

SAINT JUDE SCHOOL JOTTINGS

Mission Statement: Saint Jude School offers a sound program in basic skills, helping students learn, live, and worship in a Catholic community. Students are encouraged to develop self-worth, and to recognize and respect the uniqueness of all people.

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SISTER KATHERINE'S KORNER...

It is hard to believe how quickly the holiday season is approaching. It seems like just yesterday we were on the front lawn of the school, saying the Pledge of Allegiance and praying for a wonderful new school year. Now here we are, a few days away from Thanksgiving and just a month away from Christmas. No doubt this will be a busy few months with school events and activities, as well as all of your personal and family obligations. The holidays can sometimes just be a blur, but I would remind you all, when you can, to take a moment and reflect and think about what you are grateful for. There is no better time to think about all the wonderful things in life than at the holidays. It is a magical time and one for true reflection and thoughtful prayer.

Speaking of grateful...the Annual Turkey Shoot was held at the school last week and it was another wonderful success. So many families were able to win their Thanksgiving dinners and other terrific prizes. The Turkey Shoot is a Saint Jude School and Parish favorite and this year was no exception. Special thanks to Rina Saltamacchia and Jenn Pierre-Louis for an extraordinary job with the event.

Just a reminder to parents that this is a very short week. School is closed on Wednesday 11/25, Thursday 11/26 and Friday 11/27 in observance of the Thanksgiving holidays. We will resume our normal school schedule on Monday, November 30th.

I wish you all a very safe, happy and healthy Thanksgiving. May it be filled with an abundance of friends, family, love and reflection. Be sure to give thanks to our Good God for all the wonderful things he has bestowed on you and enjoy your holiday!

Sister Katherine

BOXTOPS UPDATE...

We recently submitted our first Box Tops collection of the year and received a check for \$300 for our school! Everyone is doing a great job of clipping and sending in their box tops, so please keep it up. If you have any questions, please contact Laura Morano.

BASKETBALL REMINDER...

Basketball starts this Saturday, November 28th at the Greene Building Gymnasium at the Fernald Center.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

Most of these events are on your monthly calendars that come home, with a few additions.

Nov 24	Kindergarten Thanksgiving Friendship Dinner
Nov 25 – 27	No School – Thanksgiving holiday
Nov 29	First Sunday of Advent
Dec 2	Faculty Mtg, 11:30am Dismissal
Dec 3	Advisory Board Meeting, 7pm
Dec 4	First Friday Mass, Grades 1 – 8
Dec 8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception, 9am at the church
Dec 10	Marist Hill Nursing Home
Dec 12	High School Placement Test
Dec 16	Children's Christmas Performance, Afternoon Show
Dec 17	Children's Christmas Performance, Evening Show
Dec 20	Breakfast with Santa
Dec 21	Children's Christmas Party at noon in school hall
Dec 22	Kindergarten Christmas Program begins at 9:45am in school hall
Dec 22	School Christmas break begins at the end of school day

GIRL SCOUT GLASSES DRIVE...



The 4th Grade Girl Scout Troop is collecting prescription and non-prescription sun glasses for an organization called **The Gift of Sight**. This is a community service project and they are attempting to collect over 100 pairs. There is a box in the back of church in which you can drop off any old or extra glasses you may have. Thank you for your anticipated support! The drive will run until December 15th.

We still have plenty of gently worn and nearly new boys and girls uniforms at the school. Stop in to the office for details!

WE ASKED & YOU TOLD US! THIS IS WHAT SAINT JUDE SCHOOL IS THANKFUL FOR...

Kind and caring teachers

A dedicated principal

A beloved priest and deacon

The involvement of our parents and families

The recovery and continued good health of Brendan Murphy

The Dividends for Life which include faith, knowledge, discipline and morals that an education at Saint Jude School provides

A strong, respectful student body that is eager to learn new things and accept the academic challenges each new day brings

The love and support of our families and friends, without whom nothing is possible

THANK YOUS...

In this spirit of Thanksgiving, we thank the following families/businesses for their generous donations to the school this past month:

The Miller Family for the donation of labels, *Linda Martin* for the donation of computers, *The Jean-Baptiste Family* for the donation of paper and *Curt O'Hara* for a large donation of file folders.

We were lucky to have the help of *Joe Newell & John Murphy* to transport the risers, and *Jim McLaughlin* who did some electrical work for us at the school.

The O'Hara's provided us with a delicious BYB/Fall Festival Thank You Dinner, and we can't forget our dedicated crossing guards, *Sue & Lorraine*, who took care of crossing our kids on a crossing guard day off.

Last, but not least, a big THANKS to *Sister Katherine* for all she did to ensure a wonderful Barnyard Bingo/Fall Festival dinner. From the organizing, to dinner, decorating & the appetizers, it was wonderful!

KINDERGARTEN FRIENDSHIP MEAL...

Our Kindergarten students will gather for their traditional Friendship Meal this week. Coming together to symbolize what the Pilgrims and Native Americans did at the first Thanksgiving. The emphasis of their gathering will be similar to what took place so many years ago, working together to make the world a better place and thanking God for their many blessings. The Kindergarteners along with their 5th grade buddies will be sharing that message with the whole school at a prayer service Tuesday.

FROM THE CICCONI FAMILY...

Dear Sister Katherine, Mrs. Prendergast, Faculty, Friends and Families of Saint Jude School - Thank you once again for your generous donations to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation in our Jennie's name! We hope and pray that we will find a cure in her lifetime. Again, thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Love always,
Joanne, Joe and Jennie Cicconi



**SPOTLIGHT ON:
COMMUNITY SERVICE CLUB**

The Saint Jude School Community Service Club has been hard at work this holiday season to make this time of year a little bit brighter for those in need. In case you don't know, the Community Service Club is a group of 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grade students who volunteer their time to do community service projects. The club is in its second year and was formed as a part of the Catholic School's week "Celebrate Service" theme. They are now about 30 members strong and meet every Tuesday after school.

For Thanksgiving, the Community Service Club, along with other school children in grades 5-8 will be spending an afternoon with the residents of Maristhill Nursing Home. They will be working on a special Thanksgiving craft and will be sharing stories and conversations with the residents.

One special project that the club is currently participating in, is Project Bread's "Spoon Project", in partnership with Jordan's Furniture. When you see a spoon, you probably think of eating. It's also important to think of those who are not eating and what we can do to help. As part of this project, our club members decorated spoons. The spoons will be brought to a few different locations to be sold and the proceeds will go to Project Bread. Pictures of the kids with their spoons will be posted on the Project Bread website on December 7th and parents can go online to vote for our school's spoons. Jordan's Furniture will give up to 100 free IMAX tickets to the group with the most votes, so don't forget to vote for our children. For more information on this project, please log on to: <http://www.projectbread.org> and do a search for "spoons" in the upper righthand corner.

Please contact Doreen Gullede if you have any questions or need further information about the Community Service Club or any of its endeavors! We are always looking for new members.

Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!

"In every thing give thanks, for this is the will of God"

Thessalonians 5:18