

# ST. MATT'S MATTERS

February 25, 2010

## 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.

## PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Parents,

This week has been filled with a variety of activities. Mardi Gras was great fun. A big "thank you" goes out to Mr. Keane, the 8<sup>th</sup> graders, the teachers and the parents who worked so hard to make it a success.

Tomorrow is an in-service day for the faculty. We will be spending the morning at St. Joseph Convent on retreat with all the faculty members from District 15. In the afternoon, we will be back on campus, attending a "lock-down" workshop.

Next week our 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> graders will be taking the Iowa Test of Basic Skills. These tests help us understand each child's academic strengths and weaknesses and are, therefore, informative in helping us meet each student's individual needs. Here are some test taking tips: (1) Plan ahead for a peaceful, unhurried evening and morning before the test. (2) Make sure your child sleeps well, eats a healthy breakfast, and gets enough water to drink. (3) Be on time for school. (4) Be prepared with necessary tools such as extra pencils or calculators if allowed. (5) Be sure your child understands what to do if he/she needs to go to the restroom during the test. (6) Encourage your child to give an honest effort; take pride in him/herself and **DO his/her BEST**. Remind your student to never leave an answer blank!

Next Friday the Fourth Grade will put on their State Fair, a huge and awesome undertaking. Practice for the annual second grade play is underway. My list could go on. It is clear: in addition to their regular studies, St. Matthew School students are certainly busy!

Our Lenten journey continues. Each class is participating in the parish Lenten project: Helping Hands for Haiti. Many classes are taking part in weekly Stations of the Cross. Individual classes have taken on other service projects as well. Students in grades 2-8 will be receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation in March. Of course, all of our work during Lent leads to Easter, when we will join in celebrating the Resurrection and the risen life that we receive in Baptism.

Finally, the "Refer a Family" program began this week. Remember, this program offers a \$100 tuition reduction from next year's tuition for a referral that results in a family enrolling at St. Matthew School for the 2010-2011 school year. Please spread the good news of St. Matthew School!

Thank you for supporting Catholic Education.

*Mrs. Barber*

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Friday, 2/26 – NO SCHOOL**, Teacher in Service

Sunday, 2/28 – Basketball Photos, 11:00 a.m.

**Monday, March 1 through Friday, March 12 - Grades 3, 5, 7, ITBS Testing Window**

Monday, 3/1 – Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, 3/5 – Grade 4, State Fair; Progress Reports Sent Home

Sunday, 3/7 – Grade 2, Sacramental Meeting, 10:30 a.m. **OR** March 8

Monday, 3/8 – Grade 2, Sacramental Meeting, 6:30 p.m. **OR** March 7

**BASKETBALL PHOTOS** – This Sunday, February 28, basketball photos will be taken in the Saints room. Here is the Basketball Picture day lineup: 11:00 - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys, 11:20 - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys, 11:40 - Miller (8<sup>th</sup> Boys), 11:45 - Cheaney (8<sup>th</sup> Boys), 11:50 - Lambert (5<sup>th</sup> Girls), 11:55 - Reyes (6<sup>th</sup> Boys), 12:00 - Schultz (6<sup>th</sup> Boys), 12:05 - Valla (8<sup>th</sup> Boys), 12:10 - Tezak (7<sup>th</sup> Girls), 12:15 - any other individual photos. See you there!

