

Holy Martyrs School

SCHOOL NEWS

From: Mr. Hayden

January 2009

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the entire faculty and staff of Holy Martyrs School, I offer my deepest thanks for your generosity during this holiday season. Please know that the gifts we received are most appreciated and will certainly be put to good use. The continued support of so many parents inspires us to continue to provide the best learning opportunities for all of our students.

We pray that the new year bring you all closer to each other and closer to God. May we all enjoy many more blessings for 2009.

Sincerely,
David J. Hayden
Principal

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service Monday, January 19, 2009

What: Making casseroles for St. John's Hospice and Collecting Men's Travel Size Toiletries
Where: Casseroles will be made in the school hall
Time: 11:00am until 2:00pm

Toiletry collection baskets will be placed outside both entrances of the Church

Collection of Toiletry Items will begin on Wednesday, January 7th and conclude on Monday, January 19th.

ALL ARE WELCOME SO PLEASE JOIN US!

Emergency Closing Information

Reminder: For Weather-related Closings, please check KYW-Radio (1060 AM) and WPVI-TV (Ch. 6) for the latest closings.

Holy Martyrs School – 1111

For busing service only, please keep in mind the following school closing numbers:

Springfield – 319 / Abington – 301 / Colonial – 305
Upper Dublin – 311 / Cheltenham - 306

Calendar Highlights

- 1/5 - School Resumes (Happy New Year!)
- 1/11 - Holy Martyrs Parish 60th Anniversary Celebration 11:30am Mass Luncheon at FCC
- 1/19 - NO SCHOOL – MLK Holiday Day of Service at HMS
- 1/22 - March for Life in Washington DC
- 1/23 - Tag Day (\$1) - 1960s Theme
- 1/24 - CYO Night at the Races
- 1/25 - Catholic Schools Week Kickoff - Open House 10:30am
- 1/26 - Pastor/Principal Appreciation Day
- 1/27 - Halligan's Family Night (5p-8p) - Teacher Appreciation Day
- 1/28 - Grandparents' Day - Mass and Luncheon
- 1/30 - Student Appreciation Day Pajama Day / Ice Cream Treat / Tombola
- 1/31 - HMS Night at the Phantoms
- Feb. 1st - Super Bowl Hoagie Sale
- Feb. 6th - Tipping Group Pictures
- Feb. 7th - HMS Night at Rink -
At York Road Skating Ring
- Feb. 10th - First Communion Parent Meeting and Student Night of Reflection (Gr. 3)

Catholic Schools Week January 25 – January 31, 2009

To celebrate this exciting week, we have a number of events planned. We hope that all students, parents, and friends will join us for our **Open House on Sunday, January 25th following the 9:30am Parish Mass.** The Open House is a great opportunity to see what makes Holy Martyrs School a great place to be and is a wonderful way to kick off this week-long celebration of Catholic Schools.

TOMBOLA

Friday, January 30th!

Tombola is Holy Martyrs annual raffle in which students buy chances to win different prizes. The drawing is held during the afternoon assembly on the last day of Catholic Schools Week. We are looking for any donations – gift cards, baskets, etc. for our raffle. Please send donations to Mrs. Hill (Grade 7). Thank you in advance for your support!



Spreading the Good News

Congratulations to **James Burns, Jake Camusi, Brigid Corcoran, Catharine McDonald, Georgina Mezher, and Erica Witkowski.**

These 8th Grade Students have qualified for the *Archdiocese of Philadelphia Neumann Scholarship Exam*. To qualify, students must meet or exceed the competitive minimum requirements of:

- 92% Academic Average in Grade 7 AND
- 120 CSI (Terra Nova Cognitive Score Index)
OR
- 90th Percentile National Rank in total score on the Terra Nova tests taken in October

Congratulations to these individuals on their achievement.

National Vocation Awareness Week January 12-16, 2009

Please check out the Archdiocese of Philadelphia link for information on this important week.



Monday, January 12, 2009 - Cardinal Rigali has made an *Archdiocesan Day of Eucharistic Adoration for Priestly Vocations*. The Blessed Sacrament will be presented for all to pray. Classroom teachers will be bringing students to the church for this important prayer experience. For more information and resources, visit the website: www.heedthecall.org

Novena of Prayer for Priestly Vocations

Jesus, Good Shepherd, you said: "The harvest indeed is great but the laborers are few." We lovingly accept your invitation: "Pray the Heavenly Father to send forth laborers into his harvest." Inspire in our Archdiocese a crusade for vocations. Grant us more Priests! May they be the salt of the earth, the light of the world, the city placed on the mountaintop for the salvation of mankind redeemed by Your Blood.

Look on us Jesus and our need for more priests. Help those you are calling to hear Your voice and to respond generously to Your call. Mary, the perfect disciple of Jesus, Mother and guardian of vocations, pray with us, pray for us and pray for all those young men called by God to be priests in our Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Amen.

Update from our Music Teachers

This trimester, students in our graded music classes (Grs. 4-8) will take several short quizzes. The first (the week of 1/5/09) will NOT count as a grade, but rather will help students and parents to gauge how well they know the material. Each of the remaining quizzes will be grouped together and their total average will count as a test grade to supplement the second trimester test they'll receive. The date for the test will be determined shortly and that information will be shared with students in class and added to the School Notes page for our Music Class. Students always get two to three weeks notice of a test.

This week, students will be given extra copies of handouts to study from at home so they can keep their original handouts in school. A quick read-through of this information just a few times a week will supplement the children's weekly review in class and therefore help to ensure they'll retain these basic building blocks to learning to read music.

The following is a list of what students will need to know for their next test. If there are any additions, we will make those announcements both in class and on this schoolnotes page.

Grade 4: Students should be able to identify the symbols for the whole, half, dotted half, quarter, and eighth (single and pairs of) notes and their corresponding rests and tell how many beats each gets. Students will also be asked to name the pitches (letter names) of notes shown in both the treble and bass clefs. They can use their lyrics to and drawings of "The Grand Staff" to study.

Grades 5 & 6: In addition to the information listed under Grade 4, these students will need to define time signatures, be able to determine correct time signatures for musical examples and add bar lines to examples where time signatures are already given. They should also be comfortable with how sharps, flats, and naturals change pitch names.

Grades 7-8: Students in these classes should be comfortable with all of the material listed for Grades 4-6. They will also be tested this trimester on the parts of the guitar, and have a basic knowledge of how a guitarist reads music and performs.

**Holy Martyrs School and Home and School
Upcoming Events:**

Catholic Schools Week - Jan. 25 - 31

1/25 - Open House

1/27 - Teacher Appreciation Day

1/28 - Grandparents/Friends Luncheon

1/30 - Tombola / PJ Day

1/31 - HMS night at Phantoms

2/1 - Superbowl Hoagie Sale

2/7 - Family Night at the Rink

2/20 - Trivia Night - Friday, 2/20

3/13 - Family Bingo & Pizza Night

3/27 - Donuts with Dad

3/28 - Silent Auction

4/5 - Mother/Son Bowling (*tentative*)

5/8 - Muffins with Mom

6/8 - 8th Grade Graduation Dinner

6/11 Family Appreciation Night

Please mark your calendars now to make sure that you do not miss out on these exciting events. Specific information on each event will come home as the date gets nearer.

Holy Martyrs School Collects...

Campbell Soup Labels and General Mills Box Tops for Education, along with used ink-jet cartridges and paper for our recycling program

Halligan's Family Night

Tuesday, January 27th 5p-8p

Take a break from the kitchen and enjoy a night out with friends to support HMS!

Absent Students

If your child is absent, please call the school by 8:30am. Also, please remember to send in a note from the parent or doctor when the student returns to school. These notes are used by teachers to accurately record the reason for absence and are maintained on file for the duration of the school year. Parent signature is required, so email notes can not be accepted. Thank you for your cooperation on this matter.

Students of the Month

Congratulations to the following students who were recognized for their Attitude, Cooperation, and Effort during the past months.

November

Kindergarten - Michael Lombardi

Grade 1 - Caelinn Corbett and
Madison Laing

Grade 2 - Coleen Quinn

Grade 3 - Kimberly Donnelly

Grade 4 - Sean Mahoney,
Emily Mancini, and
Joseph Quinn

Grade 5 - Kelly Coonahan and
Nicholas Camusi

Grade 6 - Moira Nolan and TJ Johnston

Grade 7 - Lydia Gahm and
Alyssa McFadden

Grade 8 - Kerry Smith

December

Kindergarten - Branden Decker

Grade 1 - Tauhnun Meenarai and
Joseph Singh

Grade 2 - Maggie Spoerl

Grade 3 - James Lombardi

Grade 4 - Greg McGrath and Julia Violi

Grade 5 - Kane O'Connor and
Natalie Jadwin

Grade 6 - Ashley Donnelly

Grade 7 - John Archie and
Lauren Brogan

Grade 8 - Jen McGrath

We Thank these students for making Holy Martyrs School a great place to grow and learn.

**Support Holy Martyrs School
And Earn Tuition Credits**

BUY SCRIP!

Contact the school office for more information!

January 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Happy New Year	2	3
		6	7	8	9 Eagles Tag Day FREE	10
11 Holy Martyrs Parish 60th Anniv. Celebration	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 NO SCHOOL MLK Holiday Day of Service	20	21	22	23 Tag Day \$1 (1960s Theme)	24 CYO Night at the Races 7pm Parish Hall
25 Open House 10:30am	26	27 Halligan's Family Night 5p-8p	28 Grandparents' Mass and Luncheon 11am	29	30 Pajama Day & Tombola	31 HMS Night at the Phantoms
Catholic Schools Week 2009 - Catholic Schools Celebrate Service						