



St. Margaret of Cortona School

... where Hearts are Nurtured and Minds are Educated!

TO: PARENTS AND GUARDIANS
FROM: SR. KATHLEEN MARIE, CR
SUBJECT: WEEKLY HAPPENINGS
DATE: OCTOBER 13, 2009



St. Margaret of Cortona, pray for us!

ITBS Testing October 14th – October 20th: Please Try Not to Be Absent on these Days!

The students in **Grades 1-8** will be taking the ITBS this week, October 14th – October 20th. This standardized test provides the teachers with information in the areas of Reading, English Language Arts and Math they can use to better meet students' individual learning needs. It also helps to identify students' strengths and weaknesses, as well as measure students' growth in each skill area. **Please encourage your children to relax (do not get stressed out about it), to get enough sleep, to come to school on time, and to just try their best.**

Our School Walkathon is Around the Corner

Get your sneakers ready! We eagerly are preparing for our annual school walk-a-thon and anticipating its success. ***Have you gotten your sponsors yet?*** It's going to be a great event, and we are looking for 100% participation. Come and join us on Friday, October 23rd in building school spirit, enjoying one another, and raising money for our school all at the same time!

We want to make this fundraiser one of the biggest ever, but we can't do it without your help! Our goal is \$10,000, and we can achieve this only if we have **100% participation**. If you as a parent would like to get some sponsors and walk for your children's school, you are most welcome! Even our pastor, principal and teachers will be walking that day! Come and join us next Friday, October 23rd here on the school grounds! We will be walking around the property of St. Margaret's School and then will end with a *mini dance-a-thon* in the school gym.

Each student has already received a sponsor sheet. If each student could get \$50 worth of sponsors, then that would give us over \$10,000. Remember **all our** fundraising monies are used for our children and for the improvement of our school and its many programs. These monies in particular will be used to purchase Smart Boards for the remaining classrooms and to continue to enhance our technology program.

Winter Uniforms - Tuesday, October 13th

The last day for summer uniforms was last Thursday, October 8th. All students should be in their full winter uniforms beginning today, **Tuesday, October 13th**. Please refer to the Parent-Student Handbook for details. All students should also have a **school sweater**. This is essential on days it may be colder than usual or on days when students may have to exit the building for emergencies or fire drills.

Hot Pretzels On Sale

On Wednesday, October 14th the 8th graders will be selling pretzels during lunch for the students in Grades K-8. Pretzels cost \$1.00 each. If your child is interested in purchasing this snack for lunch, simply have them bring in a \$1.00 on that day.

Davis Studio School Pictures – October 15th

This Thursday, October 15th is School Picture Day! All students in Grades PK-8 will be photographed (***Grades K-8 in full winter school uniform***). All students must be photographed for the school yearbook whether or not you wish to purchase this pre-paid package. If you are buying a package, be sure each student has a Pre-pay money envelope with the full payment enclosed.

Box Tops for Education

Have you sent in all the Box Tops for Education that you have collected to this point? If not, please do so by Friday, October 23rd. Our school will receive \$.10 for every Box Top for Education that is sent into school by then. Continue to save your **Box Tops for Education** and send them in to school. Thanks.

St. Margaret of Cortona “Going Green”

At St. Margaret of Cortona we continue to make attempts to “*Go Green.*” We recently purchased “*green*” cleaning products. We are continue to evaluate our usage of paper and want to reduce the amount of paper communication we use by printing double-sided and posting more on our school website. **Did you know Americans generate 10.5 million tons of plastic waste a year and nearly every piece of plastic ever made still exists in a landfill today?**

Remember if you are interested in receiving your weekly communication information on line, please send us your email, and we will email you an alert as a reminder to check out the school website for updates.

NEW ADDITION: Teacher Webpages now “ALIVE”

Have you checked out the CLASS PAGES on our school website? These CLASS PAGES include important information about what is going on in your children’s classrooms. This is not only a great means to keep you informed, but also another effort of St. Margaret’s School to “*Go Green.*”

Tuition Payments

All families are reminded that tuition and fees are paid on a monthly basis from August to May. Families who are parishioners are also expected to contribute a minimum of \$500 annually using the weekly envelope system. By December 2009, the first \$250 is to be contributed in order for families to maintain the In-Parish status for tuition rates.

As of October 10th every family should have made a minimum of three monthly tuition/fee payments to C&E Lockbox Services. It is essential that everyone do their part in making payments in a timely fashion so that the parish can meet its financial obligations (payroll, grounds and maintenance, oil, health insurance, liability insurance, repairs, etc.) All financial requirements must be met by November 10th in order for your children to receive their first quarter report card.

Mandatory Confirmation Meeting

On Monday evening, October 26th at 7:00 p.m. in the school gym there will be a special meeting for all Confirmation students and their parents/guardians. At this time important information will be given with respect to this year’s Confirmation program. This is for all those who will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Margaret of Cortona this year. We ask that each family sign in upon arrival for the meeting.

Last Week for Clothing Drive - Drop off at the school by Tuesday, October 20th

This is the last week to collect wearable and usable clothing, shoes, belts, handbags, linens, towels, bedding, kitchen and bath accessories made of fabric, stuffed animals, some hard toys, etc. for St. Margaret School Clothing Drive. We ask that you drop all bags off at the school by October 20th. All items will be picked up early by the Fashion Republic Inc. organization on Wednesday morning, October 21st. We thank you for supporting our clothing drive. The school will receive a donation for the total poundage that we collect.

Safe Environment Training

There will be a Safe Environment Training meeting for all **school parent volunteers** who still need this training on Thursday evening, October 15th at 7:15 p.m. in the Religious Education office of St. Margaret School.

WE NEED YOUR HELP: Topic Suggestions for Home School Association Meeting

When I sent out the parent survey last Spring about the continuation of our Home School Parent Meetings, more than half of the responses that came back suggested that we continue them once or twice a year. I am interested in knowing what your needs are and what topics you would like to have addressed at these meetings. What are some of the topics you would be interested in hearing? I thought it might be beneficial to dedicate about 30-35 minutes of our meeting to a topic of interest - something that would be helpful to you as the parent. Please send in your suggestions. Thanks.

Please complete this tear off and send it back to school with your suggestions for our Home School Association Meetings by Friday, October 16th. Thanks.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Internet Safety | <input type="checkbox"/> Study Skills for your Child |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Safety for Adolescence | <input type="checkbox"/> Faith Development of your Children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Safety for Young Children | <input type="checkbox"/> Parenting Skills |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Technology | <input type="checkbox"/> Health and Fitness for Children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Preparing your Child for High School | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>List suggestion</i>) |

Name (*optional*) _____

Grades (*required*) _____