



October 31, 2008

Dear St. Francis Xavier Families,

Happy Halloween! It has been a marvelous week. Last night was our annual International Night Celebration. It was hard to top past years, since they are always very well done. Yet, by all accounts, it appears that this was the best year ever. Our faculty and students did an absolutely amazing job. Thank you to our families; this celebration would not be successful without your support. Father Lavalley said that he was very impressed with the information the students presented. Thank you to everyone who came to visit our school to share in this celebration, and thank you for inviting other family and friends.

The Home and School Halloween Party was held on Friday, October 24. Thank you to all the families who did such a great job, and to the eighth grade students and their parents who sold pizza, snacks, and beverages. The Party was a great success.

During the last weeks of September, SFX grades 2 through 8 were busy creating posters to illustrate the theme of the **2008 Vermont Foreign Language Association Poster Contest: "Speak Up for Languages!"** All the entries, including the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place SFX school winners in each class, may be viewed along the Middle School corridor. Congratulations to all our participants!

Here are our St. Francis Xavier in-school winners:

2nd grade: 1st: Abigail Monahan 2nd: John Rousseau 3rd: Brianna Brosseau

3rd grade: 1st: Savana Senecal 2nd: Aly Lynch 3rd: Bridget Gibbons

4th grade: 1st: Katherine O'Brien 2nd: Cole Thornton 3rd: Johanne Diambou

5th grade: 1st: Vi Ann Tran 2nd: Sam Myers 3rd: Brittany Line

6th grade: 1st: Michelle Bolger 2nd: Kayla St. Marie 3rd: Fleur Diambou

7th grade: 1st: Brianna Rotella 2nd: Angela Trombley 3rd: Hannah Duscharm

8th grade: 1st: Vishnu Premsauker 2nd: Andre Paul Tied for 3rd: Ryan Thornton and Ian Horton

We are proud to announce that **four of our students have won prizes in the state-wide VFLA Poster competition.** Their posters, which were displayed at the VFLA Convention in Middlebury on October 24th, will be used to make cards. The students will be honored at a reception at the State House in Montpelier in March 2009.

In the Elementary Division:

Vi Ann Tran, Grade 5 - 2nd place: a cash prize of \$20

Johanne Diambou, Grade 4 - 3rd place: a cash prize of \$15

Abigail Monahan, Grade 2 - Honorable Mention

In the Middle School Division:

Ryan Thorton, Grade 8 - Honorable Mention

We have a note from Ashley O'Brien, Music Teacher, regarding Chorus and Band:

Chorus will now be from 2:45 to 3:25 PM and Band will be from 3:15 to 3:45 on Tuesdays. There will be **no Chorus or Band rehearsals on Tuesday, November 4.** I appreciate your flexibility, and I apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

We have a note from Charlotte Magnani, School Nurse:

We will have an **Adult Flu Vaccination Clinic**, provided by the VNA, at St. Francis Xavier School on **Friday, November 7 from 11 AM to Noon**. The cost is \$25. There is no charge for Medicare or Medicaid recipients with Medicare/Medicaid card or for those with chronic conditions, such as diabetes, asthma. The VNA will accept donations up to \$25. Please call the school office (655-2600) to be included in the count.

The **YMCA in Winooski** is having a **Grand Opening** on **Saturday, November 1**, from **9 AM to 5 PM**. It is located at the O'Brien Community Center, 32 Malletts Bay Avenue. There will be a variety of free activities including free use of the entire Y facility, Open Swim, Basketball Contest with guest judges from the Frost Heaves and much more!

Are you looking for a way to stay in shape this winter or just want to come and have some fun? Consider **Saint Francis Xavier adult open gym**. On **Wednesdays from 6 to 7:30 pm** Saint Francis will welcome any adult (18 and over) members of our Saint Francis Xavier families. Each week we will feature a different activity. Adult Gym begins Wednesday November 5 with the game of volleyball. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Mr. Becker.

The Student Council is arranging a **Wall of Honor** as a tribute to the veterans in our Saint Francis Xavier families. We have attached a form for this purpose. Please write down the names of any relatives who have served or are currently serving in any branch of the Armed Forces. Be sure to include your family name. Send in the information by **November 6** and the student council members will include it in our display.

Welcome to Kathleen Finn, our new part-time librarian. Mrs. Finn says she is happy to join our school and will be weeding (vigorously!) and updating the collection. **Volunteers to help with cataloging and other library tasks are welcome; please contact Mrs. Finn at the school.**

Cub Scout Corner

We have had 2 fabulous meetings in the past 2 weeks! Our scouts have just completed their annual Popcorn fundraiser with great success, thanks to our scouts, their families and to all who have supported them & our pack! All our scouts did a fantastic job! Our top seller for the pack was Jay Jay Gibbons (2nd grade) and leading their respective dens in sales were Casey Keenan (3rd grade) and Matthew Zuk (1st grade). Great job boys!

Our meetings, to be held at school at 6 PM, for the next 2 months are scheduled as follows:

Den Meetings	Pack Meetings
6 pm Monday, Nov 10th	6 pm Monday, Nov 24th
6 pm Monday, Dec 8 th	6 pm Monday, Dec 22nd

It's not too late if there are any other interested families! As always you can check for the latest information on our website at <http://www.bsapack658.org/>.

The Winooski Knights of Columbus, together with the Daughters of Isabella & Saint John the Baptiste Society, will be hosting monthly **Communion Breakfasts** again this winter. They will be held on the second Sunday of each month starting on **November the 9th**. All profits will be used to support our seminarians studying for the priesthood. The breakfasts will be held from **8:00AM to 12:30PM** at the Winooski Senior Center. The cost is \$ 5.00 for adults and \$ 4.00 for children 6-12; children under 6 are free. No family will be charged more than \$18.00. For more information please call 893-4998.

We have a note from Kathleen Conlin, Development Director

Many families have friends and family members who live out of state and they would like to keep them apprised of all the good things happening here at St. Francis. Last week we sent home a form so you can add them to our mailing list. They will then receive our Christmas card, newsletter, invitations to special events, and other information. Please return the forms to Nancy. If you need additional forms, you will be able to print them from our website shortly, or ask for them at the front office.

PLEASE JOIN US TO CELEBRATE OUR STARS

Sunday, November 9, 2008 we are hosting our first Annual Recognition Reception!

We want to recognize and extend our heartfelt thanks and gratitude to our generous supporters. You have helped ensure the continued success and vitality of Saint Francis Xavier School for nearly 150 years!

A Celebratory Mass will be held at 11:00 a.m. at Saint Francis Xavier Church. Our celebrant will be Father Richard Lavalley, Pastor of Saint Francis Xavier. The Recognition Reception from 12 noon to 2:00 p.m. will follow at Saint Francis Xavier School. An array of festive food and drink will be served.

There is no need to RSVP, please just join us! If you have any questions, please call Kathleen Conlin, Director of Development at (802) 655-7690.

Raffle Tickets for the 6x12 Storage Shed are still available. The shed was built by the woodworking students during the summer program, and you can see it in our parking lot. They did a fantastic job! Tickets are \$10 each and delivery within Chittenden County is included. Please register soon! Contact Ms. Nancy for more 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 weekend.

Mrs. Maria Horton

Mr. Jesse Gaudette

Mrs. Kathryn LaVigne