

### **Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!**

- ❖ To Mrs. Huggins for inspiring all of us to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday and the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *Green Eggs and Ham*.
- ❖ To our cafeteria for helping celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday with green eggs and ham.
- ❖ To Ms. Tobin for coordinating our involvement in the Academic Fair.

### **Academic Fair March 5**

Remember that there will be no school tomorrow, March 5. We wish our students who will be competing in the fair good luck and remind them to just do their best and be gracious winners, as well as losers. We thank parents of these students for making the effort to take their child to St. Patrick School for the competition. We also thank all our teachers who will be helping at the Fair.

### **Enrollment for Next Year**

Our enrollment for next year is down from where we were at the same time last year. We know the economy is affecting many people, but we need more students in our school so that we can keep all the wonderful programs we have in place for your children. Word-of-mouth is the best advertising, so please talk to your friends, family members, neighbors and acquaintances and tell them to come visit St. Pius School to see what a great education we provide. We need everyone's help to keep our school strong.

### *PTO Meeting*

Make plans to attend the PTO meeting Tuesday, March 9, at 7:00 p.m. in the reception room. Many of our students will be displaying their creative art projects following the meeting. It will be an art show you do not want to miss!

### *We Have a Mavs Academic All-Star!*

Congratulations to 8<sup>th</sup> grader Karen Hernandez! She has been selected as a Mavs Academic All-Star for showing academic excellence! The Mavs had 400 applications from across the city and chose 30 winners. As a Mavs Academic All-Star she has won a trip to the Dallas World Aquarium with a Mavs player on March 11; two tickets to the Mavs game on March 13, where all the winners will be recognized on court at halftime; and a Mavs goody bag! We are very happy for Karen and thank Mrs. Angelier for nominating Karen for this honor!

### **Fun Basketball Game**

The annual 8<sup>th</sup> grade basketball players vs. coaches/parents game will be Friday, March 12 at 6:30 p.m. Eighth grade parents will be selling concessions, and PTO has organized a raffle for prizes/giveaways. With a \$1 admission fee, everyone will receive one raffle ticket. Additional raffle tickets may be bought for \$1 each. This will be a fun evening for all.

### **"New" Computers**

We feel like it has been Christmas all over again at St. Pius School! We have received 115 Pentium 4 work stations! We are very grateful to Susan and Raul Garduno for making these available to us. Mrs. Garduno works for the social security administration, and we were able to get the computers through *Executive Order 12999, Educational Technology: Ensuring Opportunity for all Children in the Next Century, and the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980*. These Acts direct federal agencies, to the extent permitted by law and where appropriate, to donate educationally useful computer equipment to private and public schools. We are so blessed that the Garduno family chose St. Pius to be the recipient of these computers! We also appreciate Mr. Jeremy Saldana, Mr. Michael Samons, and Mr. Michael Rochester for making trips to Arlington to transport all the equipment to St. Pius School. Mr. Saldana and his student helpers have the new work stations set up and operating in the student computer lab and in the media center. They are in the process of getting a new work station operational for every teacher also. These new computers will also give us the opportunity to set up more work stations in every classroom for student use. Thank you so much to Susan and Raul Garduno for this wonderful blessing!

### *Make-up Date for Field Day*

The make-up date for Field Day is Friday, April 9. More information will follow as we get closer to the date. We always need lots of help on Field Day, so we hope many of our parents will start now making preparations to take that day off from work and be here to help us provide a great day for our kids. We thank Charlotte Steele for planning and organizing Field Day!

