

CHERUB CHAT

A PUBLICATION OF HOLY ANGELS PRESCHOOL & ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

MINNAPOLIS SCHOOLS OF DISTINCTION 08



Back to School 2009

Special points of interest:

- August 24th: School offices reopen
- September 2nd: K-2 Class lists posted by 8 a.m.
- September 2nd: Family Orientation and Ice Cream Social 6:30-8 p.m.
- Sept. 8th : The first day of classes for 1st and 2nd graders. (Kindergartners visit classrooms). Please note that this is a half-day of school with dismissal at 11:00. Busing is provided by TCAPS both ways on this day.
- Sept. 9th: Parent Coffee from 7:40--8:45 a.m. in Holy Angels cafeteria

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The Difference is Prayer

From the Desk of the Principal, Mrs. Janet Troppman

Dear Holy Angels Families,

Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year at Holy Angels! I come to you as the "new" Principal of Holy Angels with humbleness and gratitude that God has continued to call me to serve at Grand Traverse Area Catholic Schools. My ability to serve is God's gift of grace and through this grace I have opened myself to the guidance of what God's plan is for me. God has sent me on this new path, to be part of this Christ-centered team at Holy Angels Elementary School. This coming school year is full of expectation and promise, and I am excited to be part of it!

We begin our new school year with continual 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,

New Staff Additions

As of this time, our three "new" staff additions are faces you have seen as either our GTACS Staff or as guest teachers and are "new" only to the positions. Miss Patty Brady, who has been the teacher of our St. Thomas Aquinas children for the past two years, will now be one of our 2nd grade teachers. Patty is a St. Francis High School alum and has known she has wanted to be a teacher since 4th grade. Patty's warm, loving personality and her love of teaching will win the hearts of each of her students.

and we ask that you partner with us in this regard. We will do our best to ensure that each child finds him/herself comfortable, welcomed, respected, challenged appropriately, and most of all, loved.

As Mrs. Phillips did, I will continue to carry the FROG theme into our school year. FROG stands for "Fully Rely On God" and we will meet as a student body each Monday morning to begin our week. 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 FROG 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 our FROG

Mrs. Allison (Bull) Carpenter, who was just recently married, will also be teaching our awesome 2nd graders. Allison has been a guest teacher with GTACS for over 2 years and during that time, has made us aware of her excellent teaching qualities. She is a St. Francis High School alum and still claims she taught her younger sister to read when they "played school!" We are truly blessed to have Allison on staff and before the first week of school is done, her students will count her as one of their greatest

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. My prayer is that God continues to bless you with the freedom that summer brings!

Serving Children and Christ,

Janet M. Troppman

Principal

blessings!
Mrs. Kathleen Allard who will be moving from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, will be challenging our St. Thomas Aquinas students this year. Kathleen has been with GTACS in a number of positions and has shown us her passion and her ability for getting students to excel and reach their highest potential. Her day will consist of being at Holy Angels, teaching math and reading skills and at Immaculate Conception School teaching math. Her enthusiasm and skills will inspire these children to reach for the stars!

Mass Celebration

Our weekly Mass will be on **Thursdays** at 8:30 a.m. This begins September 17th. 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. We rely on your help during this time of the school day. Thank you for your help!

Kindergarten Information

Our Kindergarten teachers are as follows:

- Mrs. Sheila LaPan (Room 104)
- Mrs. Teresa Passinault (Room 105)
- Mrs. Pat Talbott (Room 102)

Kindergartners will visit their classrooms with their parents on Tuesday, September 8th 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 9th. Kindergartners will have half days of school Wednesday-Friday (September 9-11) 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. 14th.

We look forward to seeing our little kindergarten angels in their school uniforms on Wednesday, Sept. 9th. Bring your cameras, and we will provide the Kleenex for the tears of the parents! It is truly a milestone and an exciting

1st Grade Information

Our first grade teachers are:

- Mrs. Karen Alpers (Room 201)
- Miss Jean Maslowski (Room 204)
- Mrs. Lori Meddaugh (Room 202)

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 8th.

2nd Grade Information

Our second grade teachers are:

- Mrs. Stacey Alpers (Room 205)
- Mrs. Rose Gallagher (Room 210)
- Mrs. Allison Carpenter (Room 206)

- Miss Patty Brady (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 8th. Students line-up outside the 10th Street door every morning.

Additional Holy Angels Team Members

- Mrs. Kathleen Allard-St. Thomas Aquinas Program (works with 1st and 2nd grade students who need additional academic enrichment)
- Mrs. Donna Brakel-Art (once/week for 45 min.: 1st and 2nd grades)
- Mrs. Nancy Brown-Social Worker (works individually with students and in small groups, as well as families,
- Senora Kathy Koski-Spanish (twice a week for 30 min.)
- Mrs. Annette Plamondon-Reading Room (works with students who may need extra academic support)
- Miss Mary Radecki-P.E. (twice/week for 30 min.)
- Mr. Todd Vipond-Music (twice/week for 1st and 2nd grade, once a week for kindergarten)

We are very blessed to have these outstanding staff members working with our students.

Mrs. Mary Brady-Librarian retired over the summer. We will dearly miss her and her love of literature that she shared with our students. News on her replacement will be shared at the Open House.



Bussing Information:

Bussing information will be available in a special insert in the Record Eagle on Wednesday, September 2nd. You can also access the information at www.TCAPS.org. If your child is riding the bus to or from school, please attach a tag or label to his/her backpack with the shuttle and route numbers. Any questions regarding bus routes should be referred to the TCAPS Bus Route Information "Hotline" at 933-1956. We will also be providing a shuttle bus from our site to SEAS for 6th - 8th graders. It will leave each morning by the gym on 11th Street at 7:30 a.m. and drop off at the end of the day on 10th Street.

Uniform Information

We continue to use Bay Supply, 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 Bay Supply or 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, and 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 hours, which offers before and after school child care will have hours of 6:30AM-6:00PM daily. During those hours, there will also be a Pre-K Enrichment Program. These services will be located in the Holy Angels building.

Parents 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. The staff consists of Keenan North, Heather Zimmerman

and Julie Fraiss. As a parent you may sign up for a flexible week to week schedule with no commitment. There will also be snow day care!

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. 11th at 8:30** 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!

Whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.
Colossians 3:15-17

Family Orientation and Ice Cream Social

Family Orientation and Ice Cream Social is scheduled for **Wednesday, September 2nd**. Kindergarten parents/children and 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, introducing our staff members, 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 1st and 2nd grade parents and children 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, September 2nd. 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 2:35 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 childcare services before 7:30 a.m., please see page 3 regarding early morning care that begins at 7:00 a.m.) Kindergarten and 1st grade students are encouraged to be dropped off (in a single file car line) in the parking lot off 11th Street. 2nd grade students may be dropped off by the fence on 10th Street. Please do not park on the residential side of 10th Street dur-

ing 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

Kindergarten and 1st grade will be picked up in the 11th Street parking lot. Please enter the parking lot from 11th Street and exit right onto Cass. This traffic flow pattern should be followed at all times for the safety of our students. Half-day kindergarten and 2nd grade will be picked up on 10th 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 10th 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.