



April 4, 2008

Dear St. Francis Xavier Families,

We have had several days that feel like spring this week. Everyone is excited to see the sun and we are all hoping that we can now look forward to some warmer, brighter days. Today is a half day to allow our teachers to finish their preparation for our New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) accreditation visiting team's visit. The visit will begin this Sunday, April 6 and the team will be leaving Wednesday, April 9 after lunch. We are looking forward to spending time with the members of the team; please say hello if you see them.

Tomorrow, Saturday, April 5, there is a Land of Champs Scout Show at the Essex Jct. Fairgrounds from 11 AM to 5 PM. All are welcome to attend. Four of our scouts will be competing in the District Pinewood Derby. Good Luck Boys! The next Cub Scout den meeting will be on Thursday, April 10 at 6 PM.

Tomorrow is also the State Science Fair at Norwich University. We have seven students representing St. Francis Xavier School: Liz Fell, Joey Gagne, Ian Horton, Caitlyn McCain, Vishnu Premsankar, Christian Scanlon, Ryan Thornton. Good Luck Everyone!

Last week, Mrs. Horton and Mrs. LaVigne attended the National Catholic Education Association (NCEA) Conference in Indianapolis. This was an excellent opportunity to meet with teachers and administrators from Catholic Schools around the country and participate in seminars that will help us improve our school. They look forward to sharing this information with the rest of the faculty and school board. The Diocesan School Office received a grant that enabled us to attend this valuable event.

On Monday our students in grades 4 through 7 and members of the journalism class attended the Grand Opening for the Winooski Community Center. While the weather was not kind to us that day, the students, families, and faculty who went had a very nice time. The Community Center is gorgeous. Thank you to everyone who helped with this project and enabled our students to participate.

We are finishing up the Baby Booties and Rice Bowl fundraisers. Please return them to your student(s)' homeroom teacher if you have not yet done so.

Registration is continuing to go well. We have received most of our re-enrollment forms, and we thank everyone who submitted their forms and registration fee. It really helps with our planning for next year. If you have not yet submitted your forms we ask that you **please return your completed registration forms for 2008-2009 as soon as possible**. If you have questions or need more information, please let us know. Applications for **tuition assistance are due by Friday, April 18**.

Baseball and Softball Practices have begun. We are working on getting the information onto our website. Both teams are looking forward to a fantastic season!

As hard as it is to think right now with the weather the way it has been, summer will be here before we know it. We are running a few programs this summer. Please pick up registration forms at the office.

Please note: All programs require a \$25 non-refundable registration fee. Here are the programs we have scheduled so far:

- **June 23-27 (M-Th 8 AM – Noon, Fri 8:00-4:30) Woodshop**, taught by Mr. Irish, Grade 5-Adult, Cost: \$100 St. FX & Rice High School students/families, \$125 Students from other schools.
- **July 7 -11 (8:30 AM – 12:00 PM) Young Rembrandts African Safari and Pastel Drawing Camp**, Grades K-4, Cost \$120 St. FX students, \$130 non-St. FX students
- **July 14 -18 (8:30 AM – 2:30 PM) Drama**, taught by Ms. Nicole Ruggeri Grades 4-8, Cost \$100: St. FX students, \$125 non-St. FX students

We have an update on one of our 6th grade Christian Service Projects: 6th grade is still busy making nylon cord rosaries in more than 30 different colors. These will be on sale at all four Saint Francis Xavier Masses during the weekend of **March 29/30th**. Orders are accepted any time. Profit from the sales will be divided between the Benedictine Sisters of Westfield (who taught us how to make them) and Saint Francis Xavier School. This is a great one of a kind hand-crafted gift, made with prayer.

Scrapping for a Cure! On **Saturday, April 12, from 9 AM to 9 PM in the gym there will be fundraiser for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life.** Come scrapbook for the day and help a great cause along the way. Cost is \$25. There will be door prizes and raffles. Bring your own lunch; pizza and soda will be provided for dinner. Please call ahead to reserve your spot, as seating is limited. For more information or to RSVP please call Patty Brunelle 373-5379 or Robin Riley 879-0762.

Franco-Americans and all who love French are invited to attend a **French Mass, Tuesday, April 15th at 4:30 PM in the Chapel of St. Michael the Archangel on the campus of Saint Michael's College.** The celebrant will be Fr. Daniel Lokanga of the Democratic Republic of the Congo assisted by Fathers Paul Couture SSE and Marcel Rainville, SSE. For more information contact Monique Martin at 802-309-0115 or e-mail mmartin@smcvt.edu

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 weekend.

Mrs. Maria Horton

Mr. Jesse Gaudette

Mrs. Kathryn LaVigne