

# ST. MATT'S MATTERS

January 30, 2009

## MISSION STATEMENT

As a Christian community of believers at St. Matthew School in Oak Creek, we declare our mission to be one in which we promote academic excellence by providing a high quality, Catholic education. Through value-centered education and spiritual nourishment we strive to meet the needs of our families. Our mission is to build a Catholic community where we encourage others to proclaim the Gospel with compassion and hope.

## A Note from the Principal

Dear Parents,  
Greetings!

Catholic Schools Week was an exciting week! We had many families tour our school on Sunday after the 9:30 Mass. On Monday, while the students were at home, the teachers attended a technology in-service. Mrs. McDonald introduced us to the SMARTboard; we worked on our school web pages and worked with INSPIRATION software. On Tuesday, the penny war for Diabetes began. We also learned new songs for our prayer service. Father Pat accompanied our singing by playing his guitar. On Wednesday, all the students, teachers, Mr. Dan, Ms. Jennifer, Mr. Schneider and Mrs. O'Connor took part in Competition Day. The games were great fun. In the afternoon, Jeopardy took place—all the teams gave their best efforts; the teachers won!

High Interest Day was great. We were blessed with so many presenters and parent volunteers. Later in the day, members from the Milwaukee Wave put on an assembly for the students.

Today, we ended the week with a beautiful Mass planned by grades K4-2. Mrs. Daun led the students in a choral reading that highlighted the service projects done by our students. We spent this afternoon enjoying a good movie and eating popcorn.

My "thank you" list is long. Special thanks to Mrs. Breen, Ms. Voelz, Mrs. Dolan, Mrs. Daun, Mrs. Tezak Unti, and Mrs. Lee for planning our activities this week, to Mrs. Wargin, Mr. Unti, Father Pat, and Mrs. Daun for helping with the prayer service, to Mrs. Butzer, Mrs. Shadd, Mrs. Shawver, Mrs. Otto, Mrs. Correll and the fifth graders for making High Interest Day a success and to Mrs. Chilson for getting the balloons for Open House and the popcorn for Movie Day. Thanks to Mrs. Shawver and the members of the Board of Education who helped with school tours. Thanks to Mr. Dan for making our school sparkle. Thanks to Mrs. McDonald for organizing the penny war of Diabetes and preparing the PowerPoint presentation shown at Mass today. Thank you to the students who were greeters at Sunday Mass, participated in the liturgy and helped with tours.

Of course, my list would not be complete without saying: "Thank you for supporting Catholic Education."

*Mrs. Barber*

## IMPORTANT DATES:

**Monday, 2/2** – NO All Saints Musical Instrument Lessons, Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, 2/3** – St. Blaise Blessing of the Throat

**Wednesday, 2/4** – Oak Creek District Spelling Bee, 6:00 p.m.

**Friday, 2/6** – Honors/Good Citizen/Lucky Bulldog Assembly, 9:15 a.m.; Middle School Fundraiser Dance, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

**Saturday, 2/7** – Auction, 6:00 p.m., Oak Creek Community Center

**AUCTION** – Time is running out! Get your reservations in now for this wonderful evening. You won't want to miss it. Any questions about reservations, please call the school office.

**AUCTION RAFFLE** – Hurry and buy your raffle tickets for your chance to win one of five \$1,000.00 prizes.

**AUCTION CATALOG** – The Auction catalog is now available on the school website. Please check it out at [www.stmattoc.org](http://www.stmattoc.org)

**HONORS ASSEMBLY/GOOD CITIZEN/LUCKY BULLDOG ASSEMBLY** – The assembly will be held Friday, February 6, at 9:15 a.m. in church. All are welcome to attend!

**MEMORY BOOKS** – Last chance to order your Memory Book. This is a great memory of the 2008-2009 school year. Please turn your order in by Monday, February 2.

**SPELLING BEE** – The annual St. Matthew's Spelling Bee was held on Thursday, January 22. We are proud of all of our contestants from grades 5

through 8! The competitors were as follows: Grade 5 - Nicole Burchardt, Rachel Chilson, Emma Sims and Evan Siira; Grade 6 - Ashley Heiges, Amanda Lee, Jacob Schroeder and Jacob Wolf; Grade 7 - Michael Armanious, Nick Cheaney, Jamie Gulland and Mathew Peter; Grade 8 - Fiona Dolan, Isabelle DuCharme, Mathias Rekowski and Paul Rekowski. The top four contestants will represent St. Matthew's at the District Spelling Bee on February 4 at 6 p.m. at Oak Creek East Middle School. They are: Fiona Dolan, Mathias Rekowski, Paul Rekowski, and Jacob Schroeder. We know they'll give it their best effort at the contest! Good luck!