## Outstanding Alumni

We are so proud of Dillon Lewis and Andy Marin! Please read about their accomplishments from the math teacher at Bishop Lynch: “The results of the 61<sup>st</sup> annual American Mathematics Competitions Contest are in. This prestigious contest, the AMC 10/12, first given in 1950 and sponsored by the Mathematical Association of America, is given to more than 250,000 students in over 4,200 US and international schools. One hundred of the best math students at BL were invited to sit for this exam. The School Winner on the AMC 12 at Bishop Lynch is **Dillon Lewis**. The top three scorers on the AMC 12 compose the school team: they are **Dillon Lewis**, **Emily Fitzharris**, and **Andy Marin**. Two members of the school team have qualified to take the next level of competition, the AIME (the American Invitational Mathematics Exam). They are **Dillon Lewis** and **Emily Fitzharris**.”

## Work of Heart Award

Thank you to everyone who has nominated our teachers for this special award. Please continue to nominate our teachers and staff members by writing a nomination letter, including your name and relation to the nominee, and sending it to The Catholic Foundation in one of three ways: email to [workofheart@catholicfoundation.com](mailto:workofheart@catholicfoundation.com); fax to 972-661-0140; or mail to The Catholic Foundation, Work of Heart Award, 5310 Harvest Hill Road, Ste. 248, Dallas, TX 75230.

## Get Started Using Scrip!

We really hope all our families have started buying Scrip! This fundraising program will become mandatory for next school year. It is a very easy program to use, and there are gift cards available for every imaginable product or need. It just takes a little planning and organization to make Scrip work for your family. Orders are placed every Monday at 9:30 a.m. and those cards are delivered to us on Wednesday. Information about using Scrip may be found on Renweb and on the St. Pius website – [www.spxdallas.org](http://www.spxdallas.org), then click on “School.” For questions about the program or help in getting started, please call our Scrip coordinator, Mrs. Tina Nunez at 214-676-2685 or email Tina at [scrip@spxdallas.org](mailto:scrip@spxdallas.org).

*Good luck to all our basketball teams in the playoffs!*

## Scrip Specials!

Until April 2, 2010, the following specials are being offered:

Motherhood will increase from 6% to 12%.

Exxon/Mobil \$50 gift card and reload will increase from 1.5% to 2.5% and \$100 gift card will increase from 2% to 2.5%.

Additional specials going on are listed on the website [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com).

## SPX Community Event

St. Pius Parish will host a fun day for the entire community on Saturday, April 24, from 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. The day will include a car show, carnival rides, band competitions, good food, fun, and fellowship for everyone!

The St. Pius carnival has been moved to the fall and will be called “Oktoberfest.”

## Safe Environment

Everyone who wishes to volunteer at our school is required to go through the safe environment training on an annual basis. All volunteers must wear their badge every time they are on campus. You may visit <http://dallas.setanet.org> and click ‘My Obligations’ to see when your last training was and what is required before you may volunteer. New parent volunteers may visit the same link and complete their initial screening form to start the process. Additional information may be found at [www.spxdallas.org](http://www.spxdallas.org) under Safe Environment. Questions may be directed to Ginger Farrell at [gfarrell@spxdallas.org](mailto:gfarrell@spxdallas.org) or 972-279-6155.

## Catholic Charities Needs Furniture

Catholic Charities resettles refugees each week right here in Dallas and is dependent on community donations of furniture and household goods to set up these apartments. They are in need of dining tables and chairs, dressers, end tables, coffee tables, sofas, chairs, and lamps. Odds and end pieces are always welcomed! If you have any items to donate, please call the Catholic Charities World of Goods store at 214-342-8231 for a pick-up. Be sure to tell them that the furniture is for the refugee apartments. Thank you so much for your continued support of Catholic Charities and the many clients it serves each day.

**Congratulations to Mitch Taylor for being named a coach in the DPL basketball all-star game!**

The parish staff will be cooking and selling fish at the Fish Fry Fryday on March 5! Come to Communion Hall between 5:30 and 7:30 and enjoy a great meal with friends. Prices are \$8 for adults and \$6 for seniors and children.

Student Council is collecting old cell phones for "Cell Phones for Soldiers" again this year.

Due to missing school on February 12, we will now have school on Monday, April 19.