



Dear Parents,

October 9, 2009

We had a great turn out at last Saturday's marathon in spite of the drizzly weather. Many families stayed for the Home and School sponsored hot dog lunch as well. A BIG thanks to Deb Link and Amy Boland for organizing this year's events. Thanks also to the Knights of Columbus and the W. St. Paul Police Department for their help with safety control and all the parent volunteers and teachers who helped in so many ways. Now comes the work of bringing in the pledge money to make our goal amount of \$80,000. We've had a good start, but need your help in getting those pledges collected.

There is **no school** Wednesday, October 14, Thursday, October 15 and Friday, October 16 because of M.E.A. (Minnesota Education Association). Teachers will be here Wednesday and Thursday working on their websites and preliminary work for our upcoming self-study.

School pictures are scheduled for Monday, October 12. This is an **out-of-uniform day**. Purchase of individual pictures/group composites are always optional, but we do ask that all students be photographed for the yearbook. Preschool-age children may be brought in to have their pictures taken between 8:15-8:40 am in the Great Room. No appointments necessary. The St. Joseph's Preschool classes will have their pictures taken later in the morning.

Last Friday, we did a test run of our **new e-mail system**. A "paper" copy of the parent letter also came home in Friday folders. This week families who have registered for e-mail will only receive their parent letter through e-mail. All other families will receive their parent letter in Friday folders. If you would like to be added to the e-mail list, please contact the school office at 457-8550. Help us "go green"!

Today is the last day for Winter sport's sign-up for 6th, 7th and 8th graders. Swim Team sign-ups will take place later in December. Registrations received after today will be put on a waiting list. Students on a waiting list does not guarantee placement on a team. Students in grades 6, 7 and 8 may play either basketball or hockey and still sign up in December to be on the Swim Team.

A big thank you and "round of applause" goes to Angel Pinkerton who refurbished, painted and lettered our Lost and Found box. Hopefully the "new look" won't attract more clothes!

J.A.G. Quest, Home & School's major fundraiser, is set for Saturday, November 14. This adult event is a great opportunity to get together and raise funds for our kids. The night includes food, a live and silent auction, live entertainment and more. Invitations will be mailed out to school families. Please consider making a donation and plan to attend.

Respect Life Week will be observed Oct. 19 - 23. Students will be participating in a variety of activities throughout the week. We will have a special collection during that week. Grades K-4 are asked to bring in layette items which will be donated to women in crisis pregnancy situations. Grades 5-8 are encouraged to bring items for the elderly and homebound of our parish. Suggested items include gift cards (Rainbow, Walgreens, etc.), slippers, winter hats and gloves, stationery, envelopes and stamps, etc.

Congratulations to Sarah Pinkerton, a **St. Joseph's alum**, who recently had her first novel published. Sarah is a student at Tulane University and the daughter of Angel and Chris Pinkerton, proud brother Max, is a sixth grader. Watch for "When We Were Immortal" at you favorite book store!

Join us for **mass** next Friday, October 9 at 9:00 am.

Jane E. Nordin, Principal