

**WELCOME to SAINT BERNADETTE SCHOOL
2010-2011 INFORMATION
PART 1**

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR 2010-11 (for grades 1-5) will be **Wednesday, August 25**. Students in Kindergarten and Preschool will have a staggered entrance. Mrs. Griffith (K) and Mrs. Darfus (P) will offer orientation conferences during the first couple days of school. Watch your August mail for more kindergarten and preschool news and a conference schedule.

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT - Monday, August 23. Just as the name suggests, Parent Information Night is designed to provide parents with necessary information and to provide a platform for any questions you may have. This is a required parent meeting. Come meet your child's teacher and learn about the exciting programs offered for your child in the 2010-2011 school year.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE- School begins at 8:05 AM for grades 1-5. Please be sure your child is here at that time. If you will be dropping off your child, arrive **NO EARLIER** than 7:45AM. There will be no teacher on duty before this time. When you arrive, drop your child off at the Parish Hall end near the playground. If the weather is fair, a teacher will have the children outside, the children are **NOT** to go inside without her permission. Do not drop off near the church doors, as that backs up traffic onto Wheeling Road. **DO NOT PARK IN THE FIRE LANE.**

AM Kindergarten begins at 8:05 AM and children follow the same guidelines. PM Kindergarten begins at 11:50 AM. Children should be taken to the playground if the teacher is outside, or to the classroom if the weather is poor. Exit out the driveway nearest Pleasantville Road.

School ends at 2:35 PM. Please make arrangements to have your child picked up at that time. Anytime your child's transportation or pick-up plans change, please send a note. If the child will be riding the bus some days and riding home others, please send in a note detailing the schedule. Children riding the bus home, line up at the doors near Wheeling Road. **DO NOT BLOCK THE BUSES.** Children walking and riding in cars will be released from the Parish Hall doors. A teacher must release them before they can leave the line. For early release (for doctor or dentist appointments), sign children out at the office and send a note to the teacher. **IF THERE IS ANYONE WITH WHOM YOUR CHILD MAY NOT RIDE, PLEASE NOTIFY THE SCHOOL IN WRITING!**

AM Kindergarten will be released at the doors near Wheeling Road at 10:50 AM. Please be sure to pick them up on time, to relieve the teacher on duty (Mrs. Griffith) for lunch, and to reduce anxiety in the children. PM Kindergarten is released at the Parish Hall doors at 2:35 PM. Bus children will go to the bus line.

SCHOOL CALENDAR: The School Calendar is enclosed in this mailing and contains dates of importance for the entire year.

ADDRESSES & PHONE NUMBERS of our students and their families are published annually in the St. Bernadette Home and School Student Directory (the "Bee Book"). These directories are only distributed to school families. In addition, other sub-committees of the Home and School Association sometimes ask for class lists to track fundraisers and other business. **If you do not want your address and phone number to be published** or given to St. Bernadette organizations, please call the school office (740-654-3137).

SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD: Meets the first Monday of every month at 6:00 PM **(Please note time change)** . The Diocese of Columbus has guidelines to assist the board in advising the principal. The Board consists of seven members, the principal and the parish priest; and is joined by a teacher representative at each meeting. After the minutes from each meeting are approved, a summary is prepared and sent home to all parents. All parents are welcome to attend school advisory board meetings. If you have a concern to put on the agenda, contact a Board member, and it can be done confidentially. If you want to speak at a meeting, contact the president or principal before the meeting. Members serve a 3-year term. Current members are: Zack DeLeon, Jason Leach, Rick Maynard, Sheryl Meyers, Matt Neighbor, Will Sharp, Kelsie Wood.

STUDENT SUPPLY LISTS are enclosed in this mailing. This information is also available on our school web page. **Kindergarten and NEW students are asked to purchase a USB (flash) drive.** If possible, we are asking parents to provide this "one time" purchase for their child. This drive will move with your child from grade to grade. Students will save their writing assignments and other school projects throughout their tenure at St. B. This portfolio will be a keepsake of growth and achievement when they reach the fifth grade.

