

November 9, 2007

Dear St. Francis Xavier Families,

We have had another busy week. On Thursday Mrs. Horton attended a seminar in Connecticut on Catholic school marketing, and was pleased to hear that we are doing many things that we should be doing. It is important that we share the good news about our school, and get the word out about all the good things that are happening here.

Next week is Spirit Week and we are sending home details with this letter. It is always a fun break from routines. Thanks to Student Council for taking the lead. Please keep the celebration fun and remember that all attire must be neat, clean and appropriate.

Mrs. Debbie Lajoie, our middle school art teacher, was awarded the **Outstanding Volunteer Award** for the Girl Scouts at the Statehouse on Saturday. This is the highest volunteer award given by the Girl Scouts. Congratulations, Mrs.Lajoie.

While he was in Kyrgyzstan and over the course of the last year, **Sergeant James Fuller** worked on his Doctoral Thesis, through the OSCE Academy which had connections with the US Department Of State and other European Universities. He was recently awarded a PhD through the OSCE Academy in conjunction with Kyrgyz University and Capital University (OH) as they have a relationship with the Department of State honoring overseas studies by Americans. He is now officially holds a **Doctor of Arts, Education**. Congratulations, Dr. Fuller, and thank you for all your support throughout the years.

St. Francis Xavier School has been invited to participate in the **groundbreaking for Winooski's new community center on Tuesday, November 13 at 11 a.m.** We will walk down with students in grades 3-6 and representatives from our school newspaper, Wildcats Roar.

Due to safety concerns, starting Monday November 12 we will be asking students **waiting for rides after school** to wait in the gym. **At 2:50pm** students will be asked to come inside to wait for their ride. Thank you for cooperation.

As a reminder, **report cards** will be going home on **Tuesday November 20**. As you know, we implemented new administrative software this year, and that has impacted the process and the look for our report cards. Please bear with us as we work through our new processes.

As a school community we will be collecting goods for the **St. Joseph's House** in Burlington. Each homeroom we will be putting together **bags of goods** to be distributed to families in need. Lists of goods will be going home for each classroom. Thank you for your service as we prepare for a wonderful Thanksgiving.

The Middle School math classes will be participating in the **AMC test** on Tuesday. This is a contest sponsored by the American Mathematics Contest.

MathCounts meetings will be held on **Thursdays from 2:45 to 3:45pm**. All middle school math students are encouraged to attend.

The **Cross Country team party** will be on **Tuesday, November 13** from **3:00 PM to 3:45 PM** in the **Audet room**. Thanks to our coach, Mr. Becker. Thanks also to Mr. Lewis, Ms. Ruggeri, and Mr. Gaudette for their assistance and to all the families and friends for their support.

We would like to remind families to contact the school if your student will be absent. When a student will be absent unexpectedly from school, a parent/guardian should call the office by 8:30 each day of the absence. If the office does not receive a call, a parent/guardian will be contacted. This policy is for the protection of St. Francis Xavier School students. In the event of a planned absence from school, parents must notify the front office and all affected teachers of the dates **in writing** as soon as feasible,

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. Another part of this accreditation visit is compiling the responses to the survey form we sent out during the summer. If you have not sent in your survey form it would be a great help to hear from you. If you need another copy of the form, please ask at the front 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 has taken a bit longer than anticipated and we have been told that items with the St. Francis Xavier logo should be available shortly. Thank you for your patience.

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