

IC CONNECTION

A PUBLICATION OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

MHSAA SCHOOLS OF
DISTINCTION 08



MISSION STATEMENT: Grand Traverse Area Catholic Schools are dedicated to providing a Catholic educational quality for all families willing to enter into a partnership to develop each child to his or her fullest spiritual and academic potential.

Published September 16, 2011

Deadline for submissions to this newsletter is Thursday @ 11:00 am

Please e-mail information for IC to Colleen Sweeney at csween@gtacs.org

Please send information for system-wide distribution to cnelson@gtacs.org

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS:

Tues. 9/20	3:00-4:00 Choir practice
Wed. 9/21	NO MASS – priests on retreat
Thurs.9/22	Picture Day
Fri. 9/23	5 th grade Bake Sale and Raffle

FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

The Difference Is Prayer

With two weeks of school behind us, I am very pleased with the start to the school year. The start of the school year always leaves me energized and humble; I appreciate all the parents who came to meet the teachers and see the classrooms during the Ice Cream Social last week; I am thankful to the PTC members who organized the night and served us; I was uplifted by the beautiful all system Mass we celebrated together last week. The first few weeks are just a wonderful time of year when everyone comes together to get the year started once again.

I am thankful for the hundreds of smiling faces that come through our doors each morning and exit each afternoon. I am thankful for the parents who sacrifice to make certain that their child has a Christ-Centered education. I am thankful for a staff that fixes their eyes on Jesus while continuously helping their students to grow academically.

In addition to thanking parents, the PTC, teachers, staff and students, I want to specifically thank Father Anthony, Father Hayden, and Father Bill for their work and presence in our school and for celebrating the Eucharist each week with us; Mr. Mike Buell for continuing to push for academic and spiritual excellence for our school system, and Mr. Charles Taylor for his leadership as the Superintendent of the Diocese. It is truly a blessing that they are leaders of our school system.

“Pinnacle Parent Internet Viewer” Letters: Today 4th and 5th grade students will go home with information on how you can login to view grades and assignments from home. It is very important that you receive the letter because it contains confidential login information (including your username and password). If you do not receive the letter, be sure to contact us so we can change your password and get you a new letter. There is a second sheet of paper that we ask that you sign and return that lets us know you have received the information.

Car Line: It is very important that we have safety for all of our students during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up. You should have all received an e-mail last week detailing our pickup and drop off procedures. Be aware that Randolph St. is closed for work for the next few months.

Some issues that are cropping up:

- ***In the Morning***... DO NOT drive in front of the school and the church (Vine and Second). DO NOT use or park in the parking lot. As soon as the shuttles busses leave, the students will be in the parking lot. Please drop your student at the corner of Cedar and Second. Then take a left on Second St (away from the school).
- ***In the Afternoon***... Use the parking lot to turn around and exit the car line. Please do not go through the barricade. We ask that you NOT park in the “big parking lot” because cars will be using that for turn around.

Handbook: The 2011-2012 Holy Angels / Immaculate Conception Handbook was sent home this week. It does contain changes from the previous year. Please review it and sign the acknowledgement form that accompanied it, and return it to school as soon as possible.

Playground and Lunch Duty: Thank you to all of the parents who have volunteered to help with weekly playground and lunch duty. Please contact Ms. Sweeney if you are interested in signing up. We still need to fill a few more spots specifically Thursday and Friday mornings and the first Monday of the month for regular lunch duty. We regret that we cannot provide free lunch to the volunteers any more.

Uniforms:

- **Sweatshirts:** As the weather cools, the students may wear a navy blue or white V-neck or crew neck sweater, or a plain blue sweatshirt with or without our logo. I have asked the teachers to not allow hooded sweatshirts or sweatshirts with other logos.
- **Shoes:** I want to remind parents that it is safer for students to wear shoes that are *securely fastened* to their feet. This is because students can “run right out of” a pair of untied shoes or a pair of “flats.” It also presents a tripping hazard on the playground. Please be aware of this as you make your shoe selection. For more details on our shoe policy, please see our handbook.

Grub Day: Thank you for your generosity in donating to today’s grub day for Glad Meals.

PTC: Thank you to the PTC for organizing our “Welcome Back Coffee” this past Monday.

Keyboarding and Choir:

- **Keyboarding:** Permission slips were due back for 4th and 5th grade keyboarding classes today (9/16). Classes will begin the week of the 26th: 4th grade on Tuesday the 27th and 5th grade on Wednesday the 28th. It is important that your child arrive by 7:15am, so the class can start on time at 7:20am.
- **Choir:** Permission slips were due back for the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade Choir last Monday (9/12). Choir had its first two meetings this past Tuesday and Thursday.

Peace,



Mr. Matt Bauman

Parent Rosary Group: We would like to start a parent Rosary group at our school this year. We have reserved a time right after our school Mass on Wednesday in the church. It would be great if there was a group of parents who were interested in staying after Mass to pray the rosary. If you are a parent who is interested in organizing and leading this, please let Mr. Bauman know (mbauman@GTACS.org or 947-1252).

Prayers for Vocations: On Sunday, May 15, 2011, the Catholic Church in the United States celebrated the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. As we began this 40th Anniversary year of the Diocese of Gaylord, Bishop Bernard Hebda wrote a special Prayer for Vocations. The prayer was then combined with artwork from students around the diocese to create prayer cards. Those holy cards were distributed to parishes and schools across the diocese. Last year our Diocese asked families to make a commitment to pray for vocations. Many of you made this commitment. If you haven't done so yet, please visit this link: <http://www.dioceseofgaylord.org/inside/commitment-to-pray-649/> There you will find all of the information you need regarding the commitment to pray for vocations during 2011.

Lunch times: 5th grade 11:05 – 11:45, 3rd grade 11:40 – 12:20, 4th grade 12:15 – 12:55.

LUNCH/PLAYGROUND DUTY

Mon. 9/19 Hanna Merithew, Rachel Dow, Jack Williams
Tues. 9/20 Mary Bliss, Quinn Gronek, Sean Navin
Wed. 9/21 Lisa Kopplow, Madeline Hodges, Payton Klumpp
Thurs. 9/22 Inga Chuinard, Marina Ascione, Caroline Lee
Fri. 9/23 Carol Weber, Amelia Jaworski, Elliott Bandrowski

LBI REMINDER: Immaculate Conception is not under the Universal lunch like Holy Angels. Seconds are allowed, but there are extra charges for them. Example: Second entrée is \$1.75, second milk .40, second bowl of soup is \$1.50. Please discuss this with your child so they know if you would like them to be allowed seconds. Any questions, please call Karen Spencer at 995-8454. Thank you! **We regret that we cannot offer free lunch to parent volunteers.**

LAST CHANCE FOR CANDY JAR: The Magazine Drive Address booklets with your guess of how many pieces of candy are in the jar **MUST** be in by Monday, September 19th in order to be eligible to win. Put your guess on the front of the booklet.