



September 28, 2009

School Sunday Mass: Thank you to the 8th grade for leading us at Mass yesterday. You did a wonderful job. I was pleased to see students from other grades in uniform at this Mass. It is a great way to reinforce a community connection with the parish.

Altar Server Training: Fr. JJ will be having the first training for altar servers this Wednesday right after school from 3:00 – 3:30. If you are still interested and did not complete and return a form, you can still do so. This program is open to all 4th through 8th graders. The registration form is attached again.

Preventative Measures: In response to last week's head lice notice, one of our parents sent this email: "I also have another son at another school that in 2 years went through 5 bouts of lice. A great prevention proved to be tea tree oil. It is all natural and can be purchased at Whole Foods in a small bottle. We would rub it in his hair and on his neck and clothes. He never contacted lice when even all the kids at his table had. Please note this is only a natural repellent and not a treatment. It is very effective though." Although there have been no new reports, I'm passing this on for your information.

Progress Reports: Progress Reports mark the middle of the quarter and are included in today's Monday envelope. Their purpose is to keep you informed with regard to your child's progress in school each quarter. They should not come as a surprise, however, because you can check Centre frequently during the quarter. 7th and 8th grade parents should also be checking PowerSchool. If you don't have your PowerSchool login information, you can email Mrs. Streeter at: karen@lourdesschool.org. Please sign the report and return it to your child's teacher tomorrow.

Homework: For many students and parents the word "HOMEWORK" evokes many negative feelings. The purpose of homework is twofold: it reinforces what the child has learned and it is a means of assessment for the teacher to ensure that the students have understood the lesson before they move on to something new. Sometimes the homework is graded and sometimes not, but it is **always** corrected. It is essential that parents understand and support the necessity of homework. By working together, we can ensure an optimal learning experience for your children.

SAT: The SAT Assessments (the standardized assessments used by the Diocese) began today. Remember to be on time to school this week and be sure your children get enough sleep and eat a good breakfast. The SATs are not meant to be stressful and cannot be studied for. Please do not put undue pressure on your children. They measure where your children are at this moment and give us insight as to how we can give them what they need.

Blessing of the Animals: St. Francis of Assisi is the patron saint of animals, the environment, and Italy. His feast day is October 4. This year we will celebrate with the blessing of the animals on Friday, October 2nd at 12:00 noon. You are invited to bring your pets to the lawn next to the rectory entrance where Fr. JJ will bless them. **Please do not send pets to school with the children.**

Website: Our website has some major programming issues and is being repaired. Mrs. Razzeca is keeping the calendar on Centre up to date and you can check it for upcoming events. When you open Centre you immediately see the important upcoming events.

Picture Day: Today was Picture Day. Anyone who was absent, who forgot to send their envelope or who is dissatisfied with their pictures when they come in, can have their picture taken on the Retake Day which will be on Wednesday, November 4th.

Monday Letter: If you want a paper copy of the Monday Letter, please let me know.

