

Jan. 29, 2010

Dear St. Francis Xavier Families,

This has been a very exciting week. Mr. Becker and Mr. Gaudette have been giving tours of the school to prospective families. Interest for our school community is growing. We are very excited about Catholic School's Week. We have a lot of great activities planned for our school community.

### **Registration Packets**

Registration packets for returning families will be sent home Monday February 1, 2010. The early registration deadline is March 1, 2010. With a lot of recent interest in our school it is important to complete the registration pack to guarantee a spot in the grade for which your children are applying. We are very excited for the coming school year.

### **Catholic School's Week**

The following pages will contain an overview of Catholic School's Week and the events.

### **A Note from the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

"The eighth grade class is hosting a food drive for the Chittenden Country Emergency Food Shelf. After Christmas, the homeless are still hungry and the food shelves are empty. We will be holding a food drive from January 31--February 6, 2010. As there are only seven students in our eighth grade, it will be very difficult to make large contributions without the help of the rest of our school. We hope that your children will be able to contribute because we will need all the help we can get. Our goal is to raise 1 ton (2000lbs.) of food by the end of the year. When we accomplish this goal, the school will be rewarded by an afternoon of fun. This service project will be a great way to bring our community together by helping the homeless. Both the graduating eighth grade class and the homeless will be very grateful for your generous act. Thank you and we look forward to your cooperation."

Sincerely,

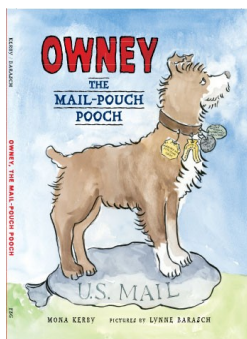
*Your Eighth Grade Class*

### **The Food Shelf has acknowledged that the following items are most necessary:**

- Canned tuna-fish, salmon, sardines, etc.
- Peanut Butter
- Cereal: All Varieties
- Canned Fruits and Vegetables: All Varieties
- Canned meat: beef, pork, chicken, etc.
- Canned soups and chili
- Boxed Meals: macaroni and cheese, Hamburger Helper, etc.
- Pasta and Pasta sauce: All Varieties
- Diapers: All Sizes
- Pet Food: All Brands and Varieties (dogs, cats, etc.)

Donation boxes will be in each homeroom. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade will continue to update the goal (2000 lbs.) in the front lobby. Thank you to Mrs. Jane McCormick, Mr. Lee Winchester, and Mr. David Prehoda for volunteering to transport the food to the food shelf. Thank you for your generosity.

## **Library News:**



Mrs. Finn is planning for grades K-3 to visit next Tuesday, February 2. With Skype software, web-camera and Mr. Becker's able technological assistance, we will be visiting Mona Kerby, author of *Owney the Mail-Pouch Pooch*, a title on this year's Red Clover list. We've had a lot of fun reading this book about the incredible Owney, a real dog who found a home in 1888 in the Albany, NY post office and rode the mail trains all over the United States. And a stuffed toy version of Owney, which is traveling all over Vermont, is visiting St. Francis next week! Visit [www.monakerby.com](http://www.monakerby.com) for more information about the real Owney and some related activities that might be fun to do at home.

## **Art Exhibit**

Saint Francis Xavier Student artwork will be displayed at the O'Brien Community Center from Monday Feb. 1 to Thursday Feb. 11. Come and see what wonderful work out students have done.

Thanks to our wonderful art teachers for making this possible.

## **Catholic Relief Services**

Our prayers and heartfelt considerations go out to the people of Haiti. The school will be collecting aid to send to Catholic Relief Services, which is currently delivering aid to Haiti. Catholic Relief Services is a world wide relief organization that delivers aid to many countries around the world. Please visit their website at: <http://crs.org/> to learn more about their services. If you are interested in making a donation you can do so at their website, or speak to Ms. Nancy in the main office.

Thank you for another wonderful week of school. We are looking forward to a great Catholic School's Week. We look forward to seeing you throughout the week.

Jesse Gaudette

Mr. Eric Becker

Mrs. Kathryn LaVigne