

# ST. MATT'S MATTERS

December 3, 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.

## A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

As you know, earlier this year, Mrs. Reimer announced her intention to retire at the end of the first semester. Mrs. Reimer has faithfully served the St. Matthew School community since 1987. We have been blessed by both her dedication to her profession and her care and commitment to her students. The parish will be hosting a reception in her honor after the 9:30 Mass on Sunday, January 9th, 2011. A general announcement will soon be appearing in the Sunday bulletins, but I wanted to make you aware of the date at this time.

A search committee composed of teachers, staff and myself has been busy the past two months seeking a suitable teacher to take over the class upon Mrs. Reimer's retirement. Our search process consisted of posting the job on the Archdiocesan website, reading through resumes, and taking part in two rounds of interviews. The search process has been completed: I am happy to announce that Mrs. Laura Fleischmann has been offered the position and has accepted! Mrs. Fleischmann, a licensed, experienced, kindergarten teacher, comes highly recommended by colleagues, members of the Oak Creek community and members of our parish.

Mrs. Reimer's last day will be Friday, January 14th, 2010. Mrs. Fleischmann will be spending time in the 4K classroom with Mrs. Reimer and Mrs. Reinke during the week of January 10-14 in order to meet the children and assure a smooth transition.

Our sincere gratitude and appreciation goes out to Mrs. Reimer. We will certainly miss her! Please rest assured, however, that our 4K children will be in good hands with Mrs. Fleischmann and Mrs. Reinke.

Thank you all for supporting Catholic education!

*Mrs. Barber*

## IMPORTANT DATES

Saturday, 12/4 – Grade 2, First Reconciliation, 9:00 or 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, 12/5 – Cookie Walk, following 7:30 and 9:30 a.m. Masses

Monday, 12/6 – Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, 12/7 – Secret Santa Shop Open; Mad Science 3:25-4:25 p.m.

Wednesday, 12/8 – Immaculate Conception Liturgy, 9:15 a.m.; Secret Santa Shop Open

Thursday, 12/9 – Secret Santa Shop Open; Rollaero, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

**Friday, 12/10 – 1:20 P.M. DISMISSAL;** Secret Santa Shop Open, A.M. ONLY; 4K/5K Betty Brinn Museum, 9:00-11:30 a.m.;

Progress Reports Sent Home; Middle School Fundraiser Dance, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

**STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFTS** – Last chance! If you are planning to contribute to this monetary gift, your last chance to turn in your contribution to the school office is Monday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. If you need another order form, stop by the school office. Any questions, call Lisa Schlotz at 414-764-4832.

**COOKIE WALK** - The Annual Cookie Walk returns to St. Matt's! Thousands of holiday cookies will be available for purchase on December 5<sup>th</sup>, after the 7:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Masses. There will be a wide variety of cookies freshly made and the cookies will appeal to every person in your home. Why bake when we have done the work for you? The cookies also make great holiday gifts for neighbors, family members and co-workers. Also for sale will be holiday candies. The event is fun and open to all.

**ST. MATT'S HOLIDAY ORNAMENT** – More ornaments are available. Show your St. Matthew Bulldog pride on your Christmas tree this year! This royal blue ball ornament features our beloved mascot, with the St. Matthew Bulldog™ logo, all written in gold. These collectibles are only \$5 each, which includes personalization if you wish. A sample ornament can be found in the school. Any questions, contact Jill Duchniak at 414-421-3001 or Maggie McNeive at 414-764-7789.

**CHRISTMAS CD** – The children of St. Matthew Parish; day school and religious formation, joined together to present a timeless keepsake for the Christmas season. This professional recorded CD contains 15 songs—a wonderful blend of traditional carols and fun, lively songs to help you celebrate the birth of Jesus. The CD also features a special song performed and accompanied by Father Pat! There's still time to order. Orders received before December 15<sup>th</sup> will be available for pick up prior to Christmas break.

**TASTEFULLY SIMPLE** - The 8th grade sponsored Tastefully Simple fundraiser orders are now due. If you neglected to turn your order in, please do so on Monday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions regarding the fundraiser, please contact Teri Karpinski at 262-637-6814.

**HELP WANTED** - Home and School is looking for one or two people to assume the scrip coordinator position to replace Mary Shelton. Mary is willing to train any interested party(ies). The immediate need is for Monday morning inventory and fill.

**HOME AND SCHOOL BOARD** - Make a difference in your child's school! Consider joining the Home and School Board. Nomination forms will be going home via the family folder in January.

**CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** - Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 p.m. and Tuesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:00 p.m.

**SAFEGUARDING ALL OF GOD'S FAMILY** – Have you wanted to chaperone a field trip but were turned down because you haven't had this training required by the Archdiocese? A session will be held at St. Matthew's in the cafeteria on Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. This is necessary for all adults who volunteer with children at St. Matthew's. This includes: coaches, scout leaders and anyone who chaperones any field trip. You only need to attend once. You may register on line at <http://www.archmil.org>. Near the bottom of the page, "Promise to Protect, Pledge to Heal" section, click on Safeguarding All Of God's Family (formerly known as Virtus), go to events and click on the appropriate session you wish to attend to register. Any questions, call Shelly at 414-762-4200, ext. 15.

**ICE CREAM WITH SANTA** - The South Milwaukee Knights of Columbus cordially invites you to an evening with Santa Claus. Enjoy a magic show, hot chocolate and a bowl of ice cream and toppings and sit on Santa's lap and tell him what you want for Christmas. All this and more at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 732 Badger Avenue, South Milwaukee, on Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

**PARISH LIFE MINISTRY** – Come and join us with your ideas. Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, a meeting will be held in the Good Shepherd Room at 6:00 p.m.

<b>SERVERS –</b>	December 4	4:00 p.m.: Jennifer Budzisz	Cross: Kristen Fakler
	December 5	7:30 a.m.: Kassandra Bartek	Cross: Katalyna Bartek
		9:30 a.m.: Jacklyn Payne	Cross: Kayleigh Pook

**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. 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 supporting our school.

## Prayer First

*“How old would you be if you did not know your age?”*

### Prayer Square

*My Prayer For You*

*May the good Lord bless and keep you each hour of every day,  
And be the light that guides you each step along life's way.  
May He comfort and sustain you when things perplex your mind,  
May He be your inspiration your lofty goals to find.  
May He be with you in spirit and help your burdens bear,  
May He ever find you worthy of His tender love and care. Amen.*

*Harold F. Mohn*