



VERITAS

"One Body in Christ"

St. Pius V School, Providence

June 9, 2009

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Parents,

It seems inconceivable, but this is the last issue of *Veritas* for the 2008-2009 school year! As we come to the final days of the year, it is with a sense of deep gratitude to God for His blessings and the unique graces we have received as individuals and as a community.

"Teaching has an extraordinary moral depth and is one of man's most excellent and creative activities, for the teacher does not write on inanimate material, but on the very spirits of human beings" (*The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium*, §19, Congregation for Catholic Education). We are blessed with a dedicated faculty and staff at St. Pius V School, to whom I would like to express gratitude. As we open the doors of our school each day, this responsibility of educating and forming students is one which we undertake with great care and reverence.

We are thankful to you, parents, for your goodness and involvement over the course of the year. We are grateful for the trust you place in us and the support you give as we work in partnership for the good of your children.

It is impossible to begin naming individuals, but I wish to extend gratitude to many who have made this year one of special blessings. First, we are grateful to our pastor Father Ken and the Dominican friars for their dedication to our school and parish. The officers of the PTO, the School Board, the fundraising committee chairs, and so many others have given extensively of their time and talent, working behind the scenes to aid the school in its continual striving for excellence. The selfless service of so many volunteers builds up our community and strengthens our bonds in the Body of Christ.

I pray that your family enjoys a safe, restful, and renewing summer vacation. On our last day of school, Wednesday, June 17th, we will join together for Mass at 8:30 a.m. The

seventh grade will be preparing this Mass, stepping up to assume their new role as student leaders at St. Pius V School. I hope that you will be able to join us.

We look forward to welcoming you back for a *new* year on Wednesday, August 26th, as we begin our special celebration of the 80th anniversary of St. Pius V School. God bless you, and thank you again for making this year such a success.

Sincerely in Christ,

Sister Mary Agnes, O.P.

THANK YOU...

- Thank you to Joe Coughlin, who has spent countless hours this past week in repairing a network issue at the school.
- Mr. Bill Black, varsity basketball coach at LaSalle Academy, spoke to boys in grades 3-8 interested in attending LaSalle's first summer basketball camp this summer.
- Thank you to Bob McMahon for compiling the summer issue of *St. Pius View*, which you will be receiving within the next two weeks.
- The Sodexo barbeque on Monday ran smoothly thanks to the help of Marjorie Bucci, Elena Cunha, Patricia Reddy, Kathy Pannone, Joan Lamar, and other volunteers!
- Thank you to Gayle Lafond and Sandra Myers for their

MISSION STATEMENT

Saint Pius V is a Roman Catholic Parish School founded in the Dominican Tradition. Members of the school community work together to provide a safe, nurturing, and welcoming environment. We provide challenging academic programs enhanced by cultural arts that educate the whole child. We strive to instill Christian values that will enable our students to be contributing members of society and of God's kingdom.

dependable service in assembling the Tuesday envelopes each week.

PALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

- As you are aware, five elementary schools in the Diocese of Providence will be closing at the end of this school year. We will be receiving materials (bookcases, desks, etc.) from some of these schools. If you have a truck or minivan and are able to assist with picking up these items for St. Pius V School, please call Ms. Verardo in the school office.
- Helpers are needed to assist in moving furniture and classroom materials on Friday, June 19th. We have several items such as desks and bookshelves that will be relocated to another level of the school and need strong helpers to make this happen! Please call Ms. Verardo in the school office to volunteer.
- We are looking for a small round or square table and chairs for the principal's office. If you have such items that are no longer needed, we would be happy to receive them!

REMINDERS & INFORMATION

- Please remember that this Friday is the last day for hot lunch as well as before and after school care. These services will not be offered next week.
- Tomorrow will be the last day of school for Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten students! We look forward to welcoming parents to the closing program which will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the Church Hall.
- Monday, June 15th is a free dress down day for eighth grade students. Students in grades 1-7 will have a free dress down day on our last day of school, Wednesday, June 17th.
- Please return your brown envelope to school by this Thursday. The envelope will not be sent home next week.
- LaSalle Academy will be sponsoring a basketball camp for boys entering grades four through nine in September. The camp will take place in the LaSalle gym and run from August 3rd to 7th. There is a fee of \$150, although financial aid is available by contacting Mr. Black.
- This Saturday is St. Pius V School's 22nd annual Donnelly-Johnson Memorial Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament. The tournament will be held at Cranston Country Club on June 13. Thank you for your support!
- Vacation Bible School will be held the week of July 20-24. The camp is 8:45 a.m.-11:45 a.m. each day. Please call Lori Andriole (232-5451) or Betsy O'Rourke (351-1733) with questions.

- Daniel Gryzch will be "Principal for the Day" this Friday! Daniel's uncle was the highest bidder on this Silent Auction item.
- Report cards will be sent home the last day of school. Copies will be retained in the children's permanent records, so you may keep the copy sent home.

FACULTY UPDATE

We wish Mrs. Baker the best as she and Mr. Baker begin their new family. The St. Pius V community will miss her, but we share in her joy as she prepares for the birth of her first child.