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**MCDONALD'S MONEY IS HERE** – Order form and Information are in this week's family folder. For every \$1 of McDonald's Money you purchase, 30 cents goes to Home and School and is applied towards your fundraising obligations. Orders will be filled on a first come, first served basis, so get yours in quickly. This easy fundraiser runs from February 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>. Any questions, please call Michelle Luczak at 414-762-5426.

**GOOD NEWS** – Congratulations to our 8th grade boys basketball team. They received their invitation to the Padre Serra Basketball tournament today! This tournament is reserved for the top 32 teams in the Milwaukee area, and our 8th graders have definitely earned their way in. Coached by Paul Maurer, our 8th grade team consists of Zach Harvey, Miguel Ledezma, Ricardo Lozano, Luke Maurer, Max Reynolds, Will Reynolds, Justin Schneider, and Nathan Yost. (Also John Nichol and Zach Zelton from Religious Ed.)

**NEW SCHEDULES FOR SERVERS** – The February/March schedule for servers is in an envelope in the January 30 family folder. The sub list is on the back of the schedule. Thank you to all who faithfully keep their scheduled assignments, or get a sub.

**LIVING OUR FAITH - The February 14th Catholic Knights presents Living Our Faith with Archbishop Dolan episode looks at the importance of being good stewards of the earth in "Going Green."** Archbishop Dolan welcomes Bob Pauley, president, St. Thomas More High School, who shares examples of measures the school is taking as part of a major sustainability initiative. The Racine Dominicans eco-justice farm featuring self-sustaining solar powered buildings is spotlighted. In addition, Fr. Ken Omernick, pastor, St. Gregory the Great Parish, Milwaukee, discusses saints, including St. Valentine. Watch Catholic Knights presents Living Our Faith with Archbishop Timothy Dolan Saturdays at noon, on WISN TV 12. The program also airs on Time Warner Cable's Wisconsin On Demand, Channel 1111. If you miss a show, every segment is available at [www.livingourfaith.net](http://www.livingourfaith.net).

**JOIN THE ST. MATTHEW'S MOMS GROUP** - The MOMS group is growing and looking for new members to foster community within St. Matt's Parish through friendship, service and prayer. We meet periodically as determined by the group. Some future activities may include Moms Night Out, Monday evening group prayer series, playgroup, outreach programs, spiritual/adult education, social activities and more. **We are looking for your ideas!** The MOMS group is open to all who have previously taken the MOMS series and those who haven't, all are welcome! We realize that not all members are able to participate in everything we do, but you can participate in as many or as few as you wish. Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 2 at 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the teachers lounge. For more information or to RSVP that you are coming, please contact Kathy Johnson at 414-764-8039 or email, [madscienceofmilw@aol.com](mailto:madscienceofmilw@aol.com).

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the 6<sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball team who came away with the consolation trophy from the Divine Mercy tournament last weekend. Their trophy is proudly on display in the school office. WAY TO GO!

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the 1<sup>st</sup> Place winners in the 2009 Community Basketball Free Throw Contest that was held on January 18 at the West Middle School. These winners have the opportunity to now represent the City of Oak Creek at the Southeast Park and Recreation Council County Basketball Free Throw Contest on Saturday, February 21. We have two winners from St. Matthew's: Abby Lownik, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, and Evan Siira, 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Good luck!

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Kate Lambert who participated in her first Best of the Best tournament for taekwondo. She placed first in Board Breaking. She broke 2 boards, each on her first attempt. She also placed second in Forms in her group. Way to go Kate!

**FREE THROW CONTEST** – The South Milwaukee Knights of Columbus will hold their free throw contest on Friday, February 6. It is for all boys and girls ages 10-14. Registration is at 6:30 p.m., contest begins at 7:00 p.m. District level for 1<sup>st</sup> place winners will begin at 8:00 p.m. It will be held at Divine Mercy Gym, 1800 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue, South Milwaukee.

**600 MINUTE CLUB REMINDER (Grades 5K-6)** - Please continue reading. Remember to return your reading log to your teacher by Monday, February 9, to earn your Six Flags ticket.

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|-----------------|------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>SERVERS:</b> | January 31 | 5:00 p.m.: Frank Margraff  | Cross: Glenn Margraff  |
|                 | February 1 | 7:30 a.m.: Amanda Janquart | Cross: Lauren Tehan    |
|                 |            | 9:30 a.m.: Ashley Heiges   | Cross: Rachel Anderson |

***"If you judge people, you have no time to love them."***

**– Mother Teresa**

**GIFT: GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER**