

PRINCIPAL'S PAGE



March 2010

If you want children to keep their feet on the ground, put some responsibility on their shoulders. ~Abigail Van Buren

As we continue on our Lenten journey and are nearing the end of the season we receive palms which remind us of the people's love for Jesus - a love which turned to hate and indifference quite rapidly. The special practices of Lent....added prayer, fasting, abstinence, almsgiving... remind us that this is no ordinary time. It is important to remind ourselves that Lent exists only as a preparation for something bigger. That something bigger is the **Easter Triduum**.

Snow Make Up Days and New 2 Hour Delay Schedule: At Holy Trinity School we value our educational system. As a result, HTS will make every effort to continue to provide the full 180 days of the highest quality education possible for our students. Changes in the school calendar are: April 5th, June 7th, 8th, and 9th will be snow make up days. The teacher clerical day has been moved from June 1st which will now be a full day of school to June 4th. There is no school for students on June 4th. Hopefully there will not be any more snow days. Keep your fingers are crossed!!

We have also added a modified kindergarten schedule to assure that our half day students are in school as much as possible. Half day kindergarten students will report to school at 10:00 am and will be dismissed at 12:30 pm on days in which we have a two hour delay.

We will also run a modified pre-school schedule on days in which we have a two hour delay. Preschoolers will report to school at 10:00 am and be dismissed at 12:30pm.

Math Street Web Based Program: Holy Trinity School has the opportunity to participate in a new math supplemental web and curriculum based program entitled Math Street. This program is designed to support a teacher's lesson plans through quizzing, testing, and instructional tutorials. Whether you are looking for a resource for remediation or gifted/enrichment programs for your child the Math Street Program is a great solution. The teachers at HTS in grades 1-8 have sent home your students' password and user id so you are ready to use the program. It is an excellent way to receive additional practice for your child. Please make use of this extremely valuable program. If you have any questions please contact your child's math teacher.

Religious Services During Lent: In order for the students to grow to understand the sacrifice that Jesus made for us by dying on the cross, the school will participate in the following religious activities. The school will attend Stations of the Cross on March 8th at 1:25pm and on March 22nd at 2:00. Parents are welcome to attend the Stations of the Cross. The students will also participate in a Seder Meal (Last Supper) on Tuesday, March 30th at 10:00 am. Students will also be going to confession on Monday March 22 and Monday March 29th.

Shoes for Soufriere: Holy Trinity School is partnering with Bishop Canevin High School, Slippery Rock University and several other Catholic schools in the Shoes for Soufriere Project. HTS will be collecting gently worn shoes for the island of St. Lucia in the Caribbean. Please be as generous as possible with your donations. A large box is located in the main hallway. Donations will be accepted until March 19th.

State of the School Address: I will be holding a State of the School Address on Thursday, March 11th at 7:00 in the cafeteria. An overview of the current school year as well as the budget for the 2010-2011 school year will be discussed. Tuition and fundraising issues will also be addressed. It is extremely important that one parent from each family attend this meeting. Please make every attempt to attend this meeting.

Year of the Priest: Pope Benedict XVI has declared a "Year for Priests" beginning with the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus on June 19, 2009. The year will conclude in Rome with an international gathering of priests with the Holy Father from June 9-11, 2010. The school will be preparing a special program for Father Ken and Father O'Leary in April or May. The school will be taking up a collection for the priests. Please send the in your gift in an envelope marked Year of the Priest Gift.

UP COMING FUNDRAISERS

We are about \$9,000 short of reaching our fundraising goal for this year. We just have a few fundraisers remaining and it is necessary for them to be successful. Remember that if we reach our goal all families will receive a \$50.00 credit on this year's tuition. Please, do all you can to help us meet this goal.

MARCH MADNESS TICKETS have been distributed to every family. Please make every attempt to sell all of your tickets. Help to make this fundraiser a success.

HTS SPRING-EASTER CRAFT SHOW: The school will be holding their annual Craft Show on March 13th in the cafeteria. Stop in and see all of the unique crafts. **Volunteers are still needed.** Call the school office @ 412-787-2656. We are still in need of a volunteer to run this event for next year. It is important that someone comes forward before the show date. The vendors pay now to hold their spot for next year.

SPAGHETTI DINNER HTS School is having a Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday, March 7th from 12:00 - 6:00pm in the school cafeteria. We are looking for homemade items for a bake sale. Parents can drop off the baked goods in the cafeteria on Saturday the 6th between 7 and 9 pm and also the morning of the dinner. Pre ordered tickets are preferred but tickets can be purchased the day of the event. Ticket prices are \$6.50 for Adults and \$4.00 for children ages 6-10. Children 5 & under eat free. Give mom the day off from cooking by treating her to a delicious spaghetti dinner.

Easter Grams For Chimbote: The school will be selling Easter Grams to raise money for the Chimbote Mission. If you would like to donate a bag of plastic eggs for this project it would be greatly appreciated. Please send in the eggs on or before March 5th. An Easter Gram cost \$1.00. See the enclosed flyer for the Easter Gram forms. Easter grams will be on sale from March 15th through the 24th. Send an Easter Gram to your child, teachers, parents, and anyone special in your life.

Congratulations go out to Emma Minsinger who was honored in January by the Pittsburgh Catholic for her devotion to the faith and living out our Catholic Mission. Emma was nominated by her teachers and featured in the Pittsburgh Catholic.

Congratulations go out to Derek McMonagle for winning the HTS spelling bee. Derek will represent Holy Trinity School at the Post Gazette Spelling Bee on March 20th. Good Luck, Derek!

Congratulations to Mr. Betten and his family on the January 13th birth of their daughter, Eve.

Congratulations to the Holy Trinity Forensics Team for placing 4th at the meet held on February 20, 2010. Approximately 150 students from 12 Catholic Schools gathered at Holy Trinity School. Great job, Alec Balog, Amy Kayser, Noah Dawgiello, Nick DiSanti, Caitlin Davis, Brendon Connolly, Catherine Roberts, Cayenne Morinville, Jennifer Haseleu, Alexa DiSanti, Dominique Servati, Chance Roberts, and Maria DiSanti.

Books Are Fun: We have a display of various types of books for both adults and children in the office. All books are just \$5.00. Stop in and take a look if you are interested.