We have exciting changes in store for the 2009-2010 year:

- We are adding a fourth full time middle school teacher, which will allow differentiated instruction (two sections for each class) for 6th – 8th grade Math and English.
- As you are aware, Sister Mary Sabina will assume responsibility for 8th grade homeroom and will be teaching Religion, English, and the advanced Math class for 6th grade. Ms. Dragon will retain 6th grade homeroom, teach one section of 8th grade English, and offer academic assistance during one period each day.
- Mr. Pertuso has been hired to teach Literature and Social Studies, and one section of 7th grade English, as well as 7th grade homeroom. Mr. Pertuso comes to us from St. Francis of Assisi School in Warwick (closing this month), and is a graduate of Hendricken and Providence College, where he majored in History (minor in Theology), receiving a Master of Arts degree as well as elementary certification. He will be an excellent addition to our middle school faculty!
- Ms. Hajj will be joining us as teacher of 7th and 8th grade Math and Science. She is currently teaching at Christ the Redeemer Academy (closing this month), where she has been teaching Math and Science for nine years. She is a graduate of Wheaton College. Ms. Hajj was recently appointed the Assistant Director of the Rhode Island Science and Engineering Fair, which our students participate in each year. As a side job, she even works as a pharmacy technician!
- Mrs. Bartel will be working full time as the Lighthouse Program director, next year expanding services to include small group enrichment instruction for qualifying students.
- Mrs. Harrington will be the morning aide in 1st grade and assist 2nd grade in the afternoon.

We have much to look forward to in 2009-2010, and I know you will join me in welcoming these new initiatives to improve our school.

Gym Renovation

This summer we look forward to improving our school gym! During the week of July 6th we will repaint the gym and install new wall padding. Volunteers are needed to assist with prep work and painting. Complete this year's volunteer hours...or get a head start on volunteer hours for 2009-10!

John Almonte will work with Bob McMahon, Joe Zuccolo, and John Thurston (Building and Grounds Committee) to coordinate the painting project. Work times will be flexible to accommodate all interested parties. If you are able to help, please call John Almonte (351-1443).

Extended Day Care

- May payments were due May 29th. There will be a \$25 late fee if the balance was not paid in full by June 4th.
- June payments are due weekly, so please be prepared to pay at pick up.
- The last day of before and after school care is Friday, June 12th.
- Please stop in after school to ask for your balance. If all balances are not paid in full by June 16th, your child will not be eligible to register for extended care next year.

Summer Schedule

Beginning June 18th, St. Pius V School office will be open from 9 a.m. until noon each weekday during June. The office will be closed during the month of July, but voicemail will be checked two times per week.

The school office will re-open on August 1st, with personnel in the building from 9 a.m. until noon until the opening of school on August 26th.

Safety Drills

We will have our two mandatory all school evacuation drills this week. Weather permitting, these will take place Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon. Students will be evacuated from the school with our fire drill procedures and then walked over to the Providence College campus.

80th Anniversary Celebration!

Next year, St. Pius V School will celebrate its 80th anniversary! It will be a special opportunity to give thanks to God for His many blessings to our community, past, present, and future. The 80th anniversary committee (Lisa Brodeur, Irene Coletta, Maryanne Connell, Elena Cunha,

Angela Deller, Carolyn Kelaghan, Grecy Kiriaki, Tonya McConnell, Polly McDonald, Chris & Erin Nocera, Judy Thibeault, Sr. Shirley, O.P., and Anne-Marie Verardo) met last week to set up the calendar of events, which will include those we already observe along with new ways of celebration. Alumni anniversary celebrations will also be held during the year.

<i>September 12th:</i>	Evening Mass and 80 th Birthday Party
<i>October 17th:</i>	Harvest Festival
<i>November 14th:</i>	Wine Tasting Party
<i>January 24th:</i>	Veritas Mass & Open House
<i>January 27th:</i>	Heritage Day at St. Pius V School
<i>April 30th:</i>	Feast of St. Pius V
<i>May 7th:</i>	30 Week Club & Silent Auction
<i>June 5th:</i>	Golf Tournament
<i>June 10th:</i>	8 th Grade Graduation

Harvest Festival

Harvest Festival is October 17th! We will have an organizational meeting on June 10th at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Hall. Come be a part of a great St. Pius tradition. If you have any questions or ideas, please contact Trish or Bruce Bartel (861-4025) or Lisa Barone (233-2207). Thank you in advance for your time and support!

2008-2009 Yearbook

The eighth grade class, aided by Sister Mary Sabina and Ms. Verardo, has created a beautiful yearbook to serve as a memento of the 2008-2009 school year. To order a yearbook, please send \$25.50 to the school office as soon as possible.

Eighth grade students will receive their yearbooks on Thursday, June 11th. All other students who have ordered books will receive copies on Friday, June 12th. Yearbooks may be purchased after this point, on a first come, first serve basis.

Calendar for 2009-2010

For your planning purposes, the following are important dates for the 2009-2010 school year.

<i>August 26th:</i>	1 st Day of School (Grades 1-8) 11:30 a.m. dismissal
<i>August 28th:</i>	Pre-K & K Orientation
<i>August 31st:</i>	1 st Day Pre-K & K
<i>Nov. 26-29:</i>	Thanksgiving Break
<i>Dec. 23-Jan. 3:</i>	Christmas Break
<i>February 15-21:</i>	February Break
<i>April 19-25:</i>	Spring Break