**MARDI GRAS COSTUME WINNERS** – The costume theme this year was biblical. Congratulations to: Grade 4K, 1<sup>st</sup> Arnold Yang, 2<sup>nd</sup> Adam Erickson, 3<sup>rd</sup> Josie Sagan, Grade 5K, 1<sup>st</sup> Danny McNeive, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sean Dankert, 3<sup>rd</sup> Avalon Pook, Grade 1, 1<sup>st</sup> Abby Reinke, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jack Fadness, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tori Goedland, Grade 2, 1<sup>st</sup> Nick Shelton, 2<sup>nd</sup> Katie Pogodzinski, 3<sup>rd</sup> Dylan Dennis, Grade 3, 1<sup>st</sup> JohnPaul Daun, 2<sup>nd</sup> Samantha Lee, 3<sup>rd</sup> Lauren Sims, Grade 4, 1<sup>st</sup> Entire 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Class, 2<sup>nd</sup> Abby Lownik, 3<sup>rd</sup>, Jacklyn Payne, Grade 5, 1<sup>st</sup> Nathan Wester, 2<sup>nd</sup> Anna Daun, 3<sup>rd</sup> Noah Daun, Grade 6, 1<sup>st</sup> Abby Czerwisni, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nicole Burchardt, 3<sup>rd</sup>, Dhanya Attipetty, Grade 7, 1<sup>st</sup> Josh Duchniak, 2<sup>nd</sup> Amanda Lee, 3<sup>rd</sup> Kelly Kotowski, Grade 8, 1<sup>st</sup> Danielle DiLorenzo, 2<sup>nd</sup> Michael Armanious, Jacob Fakler and Mathew Peter, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ben Miller. 1<sup>st</sup> place winners received a \$10 gift card to Target. 2<sup>nd</sup> place received 10 game tickets and 3<sup>rd</sup> place received 5 game tickets. Great job on all the costumes.

**MARDI GRAS COURT** – Congratulations to 8<sup>th</sup> graders Drew Butzer and Frankie Wermerskirchen who were voted as King and Queen and to Nick Cheaney and Katie Sullivan for being chosen as Prince and Princess. These students were chosen by their class to reign over our Mardi Gras festivities.

**HELP WANTED** - The Buildings and Grounds team is preparing to start the ceiling tile and new lighting work in the lower level of the school building. This work is being funded by the Faith in Our Future (FIOF) campaign. The plan calls for the work to begin during Easter Break. If you can help with the ceiling tile removal or if you have experience putting in new ceiling tile grids, please call or email Alan Bronikowski at 762-5770 or [abronikowski@wi.rr.com](mailto:abronikowski@wi.rr.com). We urgently need help with the ceiling tile grids and will train willing individuals.

**FREE** – There are seven old middle school size desks located under the stairs by the Saints rooms. Please help yourself. There are old unmatched chairs available upon request. Please call the school office.

**THE BIG BACKYARD** – This new Home and School fundraiser from The Big Backyard, an indoor children's playground ([www.thebigbackyardwi.com](http://www.thebigbackyardwi.com)) is going on now. This is a great place for kids to burn off some energy, stay active and have a blast during the cold winter months and rainy spring days! It's also a great location to host meetings, book clubs, etc.—let the kids play while you catch up with friends! The 10-visit punch cards are discounted \$20 and \$5 from each sale goes directly to the school—submit your order no later than March 15 to Sharen King with checks payable to St. Matthew Home and School. Your kids will be so glad you did!

**MCDONALD'S CERTIFICATES** – There's certificates left! Please place an order OR if you already have, place another. For every \$1 purchased, McDonalds donates \$.30 to Home and School which is applied to your Home and School fundraising obligation. Order forms are in your family folder today or in the school office. Any questions, feel free to contact Kelly Koronkowski at 414-762-8815.

**PARTYLITE FUNDRAISER** - It's not just candles anymore! The 8th Grade class is holding a fundraiser for their trip to DC this year and would love all of your help. The fundraiser starts Thursday, February 25 and the order forms/envelopes are due back to the school on Monday, March 8. A check for the total amount should be written to St. Matthew School. (Enclosed in your folder this week is the order envelope). Your orders will be sent directly to your home within 1-2 weeks of the order going in. You will not have to pick up your orders from school. If you would like an e-mailable information sheet to send to your family and friends that don't live in the area, please contact Ann DiLorenzo at [anndilites@yahoo.com](mailto:anndilites@yahoo.com) and she will email you a sheet. Also you may contact Ann by phone at 414-477-0207 with any questions. Thank you all for your help!

