

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,

After an exciting Catholic Schools Week, life at St. Matthew School has settled down to our regular routine. We were back to our usual schedule, and yet, some special events occurred.

On Tuesday, St. Blaise Day, Father Pat visited all our classrooms and blessed our students' throats. As Father blessed our students, he prayed "Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from ailments of the throat and from every other evil. In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

This week, students from St. Matthew School participated in the Oak Creek/Franklin district Spelling Bee and the first round of the Scholastic Challenge. Auditions for our Talent Show were also underway.

Students in grades 4K-grade 1 celebrated 100's day on Thursday.

This Saturday, St. Matthew's 5th annual auction takes place at the Oak Creek Community Center. The theme is *St. Matthew's Goes to the Movies*. Countless hours have been spent planning this event. I am, indeed, grateful to our chairpersons, Dan and Jill Duchniak, Maggie McNeive and Debbie Sievert and to all those who have worked so hard to make Saturday evening a success!

Thank you for supporting Catholic education!

Mrs. Barber

IMPORTANT DATES:

Saturday, 2/7 – Archdiocesan Children's Choir Festival; Auction, 6:00 p.m., Oak Creek Community Center

Monday, 2/9 – Panera Day; Grades 5K-6, Six Flags 600 Minute Reading Due; Grades 7 and 8, Scholastic Challenge

Wednesday, 2/11 – Out-of-Uniform Twin Day

Thursday, 2/12 – 11:20 A.M. **DISMISSAL**; Conferences, 1:00-3:30 p.m.

Friday, 2/13 – **NO SCHOOL** – Midwinter Break; Scrapbooking, 6:00 p.m.-midnight

Monday, 2/16 – **NO SCHOOL** – Midwinter Break; Market Day Pick Up, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

CHOIR FESTIVAL - Some of our students have been working very hard to prepare for the Archdiocesan Children's Choir Festival. John Margraff, Lauren and Coryn King, and Rachel Pogodzinski will be participating in the all-day festival this Saturday, February 7, at St. William Parish in Waukesha. (I will be accompanying them.) Mr. Lee Gwozdz, a nationally known conductor and pastoral musician, will be the clinician. There will be a half-hour concert/prayer service beginning at 2:30 p.m. in the church. Please feel welcome to attend this event ending the day!

Miss Kestell

LUNCH MENU CHANGE – Please change your February lunch menu. On Tuesday, February 24, we will have turkey subs. On Ash Wednesday, February 25, we will have rotini noodles and sauce.

CONGRATULATIONS – The theme for Catholic Schools Week was Celebrate Service. Our school wide service project was to raise money for the American Diabetes Association. It is with great pleasure that I announce that our students raised \$1,241.79 in the Penny War. **F A N T A S T I C!!!**

PANERA DAY – This coming Monday, February 9, from 6:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. treat your family to breakfast, lunch or dinner at Panera and 10% of the purchase price will be given back to our school. A voucher form found in your family folder will need to be presented. Keep in mind to utilize a Panera card from Scrip. (There is 9% profit if you use a Panera card purchased through Scrip.)

CONGRATULATIONS to Sean Dankert who participated in his first wrestling meet. It was held at South Milwaukee High School last weekend and he took third place. Way to go Sean!

EXTENDED CARE – Just a reminder that Thursday, February 12, is an 11:20 a.m. dismissal. Extended care children will need to bring a cold lunch. Drinks and snacks will be provided.

SCHOLASTIC CHALLENGE – The 2009 St. Matthew’s Scholastic Challenge team won their first match last night, 20-17, over St. Thomas of Milwaukee. The team plays again Monday night against St. Edward’s of Racine. Members of this year’s team are 8th graders Emily Chen, Fiona Dolan, Zachary Harvey and 7th graders Michael Armanious, Drew Butzer and Nick Cheaney.

SAINT THOMAS MORE HIGH SCHOOL GOOD NEWS – Congratulations to our St. Matt’s graduates who made the second quarter Honor Roll:

<u>Grade 9</u>	<u>Grade 10</u>	<u>Grade 11</u>	<u>Grade 12</u>
David Merkel	Molly Miller	William Schulner	Sara Schaal
Andrea Schulner	Tyler Schultz	Richard Schwanda	Mary Bronikowski
Alyssa Loferski	Cecilia Margraff		Aaron Loferski
Glenn Margraff	Brian Zapp		
Scott Butzer	James Murphy		
Riley Shelton	Christopher Rolling		
	Evan Johnson		
	Matt Cheaney		

MCDONALD’S MONEY – There’s still McDonald’s money/certificates available. For every \$1 of McDonald’s Money you purchase, 30 cents goes to Home and School and is applied towards your fundraising. Orders will be filled on a first come, first served basis, so get yours in quickly. This is an easy fundraiser and certificates are good now until June 30. Any questions, call Michelle Luczak at 414-762-5426. Additional order forms are available in the school office.

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.

600 MINUTE CLUB REMINDER (Grades 5K-6) – Remember to return your 600 Minute Six Flags reading log to your teacher on Monday, February 9, so you earn your Six Flags ticket.

PIUS XI HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TEST - Pius XI High School will hold an additional Incoming Freshman Placement Test on Tuesday, February 17, from 8:00 am to 12:30 pm. Pre-registration is required through the Counseling Center. There is no fee to take the test. Please call Sue at 414-290-8145 for more information and/or to register.

2009 PIUS XI SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITIONS - All 8th grade students are invited to compete for academic scholarships in English, Performing Arts, Visual Art, Science and Math. A total of \$12,000 in tuition awards will be granted in this year’s combined academic scholarship competitions. Students can compete in any or all of the competitions as multiple awards are possible. Pre-registration for each is required. For competition dates, registration form and other information, visit www.piusxi.org or call 414-290-8175.

PARISH PICTURE DIRECTORY SIGN UP – It has been 4 years since the parish published a parishioner picture directory. The dates for pictures will be: March 19, 20, 21 and 23, 24 and 25. You can sign up at the display in the Gathering Space or online at: <https://signup.olanmills.com/familyinfo.aspx?chcontract=39490>. You will receive a free 8X10 portrait and a parish picture directory if you participate. This is an excellent stewardship opportunity to develop community. If you’d be willing to serve as a “greeter/host” for picture taking, call the parish office. If you cannot make these dates or are unable to come to the parish and would like to submit a picture for inclusion, call Tom Schneider at 414-762-4200, ext. 21. If you would like to submit a picture of a family member in the military, contact Tom.

SERVERS:	February 7	5:00 p.m.:	Nicole Burchardt	Cross:	Amanda Craig
	February 8	7:30 a.m.:	Amanda Horman	Cross:	Corinne Luczak
		9:30 a.m.:	Cameron Smith	Cross:	Bryce Schultz

”Endless are the blessings of those who believe.”

GIFT: GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER