

# CHERUB CHAT

A PUBLICATION OF HOLY ANGELS PRESCHOOL & ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

MINNESOTA SCHOOLS OF DISTINCTION 08



## Back to School 2011

### Special points of interest:

- August 22nd: School offices reopen
- August 31st: K-2 Class lists posted by 8 a.m.
- August 31st: Family Orientation and Ice Cream Social 6:30-8 p.m.
- Sept. 6th: The first day of classes for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders. (Kindergartners visit classrooms.) Please note that this is a full day of school with dismissal at the regular time of 2:40 p.m.. Busing is provided by TCAPS both ways on this day
- Sept. 7th: Parent Coffee from 7:40-8:45 a.m. in Holy Angels cafeteria
- Sept. 9th: All Systems Mass 8:30 a.m. SFHS Gym
- Picture Day: Sept. 22

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## The Difference is Prayer

### From the Desk of the Principal, Mrs. Janet Troppman

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Dear Holy Angels Families,

God has provided us with an unforgettable summer with hot, sunny days that will help us to welcome in the season of autumn with open arms! This letter comes with a "warm" welcome to the 2011-2012 school year at Holy Angels! As always, we begin our new school year with high expectations and a mission to develop each child to his or her fullest spiritual and academic potential. Our teaching staff is committed to nurture and challenge your child, and are ready to assist our parents in fully forming children's hearts, minds and souls to bring glory to God. We will do our best to ensure that each child finds him/herself comfortable, welcomed, respected, challenged appropriately, and most of all, loved.

As Principal of Holy Angels, I know your children will steal my heart and shape my soul by light-

### What's New at Holy Angels?

With increased enrollment in our 1st and 2nd Grades and with the GTACS commitment to keep our classrooms size small, we will be adding one additional section for each of those grades.

In the 2nd Grade, Maureen DeYoung, whom you should all know due to her past years in her position as Communication Director, is returning to the classroom. Maureen has worn many hats throughout her years at GTACS and her ability to multi-task and her love of GTACS has inspired her to be successful with everything she has been involved in. Her passion for children, teaching and sharing her faith has lead her back to the classroom. Please

ing up my life daily with their smiles, high fives, waves and hugs. In addition, the amazing Staff will pour out love and knowledge each and everyday. Not only do they have hearts for teaching, they have hearts for Christ and His teachings! I am humbled to serve with each one of them.

We will continue to carry the F.R.O.G. theme into our school year. F.R.O.G. stands for "Fully Rely On God" and we will meet as a student body each Monday afternoon. During this special time together we will hear Scripture, sing liturgical and praise music, learn about the Saints, discuss one of the Beatitudes each month and talk about what Jesus would do in different situations. The word F.R.O.G. will also continue to be present in each of our classrooms, as it stands for the four virtues we expect our students to focus upon: **F**-Friendship, **R**-Respect, **O**-Open heart, and **G**-God-like. Along with

welcome her to her new home in Room 212 on the 2nd floor!

In the 1st Grade, we said our sad, tearful good-bye to Lori Meddaugh as she ventures to the 4th Grade at Immaculate Conception. We welcome to the team with open arms Tammy Knudsen who has been teaching in lower elementary for 22 years. GTACS holds a special spot in Tammy's heart, both her and her husband are alumni and her children have been attending GTACS since Preschool. Both her daughters are now at SFHS! Mrs. Knudsen has a gentle and soft-spoken teaching style and along with her love of children and her deep faith will be a perfect fit at Holy Angels.

our F.R.O.G. theme, we continue to focus on our 3 C's: Character (Do what is right), Commitment (Do your best) and Compassion (Treat others the way you want to be treated). Having a common theme/language provides our students with consistent expectations in all areas of our school and within GTACS.

On behalf of our entire Holy Angels staff, we look forward to a wonderful year building the foundation of a Christ-centered education for all of our students. Thank you for sending your children to Holy Angels School and entrusting us with your most precious gift. May each of us approach this school year with great prayer and continue our desire to grow in knowledge, strength and holiness. May you continue to give God thanks and praise for all the blessings He has given us!

Serving Children and Christ,

Janet M. Troppman, Principal

Please welcome Tammy to our family!

Finally, to complete the 1st Grade team, Sheila LaPan, who has been a Kindergarten teacher for a number of years will move up to Room 203 to teach 1st Grade. Mrs. LaPan has taught 1st Grade before here at Holy Angels and as we all know has an unconditional love for all children that God entrusts to her. She willingly shares her love of Jesus with all! We are thankful for Mrs. LaPan's openness to move to a different grade level and we know that Mrs. LaPan will see many familiar faces from last year!

We are excited about what's new at Holy Angels!

### Mass Celebration

Our weekly Mass will be on **Thursdays** at 8:15 a.m. This begins September 15. These Masses will be held at St. Francis Church. Please join us in celebration to praise and worship God!

Please remember to check for your name on our lunchroom/playground calendar when it is sent to you. We rely on your help during this time of the school day. Holly Schurg is working on this year's schedule and may be contacted at [hschurg@gmail.com](mailto:hschurg@gmail.com). Thank you for your continued support for the safety of our angels! Watch for the schedule to come!

## Kindergarten Information

Our Kindergarten teachers are as follows:

- Mrs. Teresa Passinault (Room 105)
- Mrs. Pat Talbott (Room 102)
- Mrs. Missy Muzljakovich (Room 106)

Kindergartners will visit their classrooms with their parents on Tuesday, September 6th

anytime between 9:00-11:30 a.m. and 12:00-2:00 p.m.

This will further prepare them for their first half day of school on Wednesday, September 7th. Kindergartners will have half days of school Wednesday-Friday (September 7-9) with an 11:00 dismissal each day. Parent pick-up is required for these three half days.

They will begin a regular full day schedule on Monday, Sept. 12.

We look forward to seeing our little Kindergarten angels in their school uniforms on Wednesday, Sept. 7th. It is a special day in a child's life when they begin Kindergarten! Bring your cameras, and we will provide the Kleenex for the tears of the parents! It is truly a milestone and an exciting time for your children!

## 1st Grade Information

Our first grade teachers are:

- Mrs. Karen Alpers (Room 201)
- Miss Jean Maslowski (Room 204)
- Mrs. Tammy Knudsen (Room 202)
- Mrs. Sheila LaPan (Room 203)

First grade is such an exciting time in the eyes of our students as they move upstairs and get a locker!

This is also the year that students begin using a daily planner to learn organization and also have nightly homework. Our wonderful first grade team

will lovingly guide your children through this year of academic learning and added responsibility.

These teachers will greet their students outside the Cass Street doors on the first day of school, September 6.

## 2nd Grade Information

Our second grade teachers are:

- Mrs. Stacey Alpers (Room 205)
- Mrs. Nicole DeVol (Room 210)
- Mrs. Allison Carpenter (Room 206)
- Mrs. Maureen DeYoung (Room 212)

Second grade is truly a special year as we prepare our students for upper elementary at Immaculate Conception. This is the year that reading and math skills are enhanced to make them more independent learners. You will be amazed at their writing skills during the year! We also work to reinforce the fact that they are the "leaders" of the school.

These teachers will be ready to greet their new students on the playground, Tuesday, September 6. Students line-up outside the 10th Street door every morning.

## Additional Holy Angels Team Members

- **Mrs. Kathleen Allard:** Holy Angels Enrichment Program (works with 1st and 2nd grade students who need additional academic enrichment).
- **Mrs. Shannon Robertson:** Librarian who will see students once a week to share a story and teach library skills.
- **Mrs. Ann Kavanaugh:** Lunchroom Supervisor will begin her duties in our Holy Angels lunchroom on Tuesday, September 6.
- **Mrs. Nancy Brown:** Social Worker (works individually with students and in small groups, as well as families, on a variety of topics).
- **Mrs. Annette Plamondon:** Reading Room (works with students who may need extra academic support).
- **Mrs. Nikki Kleinrichert:** School Secretary will begin her fourth year welcoming everyone who comes through the door or calls on the phone along with her many other duties.

Holy Angels P.E., Art and Music teachers are part of our Shared Services Program with TCAPS. They provide excellent teachers for our school in these subject areas and will have that information for us in the later part of August.



### **Bussing Information:**

*TCAPS will not be printing bus routes in the Record Eagle as they have done in the past. Instead, each household will receive a postcard one week before school starts. Last year, TCAPS did have some technical troubles and non-public schools did not receive their cards. They have assured us they have rectified this issue so be looking for the information to arrive near the end of August. Should you have questions regarding your child's route after you have received your postcard or if you do not receive a postcard but have signed up for neighborhood bussing, please call TCAPS Transportation at 933-1933.*

***If your child is riding the bus to or from school, please attach a tag or label to his/her backpack with the route numbers.***

## Uniform Information

We continue to use Lands' End, Sears, JenTees, Embroid Me, and JCPenney as approved vendors for our school uniform. **Please note that the navy jumper and skort are ONLY available through Lands' End. Please do not purchase the skort or jumper at Sears or JCPenney or any other store, as the style is different from the approved one.** Shirts, shorts, and pants may be purchased through

any vendor as long as it corresponds with our uniform code. Please adhere to the navy bottom/white top rule and NEUTRAL colored (navy, black, tan, or brown) closed toe (and heel) shoes. Tennis shoes are also acceptable and are also encouraged to be neutral in color. The school logo is available for monogramming through Bay Supply, JenTees, Embroid Me, and Lands' End. **Our logo number through Lands' End is**

**1046194K.** Also, be sure to mention our preferred school code (**900065509**) as Lands' End donates an additional 3% back to our school. **I cannot stress to you enough the importance of staying within the uniform guidelines, as this emphasizes the uniformity within our school family.** Thank you for your commitment to this detail. Click on the uniform link for more information.

## Munson Enrichment Program

The Munson Enrichment Program, which offers before and after school child care will have hours of 6:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. daily. During those hours, there will also be a Pre-K Enrichment Program which includes an LBI lunch, teaching lesson plans with an art project and indoor and outdoor activities. These services will be located in the Holy Angels building which allows the Munson staff to bring and/or pick up your child from his/her classroom. Par-

ents who are interested in this program can register at the Back to School Open Houses or if you want more information, please contact Brigid Wilson at Munson: 935.7990 or email her at [bwilson@mhc.net](mailto:bwilson@mhc.net). The staff consists of Heather Rosa, Coordinator who is starting her 4th year, Josh Sullivan, who is starting his 3rd year and additional staff based upon the State of Michigan licensing requirements for number of children.

As a parent, you may sign up for a flexible week to week schedule with no commitment. There will also be snow day care at the Redeemer Presbyterian Church at 856 8th St.

Munson enrichment provides a nurturing and caring environment that encourages independence within themselves and peers.

Point of interest:

School handbooks will be sent home the first week of school. It is important that you read the handbook and return the acknowledgment form in the back of the handbook.

There will be an **All System Mass on Friday, Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m.** in the St. Francis Gym. This is a wonderful time to gather all of our K-12 students together to celebrate God's word and receive Him in the Holy Eucharist. Please join us if you can!

*The Holy Spirit has planted the seed of faith in the heart of every true child of God.*

*As teachers, we get to cultivate God's garden, tend God's orchard, in the hearts of our students.*

## Family Orientation and Ice Cream Social

Family Orientation and Ice Cream Social is scheduled for **Wednesday, August 31<sup>st</sup>**. Kindergarten parents/children that weren't at Kindergarten Round Up and any new families to the school system should report to the Kohler Auditorium of the High School at 6:30 p.m. We will be discussing general information about our school day, learning about the varied programs our school offers and answering

any questions you may have. Following this meeting, all parents and children are invited to join us for our annual Ice Cream Social. **Current 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade parents and children upon arrival are invited to the Ice Cream Social in the Cafeteria from 6:30-8:00 p.m.** During this time students can reconnect with friends and look over class placement lists, which will be posted on the

Cass Street doors by 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday August 31<sup>st</sup>. Our hope is that by meeting teachers and seeing friends before the first day of school, it will reduce the natural anxiety created by this exciting day. **Please know that all are welcome to attend the informational meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Kohler.**

## Student Drop-off Procedures in the Morning

We will begin the school day at 7:50 a.m. and end at 2:40 p.m. Students may arrive on the playground as early as 7:30 a.m., as supervision begins at that time. Our staff will greet you in the parking lot every morning between 7:30 and 7:45 a.m. to help children out of vehicles. Please do not drop off children before 7:30 a.m., as our staff is in morning prayer and there is no supervision

until this time. (If you need child-care services before 7:30 a.m., please see page 3 regarding early morning care that begins at 6:30 a.m.) Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade students are encouraged to be dropped off (in a single file car line) in the parking lot off 11<sup>th</sup> Street. 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students may be dropped off by the fence on 10<sup>th</sup> Street. **Please do not park on the residential side of 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Street during drop off or dismissal** as the busses cannot make it easily down the street. We truly appreciate your cooperation in making our morning routine safe and smooth. Please be reminded that the morning bell rings at 7:45 a.m. Students are considered tardy after 7:50 a.m. If you arrive after students have gone inside, please walk your child into the office to receive a tardy slip.

## Student Pick-up Procedures in the Afternoon

1<sup>st</sup> grade will be picked up in the 11<sup>th</sup> Street parking lot. Please enter the parking lot from 11<sup>th</sup> Street and exit right onto Cass. This traffic flow pattern should be followed at all times for the safety of our students. Kindergarten and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade will be picked up on 10<sup>th</sup> Street in a car pool line by the fence. **If you have two**

**students in our school, please pick up at the designated area of the oldest student.**

**Please do not park on 10<sup>th</sup> Street and walk across the street to pick your child up, as this creates an unsafe environment.**

**Please place a bold print sign in your car window with your child's name on it to help the line move efficiently.**