

MARION MESSENGER

November 5, 2009

WEEK-AT-GLANCE

Friday, November 6, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All School Mass – Grade 4• Popcorn Day - \$.25 per bag• First Friday Food Drive
Monday, November 9, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Morning Prayer – Grade 6
Tuesday, November 10, 2009	
Wednesday, November 11, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Primary Mass – Grade 5• JV & Varsity Volleyball Award Night – 6:00 PM
Thursday, November 12, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thinking Cap Quiz Bowl – Grade 8
Friday, November 13, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NO SCHOOL
Saturday, November 14, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CROP till you drop!!! 9:00 am – 3:00 PM• Euchre Party 7:00 pm

PRINCIPAL POINTS:

*In January we have the opportunity to raise a large amount of money at the Millionaire Parties held at the Shark Club in Howell. We will be looking for people to sign up to work on the following dates: January 5th to the 8th and on January 17th to the 20th. Four people are needed for each night. There are 2 shifts each day; one from 4:00pm to 9:30pm and one from 9:00pm to 2:30am. Please consider looking at your calendar and seeing if you can fit one or more of these dates into your schedule. More dates will be available in May and June. I so appreciate all that you do to help our school raise the funds needed to help keep costs down. There will be sign up sheets for each date in the Gathering Space of the school by Monday. Please sign up, we really need you!

*St. Mary has been collecting change for the Pregnancy Helpline Baby Bottle Drive. We were able to collect \$251.72 dollars in loose change. Thank you to the 8th Graders who counted and rolled all of that loose money. We have true servant hearts here at St. Mary!

***Raffle Tickets** are ready for pick up. If you didn't get the chance to pick them up after mass last weekend, then you will be able to do that this weekend after any of the masses. **Money for all tickets is due in the school office on or before December 15th.** This is such an important fundraiser for our school and this year there are more opportunities to win from each ticket than ever before! Best of all; all money from the school ticket sales go directly to St. Mary School to help keep tuition costs down. Thank you in advance for supporting this very important fundraiser.

I have been in contact with many different sources in the health community gathering as much information as possible about how to keep our school community healthy. One of the most important things that we can do to help prevent germs from being transmitted is to wash often with soap and water. Another is to cough or sneeze **into your elbow not over it. Did you know that when we sneeze it comes out about 100 mph to spread around the area that we are in?! Also, please keep your child home for 24 hours after he/she is fever free. **This also includes vomiting!** Children should not be in school the next day after vomiting the day before; this rule is 24 hours, too.

*Our annual school Book Fair is coming up soon. Mrs. Malcolm has placed some sign up sheets looking for volunteers to help in the Gathering Space on the sign up board. Any help that you could give; big or small would be appreciated. Additional information is located below.

*I am so grateful for Mrs. Kristin Myher for stepping up to help me in the office while Mrs. Smith is at home recouping from surgery. She has been a real God send and I would not be able things done without her help. Thank You, Mrs. Myher!

*Had enough of the Halloween candy? If you have extra candy that you would like to donate, Mrs. Abbott and the Latchkey is collecting candy and any other goodies to send over to the men and women serving our country. All donations will be accepted.

Have a great week,

Veronica Kinsey

THE CLASSROOM WINDOW

FIRST GRADE NEWS:

The first graders have been busy in all their subjects so far this year. They have been working on building their reading skills through phonics, site words, and independent practice. They have been building skills in math as well through the use of flash cards, hands on activities, and daily work.

They have also created some exciting things. They made their own plant, wrote and illustrated an animal book, and wrote and shared a spooky Halloween story.

As their skills continue to develop, they will create and share more stories. They are excited about learning to read and write. They love sharing their new found skills with others.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Book Fair News:

"Once again, it's time to get ready for the Scholastic Book Fair headed to our school! This year the book fair will be held at St. Mary's from Wed., Nov. 18th thru Mon., Nov. 23rd in the gathering space. Book fair information and the opportunity to volunteer to help can be found at <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/stmarycatholicschoolpinckney>

I will also have a sign-up sheet posted outside the library for anyone interested in helping with the sale, set-up, take-down, or Teachers' Preview Breakfast.
Thank you for your support!" Rina Malcolm

CROP till you DROP!!

It's that time again ... Get caught up on your pages while helping the school auction team raise some much-needed funds. ALL crafters welcome ... scrappers, stampers, sewing, card making, knitting, etc. \$10 admission includes pizza lunch, lemonade, coffee and one door prize raffle ticket. Other raffles also available.

Bring all your friends: Saturday Nov. 14 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the St. Mary Multi-Purpose Room.

Please RSVP to Pam McGlade at 734-954-0733 or onthesth@charter.net.

Dress Down Day

The seventh grade will sponsor a dress-down day on Tuesday, November 17, to benefit their BaySail class trip in May. To participate, students should bring \$1 in an envelope, clearly marked with "Dress-Down Day" **and the student's name and grade**. Thank you for your support!

REPAIR ASSISTANCE NEEDED

Labor of Love has launched its year round Urgent Home Repair Ministry, which assists the elderly, disabled and financially challenged with home repairs that threaten the people's ability to continue to live safely in their home. All material costs are covered by Labor of Love and repairs are performed by qualified volunteers.

Those that volunteer are only asked to undertake one Urgent Repair per year, so that they will not be overwhelmed with repeated requests. If you are willing to assist with any of the repair requests listed below or would be willing to evaluate urgent repair requests in the future, please contact us.

CURRENT NEEDS

1. **PLUMBING & LAMINATE FLOORING - HOWELL** - We have a family that is financially challenged with a mentally handicapped daughter that needs our help. The carpet in the basement needs to be taken up and replaced with laminate flooring. The carpet was destroyed due to the daughter's incontinence. The hot water is also not working and the handle in the shower is broken. There are several other minor repairs such as a lighting fixture and closet rod installation that would be appreciated. We are looking for a volunteer to go out to the home and provide an evaluation of the scope of the project.
2. **LAMINATE FLOORING – FOWLerville** - We would appreciate assistance in pulling up carpet in a 15 x 15 room and replacing it with snap together flooring system. The family is financially challenged and the son that destroyed the carpet is profoundly autistic. This project is estimated at 3 – 6 hours of time.
3. **ELECTRICAL & PLUMBING – BRIGHTON** – We need volunteers to evaluate the urgent plumbing and electrical repairs needed by a homebound man and if possible, make the necessary repairs.
4. **HANDICAP RAMP ASSEMBLY – HARTLAND** – We have a handicap ramp that was previously installed on a Labor of Love project day that is no longer needed. We are looking for volunteers to take the ramp apart and install it at another home located in the same mobile home park. This would be a great project for a small group.

5. **PROJECT EVALUATORS – LIVINGSTON COUNTY** - We are in need of individuals that possess general home repair knowledge that would be willing to go out and evaluate urgent home repair requests.

If you are able to share your talents with your neighbors, please contact Allan Lutes by responding to this email or at wecare@laboroflovelivingston.com or 734-769-1900.

Advice About Novel A (H1N1) Virus in Schools:

According to several county health departments, the Novel A (H1N1) influenza (previously referred to as swine flu) is a new form of flu which began infecting people in April. It is expected to infect many this school year. Due to the rapid onslaught of this flu, no one is certain how serious it may be. It appears that infants, children and young adults have the least natural immunity and will need to follow the precautions most closely. Below are questions and answers about the flu and school.

Q. How does the H1N1 flu compare to regular (seasonal) flu strains?

- So far, it doesn't seem any more deadly than seasonal flu, which kills 36,000 Americans a year and hospitalizes 200,000. But H1N1 does sicken the young much more frequently than the old, and it spreads very easily, especially in crowded schools. A University of Washington study found the typical sick school student infects two or three classmates, so **KEEP SICK KIDS AT HOME**.
- You can be contagious up to 24 hours before you show symptoms; this is one reason flu spreads so easily.

Q. How long should sick students stay out of school?

- For 24 hours after the fever breaks naturally, and not due to fever-reducing medicine. Never give a child aspirin, only non-aspirin fever reducers.
- Local health departments and the CDC are recommending, as is the diocese, that schools should not close because people have flu-like symptoms. Last spring's school closings did not prevent the spread of the virus. Instead of closing schools, students and staff with flu-like symptoms will be sent home from school to avoid infecting others. Administrators do have the option to close schools if the number of absences dictates it.

Q. If I get sick, will I be quarantined and tested to see if I have H1N1 flu?

- Not necessarily. People with flu-like symptoms do not need to be tested. H1N1 will become common and test results won't change how patients are treated.

Q. Will anti-viral medication, like Tamiflu, help lessen the symptoms of H1N1?

- Most people with flu-like symptoms will not receive anti-viral medications. This is to reduce the likelihood of H1N1 becoming resistant to anti-virals. However, that recommendation should be made by your physician or health-care provider. Please call your doctor if you are experiencing flu-like symptoms. People who have a medical condition that makes them likely to develop complications from H1N1 will probably receive anti-virals if they have flu symptoms or if they are exposed to someone with flu symptoms.

Q. Is hand using hand sanitizer too often a concern?

- Hand sanitizer should be used regularly. It is normally not any more drying to skin than soap.

Q. What precautions are the schools taking?

- The diocesan schools have installed a three-step process to try to prevent the spread of H1N1:

1. Isolation: If a student complains of flu-like symptoms while at school, the student will be removed from the classroom and requested to wear a mask until a parent picks him/her up. This is to contain the virus from spreading to others.

2. Communication: A series of communications to students, parents and school employees detailing the latest information about prevention will be available on a regular basis. This includes flyers, posters, E-mails, and instruction.

3. Supplies: Each school should have an adequate supply of tissues, hand sanitizers, disinfectants and masks.

Q. What are the signs and symptoms of H1N1?

• The symptoms are similar to seasonal flu – fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body and headaches, chills and fatigue. Many people have also reported vomiting and diarrhea.

Q. Are there resources I can go to for more information?

The following are health-related data-tracking Web sites on the H1N1 virus.

- www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/fluallery/2009-10/pdf/h1n1_take_3.pdf
- Novel h1n1 Flu (Swine Flu): Taking Care of a Sick Person in Your Home www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidancehomecare.htm
- Center for Disease Control and Prevention www.cdc.gov/flu and www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu
- Michigan Department of Community Health www.michigan.gov/flu
- Department of Health and Human Services www.flu.gov
- Childhood Influenza Coalition www.preventchildhoodinfluenza.org
- Families Fighting Flu www.familiesfightingflu.org
- www.flu.gov/professional/community/cfboguidance.html.



Avoid the Flu
Take Care of You
Wash your
hands often with
soap and water or an alcohol-
based hand sanitizer

Don't share personal items

(drinks, food, unwashed
utensils).

Cover your coughs and sneezes
with tissue or cough into your
elbow, sleeve or arm if tissue is
unavailable.

Avoid touching eyes, nose and
mouth

Department of Education and Catechesis

