

ST. MATT'S MATTERS

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,

I hope you all had a very enjoyable Christmas vacation. We were able to spend time with our children and grandchild. We also found out that the Barber family will be expanding. Our grandson, who is now 2 years old, will be getting a new brother or sister in June! The spelling and geography bees take place next week. On Tuesday, January 10th, the spelling bee will take place in the cafeteria at 2:00. Students in grades 5-8 will participate. Winners will move on to the Oak Creek District Spelling Bee. On Wednesday, the geography bee will take place in the cafeteria at 2:00. Last year, the winner of the geography bee, Evan Siira, went on to compete at the state level in Madison! Parents are welcome to attend both the spelling and geography bee.

The school entrance has been moved to the outside doors nearest the school office. This will be our official entrance on days when school is in session, during regular school hours. A buzzer has been installed to the left of the doors. It operates in the same manner as the one in the Gathering Space. Simply press the buzzer, wait for Mrs. Shadd in the office to answer, and release the door the door lock. A big "thank you" goes out to Mr. Dan Wachs and Mr. Mike Kuick for installing the buzzer. A "thank you" also goes out to last year's 8th grade class for providing the funds to make this all possible. A sign that indicates the school entrance will also be installed. This sign is also a gift from last year's 8th grade class.

Finally, just a gentle reminder that the morning bell rings at 8:20 each day. Please refrain from dropping your students off early, unless you are sending them to Extended Care. Lately, we have had a sizeable group waiting between the doors in the Gathering Space and in the "tunnel area" under the Gathering Space. Students are *not* allowed to wait in either area before 8:20 as we cannot provide supervision for these students.

Mrs. Barber

January 6, 2012

What's Happening 1/8 - 1/15

Sunday, 1/8 - Grade 2, Parent/Child Eucharist Class, 10:30 a.m. **OR** 1/9

Monday, 1/9 - Mad Science, 3:25-4:25 p.m.; Market Day Pick Up, 4:30-6:00 p.m.; School Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.;
Grade 2, Parent/Child Eucharist Class, 10:30 a.m. **OR** 1/8

Tuesday, 1/10 - Spelling Bee, 2:00 p.m.; Student Council Meeting, 3:20-4:15 p.m.; SMPAA Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 1/11 - Geography Bee, 2:00 p.m.

Friday, 1/13 - School Liturgy Hosted by Grade 8, 9:15 a.m.; Grade 7, Art Speaker, 2:00 p.m.;
Middle School Fundraiser Dance, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Saturday, 1/14-1/22 - Used Uniform Sale

PARENTS OF SERVERS - The server availability sheet for the February/March schedule is in today's family folder. Please note that the deadline to return it is Monday January 16th. That is the only time that Kim is able to do the schedule.

SPELLING BEE - On Tuesday, January 10th at 2:00 p.m. we will hold our Spelling Bee. Participants are from grades 5-8. It will be held in the cafeteria. All are welcome to attend.

GEOGRAPHY BEE - On Wednesday, January 11th at 2:00 p.m. we will hold our Geography Bee. Participants are from grades 6-8. It will be held in the cafeteria. All are invited to attend.

"LIVING OUR FAITH WITH ARCHBISHOP LISTECKI" RETURNS JANUARY 7TH - The January 7th episode of "Living Our Faith with Archbishop Listecki" will look at trends in Catholic education in southeastern Wisconsin, including a focus on regionalization and collaboration to ensure sustainability and accessibility. Our feature showcases Catholic East Elementary, Milwaukee, which is the first archdiocesan school to receive an award from "Schools That Can," a non-profit organization committed to growing seats of quality education for low-income students around the United States. Also tune in to learn more about a pastoral letter on immigration issued by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, as well as Archbishop Listecki's thoughts on the 39th anniversary of Roe V. Wade. Watch "Living Our Faith with Archbishop Listecki," presented by Catholic Financial Life, on Saturday, January 7, 2012 at noon, on WISN TV 12. Can't watch it? DVR it, or view it the following week at www.livingourfaith.net.

USED UNIFORM SALE - A sale will be held in the fish bowl beginning Saturday, January 14th until Sunday, January 22nd. School and scout uniforms, bulldog gear and first communion clothing is accepted. To provide used clothing please contact Lori Gillespie at 262-752-0439 or loriandjohn04@aol.com or Julie Czajka at 414-768-0363 or ajczajka@sbcglobal.net. Each item should have an envelope attached with your name and price or donations are welcome.

HOME AND SCHOOL MEETING DATES - The dates of the next three Home and School meetings have changed. The January meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 18th (instead of the 4th), the March meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 21st (instead of the 7th) and the May meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 16th (instead of the 2nd). Please make a note of these changes. Remember that two Home and School meetings are required or \$20/meeting as stated on the 5K-Grade 8 Tuition Contract.

REFER-A-FAMILY PROGRAM

Refer a family to enroll their child/ren in St. Matthew School and receive \$100 off next year’s tuition.

Please share these important dates with family, friends and neighbors:

ST. MATTHEW SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

During Catholic Schools Week

Sunday, January 31, 2012

Open House following 9:30 a.m. Mass (10:30 a.m.-noon)

or

Friday, February 3, 2012,

Please join us at the 9:15 a.m. All School Liturgy

Open House immediately following, 10:15-11:30 a.m.

If you are unable to attend these Open House opportunities, call the school office to schedule a tour.

REGISTRATION

Begins January 31, 2012

SERVERS –

January 7

4:00 p.m.: Grace Paar

Cross: Aaron Craig

January 8

7:30 a.m.: Coryn King

Cross: Jacklyn Payne

9:30 a.m.: Miranda Kania

Cross: Kristen Fakler

WE COLLECT – St. Matthew’s School collects the following items to earn money and/or supplies: McDonald’s receipts, empty HP 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. We have also joined the My Coke Rewards for School program. Go to www.mycokerewards.com/school . Thank you for supporting St. Matthew School.

Family Faith Sharing

The tradition of giving gifts at Christmas is thought by some to be rooted in the gift giving of the Magi. In many cultures, gifts are not exchanged at Christmas, but rather on the feast of the Epiphany. Whenever you exchange your Christmas gifts, take some time to reflect on this tradition of gift giving at Christmas. Think of the best gift you have received. What was it? What made it special? Was it the gift itself, the thought that went into it, or the person who gave it to you?

Read today's Gospel, Matthew 2:1-12. The gifts of the Magi—gold, frankincense, and myrrh—have come to be understood as symbols of Christ's royalty, divinity, and eventual suffering and death. They are special because in giving them, the Magi acknowledge who Jesus was to be: our Savior. We pray that we will acknowledge Jesus as Savior in all that we do and say.

(<http://www.loyolapress.com/sunday-connection.htm?sld=26745>)

“Materialism is addicting.”



“C U @ Mass”