

The Falcon Flyer



November 2009

From the Desk of Mrs. McNeal

November is the month of the Pour Souls in Purgatory. Throughout the month our students at Fatima will remember all of our loved ones who have passed away. Each class is compiling their own list for Father Robideau who will remember those on our classroom lists at all Masses throughout November. On another note, Fatima has so far been able to escape the fate of some other schools that have had to close because of the H1N1 and regular flu viruses that are prevalent in the area. One of the prime reasons for this is the diligent efforts of Fatima's top notch custodial crew. Jewel Cantrell and Sharmon Long work hard each day and evening cleaning and disinfecting every nook and cranny in our building so that those pesky germs have no place to grow.

Band



Band is off to a booming start this year and there is still time to join in the excitement! This year we have two groups: advanced and beginners. Both groups will have the opportunity to participate in combined concerts with the 6th grade bands from JCMS and Queens in December and May, as well as taking part in our very own Christmas concert on December 15th and our spring program. Doing the combined concert with other Jackson Catholic schools will give students an opportunity to experience what it's like to be part of a large Band and the challenge of making music in a large group. Band is held after school this year with beginners currently meeting on Tuesdays and Advanced Band on Thursdays and the whole band meeting together on Wednesdays for lots of fun. We have already started preparing for the Christmas program which will contain some difficult pieces for the students and some great old

favorites for the audience. Make sure you mark your calendar.

If you're interested in supporting arts education, there are plenty of opportunities to support the Band program at OLF such as donating an instrument or funds to the school for music. We look forward to performing for you in December and celebrating the birth of Christ.

Mrs. Keaster

Knights Football

This was an exciting and rewarding year for the Knights Football Team. Twenty players participated from all of the Jackson area Catholic Grade Schools. fourteen of those players were new to the game and came eager to learn the sport. They handled themselves in exemplary fashion both on and off the field. The team finished the season with a 1-3-1 record, tying the team that was undefeated in the last game. The boys were honored before a Lumen Christi football game on the field at Withington Stadium. A big thank you to all of the parents, grand parents and others who supported the team and made Knights football possible again this year. Plans are in the works for a 5th and 6th grade team again next year. The team banquet for players, cheerleaders and families is scheduled for November 14 at 2:00 p.m.

Reminder

Parent-Teacher Conferences

November 12, 2009

1:00 - 8:00 p.m.



Fatima students helped out at the Jackson County Catholic Charities Help & Hope Society dinner October 8, 2009.

Pet Blessing



Our Lady of Fatima Pastor Fr. Jeffrey Robideau invited all of OLF's students to bring their



pets to the playground on Monday, October 4 for a special blessing. Fr. Robideau offered the blessing while sitting astride his Appaloosa horse, Wrangler. Twenty dogs, five kittens and a goldfish received the blessing. The ceremony was held the day after the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals and the environment.



Mary Ann Chames tries for a strike at the Scotch Doubles fundraiser October 16.

Halloween



It was hard to tell who was having more fun, the kids or the parents, at the annual PTO Halloween Party Friday October 23. Costumes of almost every imaginable description adorned children and adults during the festivities. Food, fun and dancing filled the night, topped off by prizes given for the best costumes as well as a raffle and a silent auction. On October 29 students donned their costumes once again for the annual Halloween parade through the school and over to the Rectory where Fr. Robideau handed each eager child a treat from his seemingly bottomless bag.



Fourteen students at Our Lady of Fatima School celebrated a birthday during the month of October.

Kindergarten



Kindergarten is a fun and exciting time in a child's life. Children grow through new discoveries, creative thinking, and imagination. OLF has 17 inquisitive minds in Kindergarten this year, each with his or her own unique personality and learning style. They have all been working diligently on proper letter formation, letter names and sounds, and beginning sounds as well as sight words, and spelling three-letter words. They also are learning how to sort and classify objects and patterns, and how to work and play cooperatively. The students are blessed to have Sister Brenda helping them with religion. They have learned that we are all made in the image of God, and when we choose to act like God, we are all "mirrors." This month we are also learning how to keep our bodies healthy and fit by eating nutritious foods and engaging in physical activity. It's an exciting time to be in Kindergarten where, as everyone is aware, "you learn everything you need to know."

Kelley Price



Teaching Our Catholic Faith

Sister Brenda McHugh has been hard at

work teaching Our Lady of Fatima students about their Catholic faith. She accomplishes her tasks with a mixture of studying and creative activities. Two examples of Sister Brenda's approach to her subjects can be seen in a class project that used drama and props to tell the story of creation, and another project that has students actually making Joseph's coat of many colors.



OLF's budding "chefs" show off their latest creations during cooking class.



A student from Lumen Christi High School teaches sign language to students in Fatima's 1st and 2nd grade classroom.



Caramel Apples

the Miracle of Fatima happened 92 years ago on October 13, the "day the sun danced." On October 13, 2009, caramel apples appeared at Our Lady of Fatima School to celebrate the day that Our Lady made the sun dance to 40,000 people in Fatima, Portugal.



Teachers and the Principal attended a MANS conference October 30 in Detroit.