**DOMINICAN H.S. PRESENTS THE MUSICAL STATE FAIR, FEATURING ST. MATTHEW ALUMNI, FIONA DOLAN** - Make plans now to see Rogers and Hammerstein's classic musical, STATE FAIR. Fun for the whole family, STATE FAIR is the story of the Frake family of Iowa, who makes plans to attend the State Fair in late summer 1946. Filled with great music like, "It Might As Well Be Spring," "Our State Fair," "That's For Me," "When I Go Out Walking With My Baby," "You Never Had It So Good," and "A Grand Night For Singing," STATE FAIR features a cast and crew of more than 100 students, including St. Matthew alum Fiona Dolan. The show opens on Friday, March 5, at 7:30 p.m. with performances on March 6, 12, and 13 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 7 and 14, at 2:00 p.m. Reserved seat tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7 for students at the door. Tickets can be purchased online by selecting your own seats and paying with a credit card at [www.dominicanhighschool.com](http://www.dominicanhighschool.com) (\$.50 service fee applies to each ticket). Tickets will also be on sale an hour before each performance at Dominican, 120 East Silver Spring Drive, Whitefish Bay. For more information, call the box office at 414-332-1170, ext. 485.

**LIVING OUR FAITH** – The February 27, "Catholic Knights presents Living Our Faith" episode, hosted by Milwaukee Archbishop Jerome E. ListECKI, examines social media as a new means of evangelization. Hear from Otilio Fernández, volunteer host of Mensajero Católico, about the Saturday morning Spanish language radio program on La Gran D in Milwaukee. The program helps keep the Hispanic community informed about news and events in the archdiocese. Learn how social media is contributing to the growth of several Catholic young adult groups in the archdiocese. Virginia Zignego, communication director for Pro Life Wisconsin and Lolec, talks about the important role social media plays in the ways she communicates with her audiences. In addition, this week's filmed feature spotlights Mike Hayes, author, "Googling God," and the developer of [www.BustedHalo.com](http://www.BustedHalo.com). Watch "Catholic Knights presents Living Our Faith" Saturday, February 27, at noon, on WISN TV 12. The program also airs on Time Warner Cable's Wisconsin On Demand, Channel 411 and is replayed on Relevant Radio. If you miss a show, every segment is available at [www.livingourfaith.net](http://www.livingourfaith.net)

**BULLDOG NEWS** – The 5th grade girls continue their winning streak with a victory over St. Romans this weekend. With this victory they remain undefeated and have secured first place in the league. The girls also participated in the St. Margaret Mary tournament over the weekend and also took first place. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade boys beat St. Johns after a really close game. They won 32-30. They still haven't lost and have only one game to go to have a record of 12-0. Way to go Bulldogs!

**SMPAA OPEN GYM WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL** - Join us on Tuesday nights from 8:00-10:00 p.m. at the Parkway Apostolic gym (located at 10940 South Nicholson Road) for women's open gym volleyball sponsored by the St. Matthew Parish Athletic Association. This will run through March 30. No need to sign up, just come when you can. The cost is \$4 per night. Any questions, contact Stacy Sims at [stacysims@wi.rr.com](mailto:stacysims@wi.rr.com) or 414-571-0565.

<b>SERVERS</b> –	February 27	5:00 p.m.:	Louise Ehrhardt	Cross:	Delores Ehrhardt
	February 28	7:30 a.m.:	Amanda Horman	Cross:	Hannah Tezak
		9:30 a.m.:	Colin McQuitty	Cross:	Keagan Wardius

**WE COLLECT** – St. Matthew's School collects the following items to earn money and/or supplies: McDonald's receipts, used ink/toner cartridges, General Mills box tops, Campbell's UPC codes, Kemps milk caps and labels, Golden Guernsey/ Morning Glory milk caps and cancelled postage stamps. It is helpful if you separate the items. They can be placed in the marked drawers in the plastic bin in the hallway outside of church or sent to the school office. In addition to these collection programs, the school also participates in the Pick 'n Save We Care Program as well as the Target Red Card program. Thank you for helping to support our school.

***"If we all threw our problems in a pile and saw everyone else's, we would grab ours back."***

**Go Make a Difference**