



February 6, 2009

Dear St. Francis Xavier Families,

Our faculty and students have been busy. This Thursday was the 100th day of school, and our students celebrated by doing special math activities in their classrooms pertaining to the number 100. Our students also got together with their church buddies to complete 100 piece puzzles.

Please note that **next Friday is a ½ day to allow for our teachers to participate in an in-service program.** Our Extension Program will be open. **If you are interested in having your student(s) attend the Extension Program during the February break, please sign up.** We will only be open if there are enough students to warrant staffing the Program.

This Thursday was special for another reason. It was Miss Nancy's birthday. Students brought her cards and visited her office to sing to her. Thank you, Miss Nancy, for everything you do!

It has come to our attention that we overlooked one of our hard working **Geo Bee** contestants. **Brent Jacobs** represented the **5th grade** with Kally Fareday. We apologize to Brent.

Re-enrollment packets for our current families are going home with the oldest child (except for families with 8th grade students – in that case the second oldest received the packet.) Blank forms are available on the website. Please note that the **registration fee of \$100 per student is discounted to \$50 per student for families who submit their forms and pay the fee by March 2, 2009.** Please let us know if you need additional information.

We would like to **thank the Parent Ambassadors** who have been visiting area parishes throughout the month of January. Do you know of a family that might be interested in learning more about St. Francis Xavier School? If families were unable to attend the Open House, please have them contact us. We would be happy to schedule a visit at their convenience. Tomorrow, February 7, KidsVT is hosting their Camp and School Fair at the Hilton downtown. Representatives from St. Francis will be there.

The first meeting for the **St. Francis Xavier Girls' Softball Pitching Clinic** will be **Saturday, February 7 from 12 PM to 2 PM** in the gym. **Girls in grades 5 through 8** are welcome! Girls who attend other schools that do not have a softball team are invited to participate on our team. Please sign up at the office at 655-2600. For more information, please call Coach Chris Horton at 865-2777 or speak with Mr. Gaudette.

St. Francis Xavier School now subscribes to *Vermont Online Library (VOL)*, electronic information databases made accessible through the State of Vermont Department of Libraries. These electronic resources are for all age levels and research needs and encompass magazines, journals and newspapers; general reference; topical reference; and biographical reference. VOL provides access to reliable information compiled by established vendors and produced by known and trusted publishers. Database searching is efficient and surprisingly easy--and a critical skill to develop in our information-saturated world.

These resources are available 24/7 from home or school--anywhere Internet access is available; we have attached an information sheet on how to access these databases. Under copyright agreement, database user ID and password information is *strictly* limited to usage by students, faculty and those in the St. FX community. Please respect this agreement and feel free to contact me with any questions (kocf@comcast.net.) Thank you, and happy researching!

We are sending home a postcard booklet for SchoolMall with each student. SchoolMall is a portal similar to SchoolPop (now called OneCause) and St. Francis Xavier School can receive up to 40% on purchases with a wide variety of well-known stores placed through this portal. If you are ordering online, please check both SchoolPop and SchoolMall to see if you can access the store through either portal. There is no increase in price and our school benefits. The postcard booklet is a way to let family and friends know about SchoolMall. **There is no obligation on their part, and for each completed booklet, St. Francis Xavier School earns \$2.25.**

Cub Scout Corner

We had great pack meeting this past Monday! We've had 4 additional scouts earn their Bobcat badge: Sean McCormick, Jacob Roberge, Alex Line and Christopher Llanos. Way to go boys!!!! Our pack also received an award for completing our recharter early!

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

Den Meetings

Monday, February 9th

Monday, March 9th

Pack Meetings

Monday, February 16th (Pinewood Derby)

Monday, March 23rd

We are also planning a winter camping trip to the Vaughn Lodge at Camp Sunrise February 21, mark your calendars. It's not too late to join if there are any other interested families! As always you can check for the latest information on our website at <http://www.bsapack658.org/>.

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