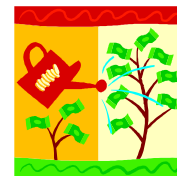




7532 NATURAL BRIDGE ROAD  
NORMANDY, MISSOURI 63121  
314-381-0113

## Growing in Caring & Compassion



Jan. 8, 2010

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Christmas and New Year's blessings to each of you! I hope that your family experienced much joy celebrating the birth of the Lord Jesus. The Christmas break has given us all a chance to relax and refresh so that we are ready for the rest of the school year.

St. Ann Catholic School has been chosen as a project site for the **UMSL Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service**. The UMSL volunteers will be concentrating their efforts on cleaning and painting the cafeteria and science lab. I am hoping that many **school families** will also spend some time volunteering at school that day. Thank you to the 6 parents who have sent me an e-mail that they will be here to help! Some of our gr. 7-8 students will be volunteering **babysitting** time for children ages 4 through 9 in the Parish Center. Older students are welcome to come and help with the Spring Cleaning. If we have many volunteers, we will be able to make the school sparkle and maybe give it a fresh coat of paint as well! Please let me know if you can help and how many children you have for our babysitters! I need this information by Jan. 13 so that we can be prepared.

**All parents grades 4-8**, please mark your calendars now for a **mandatory Parent Meeting** on Wednesday, **March 10**, at 6:30 pm. The topic will be Human Sexuality and the Family Life series that we will be teaching at school and that you will use at home with your child/ren. I hope to have 100% attendance for this very important meeting.

**Catholic Schools Week** will be celebrated Jan. 31-Feb.5. This year, instead of a Family Lunch, we will be having a **Family Dinner on Wed., Feb. 3, 5-6:15pm, followed by a special Family Mass at 6:30 pm**. I hope that all families will be able to join us! Look in your Friday envelope today for more information and a form for ordering dinner.

This week the school received a check for \$284.60 from **Box Tops for Education**. Thanks to Mrs. Lou Jones for coordinating the program, and thanks to all the families who send in Box Tops and Campbell's Soup labels. This is an easy way to help St. Ann Catholic School!

**Recycling News** – We surpassed the “magic” 4 ton paper recycling mark for Nov. 15-Dec. 15 and received a check for \$74.83. If we collect less than 4 tons, we make \$5 per ton – more than 4 tons we make \$15/ton! Thanks for helping the environment and St. Ann Catholic School by bringing all the newspapers, magazines, junk mail, etc. to be recycled here. Remember that you can also recycle aluminum cans here and empty printer ink cartridges!

**Give Kids a Smile** provides free dental care for families currently unable to afford it. They are having a clinic Feb. 5-6 at St. Louis University Center for Advanced Dental Education. To register or request more information call 636-397-6453 or visit [www.GiveKidsASmile.org](http://www.GiveKidsASmile.org).

A Parenting Tip from West County Psychological Associates: **Bullying and Friendship Problems - #2**  
Not every argument or mean comment is bullying. “Bullying” is repetitive, intentional, and involves a power imbalance. Parents have to be careful not to overuse the word when they are really dealing with just day-to-day “kid stuff.” At the same time, parents have to be courageous enough to act appropriately when it is their own child who has made the poor choice to mistreat another peer. In those moments, blending support of the school rules and consequences with continued love and care for their child is crucial.

**LOOKING AHEAD:**

**Jan. 11** – 2<sup>nd</sup> dose of H1N1 vaccine for children ages 9 and under

**Jan. 15** – last day of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter

**Jan. 18** - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – no school  
- UMSL Day of Service and Spring Cleaning

**Jan. 22** – report cards sent home to all families who are current on tuition and fees

**Jan. 31** – Rite of Enrollment for gr. 7-8 Confirmandi at 11:00 Mass  
- Open House noon to 3:00

**Feb. 3** – Family Meal 5-6:15 pm, Family Mass at 6:30 pm

**Feb. 11-13** – 8<sup>th</sup> grade play, *The Big, Bad Musical*, 7:00 pm in the Parish Center

Christmas blessings and peace,  
Ms. Mary Jo Reichenbach

**REMINDERS:**

Please donate your gently used toys and stuffed animals to the Parish Picnic. Items may be dropped off at the back of church or at school in the collection bin marked **Recycled Toys!**

