means a lot to the people there!

The school newspaper is out! The Middle School students in Mr. Fuller's Journalism class have been working to produce a **student newspaper**. Look for it now!

We have wonderful news to share. St. Francis Xavier School began participating in the annual Vermont Foreign Language Association Poster Contest three years ago. This year, all of our students in grades 3 through 8 created an original poster illustrating this year's theme: "Language is Power". The posters which placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd within each St. Francis class were entered in the state-wide competition. We are proud to announce that **Vishnu Premsanker won 3rd place in the Middle School Division of the 2007 VFLA Poster Contest**. He will receive \$15 and his poster will be printed as a greeting card. He, his parents and teachers will be invited to meet the Governor and Lieutenant Governor at a reception at the Vermont State House in March. Congratulations Vishnu and thank you for representing Saint Francis Xavier School so well.

The school has recently acquired some television sets. We would like to pair these sets with a **VCR and DVD player**. If you or someone you know has a VCR/DVD to donate that would be a great help. Please contact Mr. Gaudette at 655-2600 or gaudette_stfrancis@yahoo.com for other information.

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

Mrs. Maria Horton

Mr. Jesse Gaudette

Mrs. Kathryn LaVigne