

Summer Shamrock

Summer 2010

Scott Czarnopys, Principal
www.stpatrickparnellsschool.org



Back to School!

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As July turns into August and back to school sales fill the stores, it is time to trade summer shorts for backpacks and lunch bags.

Teachers and staff have been busy working throughout the summer to prepare for a new year - one that will mark our 118th since the school's founding!

With all the history behind us, we are reminded that some things never change - like our commitment to faith-filled education - while others are constantly evolving.

As St. Patrick School prepares students to grow into the leaders of the 21st Century, the school has undergone tremendous transformation in recent years.

From the introduction of science-based programming in the classroom such as

Science Olympiad to the expansion of literary arts initiatives including the Writers Workshop, St. Patrick School continues to provide innovative educational programming designed to create a Christ-centered and academically challenging learning environment.

Change is again coming to our school. This time it is in the form of new faces. We say good-bye to some old friends but welcome new members to our school family.

As the sun sets on summer and the crisp autumn air sets in, we look forward to a bright future filled with the promise only a new year can bring.

Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your child's formation.

Welcome Back!

Upcoming Events

- ◆ Aug. 19th: DeltaPlex Fundraiser (75% of money raised will go toward tuition accounts of volunteer workers)
- ◆ Aug. 22nd: Coffee and Donuts with Mr. Czarnopys and Ms. Leckenby
- ◆ Aug. 31st: FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!
- ◆ Sept. 2nd: PTO Back-to-School Picnic
- ◆ Sept. 3-6th: Labor Day Break, No School
- ◆ Sept. 25-26th: Annual St. Patrick Yard Sale



Welcome to Scott Czarnopys,
St. Patrick School's new
principal!

*May the road rise
up to meet you,
may the wind be
ever at your back.
May the sun shine
warm upon your
face and the rain
fall softly on your
fields. And until
we meet again,
may God hold you
in the hollow of his
hand. ~Irish
Blessing*

Welcome Mr. Czarnopys!

We are excited to welcome our new principal, Scott Czarnopys!

Mr. Czarnopys previously taught at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Grand Rapids. As a former middle school teacher, he holds a highly qualified teaching certificate in integrated science.

A lifelong Catholic, Mr. Czarnopys is eager to share his faith and love of learning with St. Patrick students. He is enthusiastically preparing for the upcoming school year and looks forward to meeting your children.

You can meet Mr. Czarnopys early at a special coffee and donuts scheduled after the Sunday Masses on August 22nd.

And Welcome Ms. Leckenby!

Another new face joining up this year is Connie Leckenby who will be the new teacher in the 1/2 classroom.

Ms. Leckenby joins us from the east side of the state where she previously taught in a combined 1st and 2nd grade classroom.

As with Mr. Czarnopys, you can meet Ms. Leckenby at coffee and donuts after the Sunday Masses on August 22nd.

Then be sure to attend the PTO Back-to-School Picnic where you can visit the classroom and learn more about Ms. Leckenby's planned curriculum.

Farewell to Old Friends

In 2010, we say good-bye to two members of our school family.

Shortly after the school year ended, Mrs. Karin Waterbury announced her retirement. After teaching for many years in both the 3rd grade and more recently the 1/2 classroom, Mrs. Waterbury is looking forward to traveling and enjoying some much deserved rest and relaxation.

In late July, we received word that Mrs. Kathy Leeuwenburg, our media specialist, had received a job offer at Grand Rapids Community College. Her new position will allow her to be closer to her family. We wish her well in her new endeavor and a search to fill her (considerable) shoes has begun.

Good-bye and God Bless to Mrs. Waterbury and Mrs. Leewenburg!

DeltaPlex Fundraiser Scheduled for August 19th

St. Patrick School has been offered the opportunity to work at the Stone Temple Pilots concert scheduled for the DeltaPlex on Thursday, August 19th.

Workers must report to the venue at 5:45PM, and we expect to be done by midnight although the closing time is variable.

Anyone 18 years old or older can work. No prior experience or certification needed!

What's in it for you?

We are guaranteed \$6.50 per hour per person plus tips (which can add up!). Of the money raised, 75% will be divided among the workers and credited to your personal tuition account.

To sign up for this fun and easy way to earn money off your tuition, contact Penny Spanbauer at 635-0385 or penny@impactbusinessgroup.com



Clean Out Those Closets - The Yard Sale Returns!

The 3rd Annual Yard Sale is once again scheduled, and your donations are needed!

The sale will be held on Sept. 25 and 26th - same weekend as Fallasburg Festival - on the corner of Lincoln Lake and Vergennes.

Clear out the clutter at home and send in your donations of:

- Household and garage items
- Clothing
- Books and digital media
- Baby items
- Toys
- Tools
- And anything else that is gently used and needs a good home!

Drop-off for the sale will begin on Wednesday, September 8th during school hours. Pick up for large items is available.

This event is successful each year in raising funds for the school due to your generous donations...so get busy on those closets!

Volunteers, coordinators will be contacting you soon with your schedule. Thank YOU!

Questions?

Cindy 874-8070 cvs@wmis.net

Darcy 987-6447 mdski3@juno.com

Carey 897-6488
carey.brown@bissell.com



Hot Lunch is Back!

We will again be offering hot lunch on Mondays and Wednesdays this school year. Plans are to begin the program after Labor Day.

Stay tuned for more details!



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Learners in the
Image of the Living
God

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Don't Forget!

10-100-1000 Club

Keep tallying those numbers!

Our annual summer program has students striving to reach:

10 hours of spiritual activity (beyond Sunday Mass!)

100 miles of physical activity

1000 pages of reading

Look for details about a special celebration for those who reach their goals when we get back to school!

Back-to-School Picnic Thursday, Sept. 2nd: 6PM

Once again, our PTO is sponsoring our back-to-school picnic. Now is the time to meet your teachers and learn more about the upcoming curriculum!

PTO will provide the main dish and lemonade. Please bring:

Last Names A-M: Dessert

Last Names N-Z: Side Dish/Salads

Lawn Chairs

Gently Used Uniforms for Swap Table



PTO Board Meeting Minutes

On July 19th, the PTO Board met to plan PTO activities for the upcoming year. The following agenda items were discussed:

Year End Budget: The 2009-2010 budget ended with a surplus of \$3,956. In May, the PTO general membership (that's YOU!) voted to appropriate \$2,500 of that to the media center. The remaining amount will be carried forward to 2010-2011.

Fundraiser Dates and Chairs: A timeline for PTO fundraisers was discussed. Chairs for some events were finalized while others are pending. The schedule was created:

Fall Sub Sale: Launch at Back-to-School Picnic, Orders due 9/14, Pick-up the week of 9/21

Chairs: Penny Spanbauer and Carol Blundy

Pie Sale: November 20th

Chair: TBA

Carnival: January 29th

Chair: TBD

Spring Sub Sale: TBD

Chair: PTO Board Members

Subcommittee Chairs: It was believed that most subcommittee chairs would be willing to continue their positions this year. Pending confirmation, the chairs will be:

Hospitality: Jodi Camp

Heartstrings: Cindy Samson and Maryalene LaPonsie

Breakfast with St. Nick: Andrea Gasper