

Dec. 11, 2009

Dear St. Francis Xavier Families,

The Snowy season is here. Please remind your young people to bring boots and snow pants to go out in the snow. They have a great time playing on the hill. It is wonderful to see all the groups playing on the hill.

Christmas Pageant

The School Christmas Pageant will be December 18th at 6pm in the Church. Please arrive at least: **15 minutes** ahead of time, so all students can meet their teachers in time to prepare for the show.

Parking Issues

Parking regulations are closely monitored during our school events. Cars are not allowed to park in front of the School, or in front of the Fire hydrant across the street. All cars must park with the flow of traffic. In other words, you cannot cross the street to park. Please be aware that Winooski Police has been ticketing cars not parked according to traffic regulations.

A New Phone System

St. Francis Xavier School will test the School Reach System on Thursday at 6:30pm. All parents and staff will receive a recorded message inviting them to the Christmas Pageant on Dec. 18th at 6pm. This program will be used in the future for **school cancellations**, and contacts that include the school community. This test will allow us to examine the validity of numbers that have been provided to the school. We will be calling homes and cell phone numbers provided. Thank for your help as we test this system.

Our Lady of Guadeloupe

The Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadeloupe is December 12 (this Saturday). Our school is also consecrated to Our Lady of Guadeloupe. I hope to see you at the Saturday 4pm Mass, as we honor Our Lady.

Youth Sports

The Winooski Department of Recreation and Community Wellness is registering kids for winter basketball. Registration forms are available with Ms. Nancy in the office, and they are due by Dec. 19th.

Grades K-2: Fundamentals

Grades 3-4: Fundamentals and Scrimmages

Grades 5-6: Fundamentals and League Play

Contact Bob DiMasi at 655-1392 x12 or radimasi@onioncity.com for more information.

Student Council News

School Store

The Student Council has been responsible for the new and improved school store. The **school store is open on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons from 2:30 – 2:50**. Popcorn is also available on Friday afternoons.

Development News

A few words from the sponsors of the annual fund:

Renew the Commitment

“George and I are honored to have been asked to Co-Chair the 2009-2010 Annual Fund. We are very pleased that Monsignor Wendell Searles will join us as Honorary Co-Chair. We were asked to “renew our commitment” to Saint Francis Xavier School and we gladly accepted.

In just a few days you will be receiving a letter requesting you to join us in renewing your commitment to our school. Monsignor Lavalley once again leads the way by showing his own love for and commitment to our school. Our pastor, for the second year in a row, is providing a \$10,000 Challenge Grant from retirement funds bequeathed to him by his late father, Mr. Harry A. Lavalley. Monsignor Lavalley is using those funds he inherited to meet each donation, from now until the end of December, dollar for dollar, up to \$10,000! The money we raise is critical. Without donor support, Saint Francis cannot maintain and enhance its programs, facilities, and, most importantly, provide the best Catholic education for our students.

We recognize our economy has put financial strain on many of our supporters. However, we are asking you to “renew your commitment” to Saint Francis and give as generously as your circumstances will allow.

Thank you for your support.”

-George and Jacqueline Bouffard, Co-Chairs, 2009-2010 Annual Fund

SFX GETS MAJOR BOOST FOR CHALLENGE GRANT

Saint Francis Xavier School received a major boost to its 2009 challenge Grant when L’Union Saint-Jean-Baptiste voted to add \$2,000 to the amount donated by Monsignor Richard Lavalley. Monsignor Lavalley is using \$10,000 of his retirement funds to meet each donation, from now until the end of December, dollar for dollar, up to \$10,000. In respect for Monsignor Lavalley, and in support of Saint Francis Xavier School, L’Union Saint-Jean-Baptiste announced that it will add an additional \$2,000 to the challenge.

Advent is our season of prayer and preparation. We pray daily for the continued strength and vitality of our school community. As you come together as a family in prayer, please remember each of the staff and teachers in your prayers.

God Bless.

Jesse Gaudette

Mr. Eric Becker

Mrs. Kathryn LaVigne