

St. Patrick School Shamrock Newsletter



Issue 6

October 9, 2009

Principal's Notes

It has been a very emotional week at the school. Kelly Barnes, one of our Shamrock family members passed away this past weekend. Kelly's friendly and outgoing personality and welcoming smile will be dearly missed around our school and parish community. Please keep her husband, Greg, and children, Rikki, Dominic, and Vincent in your prayers. All money collected from next Friday's Jean Day will go to assist the Barnes Family. Students in grades DK - 12 are encouraged to donate to this jean day.

St. Patrick School will say goodbye to high school science teacher, Bryan Yuvan, on October 16, as he takes a new position with Hemlock Public Schools. Bryan is in his 4th year teaching at St. Patrick School. Bryan will be dearly missed by our high school student body. We wish him well. Please keep Bryan and his wife in your prayers as they take on this new endeavor in their lives.

Thank you to the Portland Fire Department for assisting in running a fire drill and for their fire safety presentations to our students on Tuesday. I'm sure many of you were asked about your "fire escape plan" on Tuesday evening.

"Pay it Forward Day" is scheduled for all students on Friday, October 30. If you know of any one that is within walking distance of the school who needs assistance with something, please call the school at (517) 647-7551. In addition to helping individual members of the community, we plan to rake the Portland Cemetery, Alton Park, and under the bleachers at Powers Park. Students will be treated to a hot dog grill-out when they return to school. Middle School and High School students will participate in a "Hoops for Heart" basketball tournament. If you would like to donate to this cause, please feel free to donate through any middle or high school student. More details will be given out at a later date about afternoon Halloween activities for the elementary students on this day. **Students who have not returned the "Field Trip Release Form" will not be allowed to participate.**

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Monday, October 12

Grades DK-12 8:00—10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, October 13

High School 4:00—7:30 p.m.

Grades DK-8 4:30—8:00 p.m.

Student-Led Conferences for students in grades 6-8 will be held in the cafeteria.

All high school conferences will be held in the teachers' classrooms and are walk-in (no appointment will be made).



St. Pat's PTO will be having a "gently used" uniform sale on Tuesday, October 13 4:00-8:00 p.m.

Look for them in the office hallway.

Lost and Found

Please check out the "lost and found" table in the elementary hallway. Uniform items that are not claimed at conferences will be donated to the PTO for their future "gently used" sales. All other items will be donated to a charitable organization:

Scrip will be available in the school office during parent-teacher conferences.

Monday, October 12 8:00—10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, October 13 4:00— 8:00 p.m.

Calendar of Events

- 10/10 Var. Football @ Fowler 2p
Var. VB @ St. Johns Inv. 9a
- 10/11 Fall Festival
5th/6th Grade Football vs. Perry 1p FFF
7th/8th Grade Football vs. Dansville 3p FFF
- 10/11-15 Book Fair
- 10/12 No School-Conferences a.m.
JV VB at Lakewood 5p
JH Girls' BB vs. Laingsburg Home 5p
- 10/13 Vision Screening-Grades 1, 3, 5, 7, 9
Parent/Teacher Conferences-Evening
- 10/14 JH Girls' BB vs. Dansville Home 5p
- 10/15 Var., JV & Freshmen VB @ Fowler 5:30p
JV Football @ Potterville 6:30p
5/6 Girls' BB vs. St. Mary's Home 6p
- 10/16 Grade 5 Living Museum 2-3:15p Room 302
Var. Football vs. Potterville Home 7p
- 10/17 Paper Drive & PTO Pop Can Drive



Fall Festival

Please come and join us for the 2009 Fall Festival, being held this weekend, Sunday, October 11 in the school. Buffet-style dinner includes roast beef, ham, chicken, mashed potatoes, dressing, salad bar, homemade breads and desserts.....and much more! Dinner will be served from 11:00 until 3:00, and take out meals will be available in the Parish Hall. Raffle tickets can be turned in at the Raffle Booth in the lobby outside the school office on Sunday from 10 until 2:45 p.m.. The raffle will be held in the Parish Hall at 3:00 p.m. The Arts and Crafts Show will run from 10 until 4 in the first floor halls and classrooms as well as the gym. There is a Euchre Tournament in the Parish Hall at 1:00. Kidsfest activities will take place in the second floor hallways from 11-3. There will be free activities for teens in the Multi-purpose Room from 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. See you there!

Swine Flu—Precautions

The Ionia County Health Department is working closely with all school in Ionia County to monitor the H₁N₁ flu conditions and make decisions about the best steps to take concerning schools. Here are a few things you can do to help the schools keep their students healthy.

- Teach your children to wash their hands OFTEN with soap and water.
- Teach your children not to share personal items like drinks, food, and to cover their coughs and sneezes with tissues.
- Know the signs and symptoms of the flu. Symptoms of the flu include fever (100 degrees or higher), cough, sore throat, a runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, and feeling very tired.
- Keep sick children at home for at least 24 hours AFTER they no longer have a fever and are not taking Tylenol or other fever reducing medicines.
- Do not send a child to school if they are sick. Any children who are determined to be sick while at school *will be sent home*.

School Forms

If you are getting correspondence from the school office that we have not received the forms that were sent to you before school began, please fill out the new set that was given to your student last week and return to the school office as soon as possible. If we do not have these forms, students will be denied access to the computer labs and will not be able to participate on "Pay It Forward Day".

Christmas Giving Program

APPLICATIONS for the Portland Community Christmas Program are available, and must be returned by November 16. Scheduled pick up is December 18 at the old Portland Credit Union building. Applications are available at the school office, local churches, Tom's Pharmacy, and Portland City Hall.

A Christmas dinner will be provided to families and gifts will be provided to family members 18 years old and under. Any family in the Portland school district that may need assistance or anyone who knows of someone who could use extra assistance should fill out an application.

COAT and BOOT DRIVE

The Portland Community Fund will be having a coat drive from Wednesday, October 1 through Wednesday, October 15. Adult and children's clean, useable coats will be collected along with hats, mittens, gloves, boots and outerwear.

This year they are asking for donations of new and good used boots along with the coats. They will not be requesting boots as part of the Christmas Giving Program.

A donation box will be located in the lobby by the school office. Other donation boxes will be located at Portland City Hall, local churches, Curves, and the Senior Center.

Distribution of items to anyone needing them will be held on October 17th from 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. at St. Andrew Lutheran Church at 8867 Kent Street in Portland.

Book Fair

The Book Fair will be open during Fall Festival on Sunday, October 11 from 10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. in Room 109. It will also be opened on Tuesday, October 13 during Parent/Teacher conferences from 4:00—8:00 p.m. Hours for Wednesday are from 3:30—4:00 p.m. and all day long on Thursday if you would like to send money with your students for purchases.

