



Thursday Letter – August 26, 2010

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have spent this week settling into our new routines at Holy Family Catholic School. We know that God is watching us and guiding us on this journey. The start of our school year has gone extremely well! Our enrollment is excellent, the staff and students are getting to know each other, we have celebrated mass together, and even enjoyed ice-cream treats provided by Parent Club at last night's Ice Cream Social. We are on our way...

Forms, Forms, Forms- Please be sure to turn your completed Book Day forms into the school office. They are due tomorrow. If you have any questions on the paperwork, please call Mrs. Benes in the school office.

Catholic Schools Website/HFCS Website- As we are in the digital age, many schools and businesses use their website as a primary communication tool. Our new Superintendent of Schools, Fr. John Belmonte, has updated the CSO website to make it more user friendly and has also included a photo gallery. You will find some pictures of our HF students that were submitted last spring. We will also be submitting pictures from the first few days of the 2010-2011 school year. That website address is www.dioceseofjoliet.org/cso.

Please also continue to check our individual school website at www.hfcatholic.org for the most up to date information, fun pictures of our students, upcoming events, and important links.

Race and Ethnicity Reporting- The Illinois State Board of Education will begin using new race and ethnicity reporting categories as issued by the U.S. Department of Education beginning with the 2010-2011 school year. Schools are required to re-identify race and ethnicity for all students. Today, school families will be receiving a form for each of their PS-8th grade students, requesting that they provide race and ethnicity by answering a two-part question for each student. The forms must be returned to school no later than Friday, September 10th.

Photo Opt Out- Each year, we market the school through photos taken at various academic, extracurricular, and parish activities. Most of these are used within the school setting, in the parish bulletins, on the school website or CSO website, or occasionally in community newspapers. All families have received an "opt out" form. If you have any issues with your child being photographed, please be sure to complete and return the opt-out form.

Save the Date for our Auction Dinner Dance- Our Holy Family/St. Joseph's/ St. Charles Borromeo Auction is scheduled for Saturday, March 5, 2011 at Alta Villa Banquets in Addison. Save the date as we celebrate another successful year together!

Parent Night/Open House- Plan to attend Parent Night on Tuesday, September 14th. We will begin promptly at 7pm in the church. This will be a great opportunity for parents to be introduced to the staff, hear about all of the wonderful programs we have in store for the school year, and to see the classrooms. This is also the night that you will sign up for your parent-teacher conference time.

Band and Piano- Did you know that Holy Family has a vibrant and growing Band and Piano Program? Students in grades 3-8 have the opportunity to learn a band instrument while students beginning in PreSchool can take piano lessons through our school. There is an additional charge for these programs.

If you are interested in the band program, we invite you to attend the Instrument Recruitment Night on Monday, September 13th from 7:00-8:00 in the school gym. If you are interested in the piano program, please contact Mrs. Debbie Coconate at 630-238-8019.

We hope that your child will become a part of our growing instrumental program!

Spring Musical- I am pleased to announce that Mrs. Kimmel, Mrs. Stafford, and Mrs. DeBartolo will be coordinating a spring musical for our junior high students. Parent volunteers will be needed to help with building sets and making costumes. There will be a parent sign up sheet at Parent Night on September 14th. This would be a great way to earn FISH hours.

Spirit Wear- New HF Spirit Wear is on sale! If you have not yet purchased your spirit wear at Book Day or the Ice Cream Social, don't miss the opportunity to order now through the flyers that you will find in today's envelope. Simply return the flyer, with your payment, to the school office no later than Friday, September 10th. Our first Spirit Wear Day is Friday September 24th!

As you will see, we have a lot going on here at Holy Family. We start the 2010-2011 school year ready and excited. We are most certainly walking in faith this year, and eager for all that God has in store for us.

Please visit our website at www.hfcatholic.org for updated information, news, upcoming events, school calendar, and fun pictures of our school and kids!

In Christ's Peace,

Mrs. Corie Alimento