



October 2, 2009

Dear St. Francis Xavier Families,

This week was a very busy week for all teacher and students. We are all settling into a nice routine for the school year. Many of the classes have already begun planning for International Night, which is one of our favorite events.

The New St. Francis Finance Office E-mail is: **finance\_stfrancis@yahoo.com**  
Please make all finance requests to this E-mail address. Thank you for your help!

### **A Special Event**

Wednesday October 7 is *Walk to School Day!* We will be meeting at the LaVigne Funeral Home at 7:30am, and walking to school at 7:40am. You can drop students off right in the funeral home parking lot. We are participating in this event as part of the Safe Routes Program. Parents are welcome to walk with us. We ask all PreK and K families who wish to participate to have an adult walk with the children. This is an optional event, but it will be great to support the program.

### **Chess Club**

Chess Club started today after school! Have a great time.

### **Cross Country Team**

The team is off to a great season. A special thank you to Mrs. Eustis, Ms. Ruggeri, and Mrs. Unrein for donating their coaching time to this wonderful team. Keep running!

### **Cold Weather Clothing**

The weather is beginning to turn cold. Please remind students to bring warm coats for recess and before school recess times.

### **Health Reminders**

Please communicate all health concerns to our Health Office. State guidelines recommend that any child who has a fever or has vomited should remain out of school for 24 hours before returning. Thank you for your help!

### **Safety**

We have a few **safety notes and reminders**. The **parking lot is restricted to faculty and staff** only. This is a serious safety issue, as we can not have many cars entering and leaving while students are out and about. Please remember that **St. Peter Street is one way** from Weaver St. toward North St. from **7:30 AM to 8:30 AM, and 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM**. This affects the direction in which you can park, and people have been ticketed for facing the wrong direction.

## **Website**

Have you checked out the school's website today? ([www.sfxwinooski.org](http://www.sfxwinooski.org)) We are updating and adding news to the website every day. School events, community news, extra-curricular schedules, and family opportunities will all be updated regularly.

## **Library News**

Next Wednesday morning, October 7, grades 2-5 are looking forward to a visit from author Jamie Gilson. Mrs. Gilson is the author of twenty funny, popular books for children, several of which have won child-voted book awards in other states similar to Vermont's Dorothy Canfield Fisher (DCF) Award. Mrs. Finn has been reading Mrs. Gilson's books to grades 2 and 3 during library time, and Ms. Ruggeri and Ms. Pell have been reading to their classes as well. For more information on Mrs. Gilson (and to try your hand at an interactive chess game), check out [www.jamiegilson.com](http://www.jamiegilson.com).

Many students completed the Summer Reading Program. For their great efforts the following students will have a dress down day on Friday October 9 (next Friday!):

<i>Amelia Canney</i>	<i>Caroline Canney</i>	<i>Cassidy Carlson</i>	<i>Justin Carlson</i>
<i>Alexis Cruickshank</i>	<i>Jaelynn Dusablon</i>	<i>Brain Eustis</i>	<i>Sarah Eustis</i>
<i>Jessica Eustis</i>	<i>Abigail Hayden</i>	<i>Hannah Kaiser</i>	<i>Gabrielle Lajeunesse</i>
<i>Ryan Lathbury</i>	<i>Susan Levine</i>	<i>Christopher Llanos</i>	<i>Robinson McCormick</i>
<i>Sean McCormick</i>	<i>Zachary McCormick</i>	<i>Ben McCormick</i>	<i>Theo McDowell</i>
<i>Patrick Monahan</i>	<i>Caleigh Monette</i>	<i>Ayla Paluba</i>	<i>Jacbo Roberge</i>
<i>Gregory Roy</i>	<i>Zachary Roy</i>	<i>Savana Senecal</i>	<i>Andrew Zierak</i>
<i>Matthew Zuk</i>			

## **Religious Program**

The Diocesan annual conference for adult formation called "**Gifts for the Kingdom**" will be held at St. Michael's College on October 10th. Bishop Matano will celebrate Mass at 9:00, followed by the keynote speaker, then lunch on campus. There is a choice among 9 different workshops in the afternoon, as well as a special track geared to catechists and parents as the primary educators of their children. Please consult the flyer that is being sent home with your eldest student for more detailed information. This is a wonderful opportunity to deepen our Faith and enjoy fellowship with others. Hope to see you there!

"Every Child Brings Us God's Smile". This is the theme of this year's **Respect Life Sunday**, October 4th. Bishop Matano will celebrate Mass at St. Joseph's Co-Cathedral at 11a.m. This will be followed by an Art Show Reception. Catholic School students are invited to submit artwork illustrating this theme. The deadline is October 1st. Please see the info sheet for more details.

**RESPECT LIFE CALENDAR 2009-2010:** Your eldest student will be bringing home a copy of the Diocesan calendar of events and activities planned for this school year. In particular, 2<sup>d</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades will be participating in the Art Show and reception being held after the **Diocesan Respect Life Mass** at 11pm on October 4<sup>th</sup> at St. Joseph's Co Cathedral. Any students who would like to serve as greeters or gift-bearers should see Mme. Hawes so she can arrange for your participation.

## **Rice Fundraiser**

The Rice High School Soccer team is sponsoring a **car wash** on Saturday October 3. It will be held at the Checkerbay Car Wash (next to Winooski School) from 8am-4pm.

### **Volunteer Reminders**

The Diocese of Burlington implemented “**Shield the Vulnerable,**” a law based program, for all priests, deacons, teachers, and other persons in a position of trust. **All volunteers, which include the majority of our families, and other persons in positions of trust who spend time with students, are required to complete the Shield the Vulnerable online training program.** The program takes about 90 minutes and completely internet based. Access Shield the Vulnerable at <http://www.shieldthevulnerable.org/>. **If you do not have internet access, please let us know.** If we have families in that situation we will schedule some times in our computer lab so that our families can complete the course. If families have completed the program for Rice or another organization, please let us know and provide us with a copy of the certificate of completion.

The Charter also requires that we must complete a background check on **all volunteers.** **If you have not yet had a background check done, please submit the form provided in the registration packet.**

I continue to see many warm and smiling faces in the hallways of St. Francis. The parents, teachers, and most of all the kids make this a truly special place to be. Thank you for your continued support of Catholic Education.

*God Bless.*

Jesse Gaudette

Mr. Eric Becker

Mrs. Kathryn LaVigne