OLD BUSINESS

- We ended last school year with a service project for the Marines in Afghanistan. Our care-packages contained personal care items, packaged snacks, magazines and hand-written notes. Our collection resulted in 8 boxes for our service men and women!!
- Our end-of-the-year Boxtop Contest netted a total of 6932 boxtops collected. The two students submitting the most boxtops were Ethan Henry (206) and Isabelle Gentile (202). Our 2009-10 first graders turned in a total of 911. Thank you for supporting this easy fundraiser. Save your boxtops over the summer. We will be having a contest soon after school begins in the Fall.

WELCOME to SAINT BERNADETTE SCHOOL 2010-2011 INFORMATION (Part II)

Remember: PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT - Monday, August 23 at 7PM. Please see enclosed flier. (Attendance at this meeting is required for at least one parent/guardian.)

First day of school for grades 1-5 is Wednesday, August 25th. (*Preschool and Kindergarten students will have a "staggered entrance."*)

BUS INFO:

- Bus schedules are printed in the Eagle Gazette before school starts. For questions, or to be sure your child is on the bus list, call the Bus Barn at 687-7366. Also, alert the bus barn if your child is picked up or dropped off at a sitter's house rather than your residence. Please be aware that the first few days of school, the schedule is a little slow. If your child will be going home with a friend, please send a written note so the staff can be sure the child gets on the right bus.
- Lancaster City Schools established policy in 2006 that they no longer transport daycare students, or students residing in another district.

STUDENT SAFETY – Outside doors of our building are locked during school hours. Visitors are asked to enter at the front entry and ring the buzzer for admittance. All visitors to our building will be required to sign-in upon arrival and sign-out as they leave. During their stay, visitors will be asked to wear a visitors' badge. The Visitors' Log is in the school office.

SNOW DAYS AND EMERGENCY DAYS OFF will be announced via an automated phone call (please see Emergency Communication below). If Lancaster City Schools cancels classes, St. Bernadette will be closed. The three Lancaster Catholic Schools may cancel classes independently of Lancaster City. The "greeting" on the school answering machine will also announce any schedule changes.

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION via SchoolAnnouncement.com - Our students' emergency phone numbers must be entered into this emergency contact system. Parents are required to register on-line and enter all contact information. In the event of an emergency, all entered numbers will be called instantaneously. Please speak to your child's alternate contacts and let them know of the possibility of receiving an emergency recording from SchoolAnnouncement.com, and what your family's plan will be. The phone launch does not differentiate between AM and PM preschool and kindergarten classes. Therefore, it is possible that you may receive an emergency recording at a time when your child is not in attendance at St. Bernadette. However, the information in the message could be important to the arrival of the next class.

UNIFORMS - St. Bernadette uniform garments (grades 1-5) are available at two locations:

- *The School Closet* is located at 122 N. Columbus Street, Lancaster OH. The School Closet offers competitive prices and discount incentives.
- *Educational Apparel Company* is located in Hilliard Ohio, and will offer a uniform sale at St. Bernadette School on Wednesday, August 11 from 2- 6 PM. All St. B items will be available for immediate purchase with 10% off. Informational fliers from both vendors are available in the literature rack outside the school office.
- *A Uniform Exchange* will be set up in the school entry beginning August 9th. Feel free to drop off the gently used uniform garments that your child has outgrown, and pick up the next size for your child. Help yourself to any/all items that your family needs.

LITURGIES – Individual classes will attend morning mass at 8:15 on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. All-school masses will be held at 8:15AM on Holy Days and other Feast Days. All-school Devotionals will be held once a month at 1:50 on Wednesdays. The schedule of all-school masses and devotionals are listed on the school calendar. Parents are welcomed and encouraged to attend all our liturgies and devotionals. **NOTE:** Due to the change in morning mass days, out-of-uniform days will be planned for Wednesdays instead of Fridays this year.

HOME AND SCHOOL NEWS:

- River Valley Mall Earning for Learning Program- Save your mall receipts dated August 21 through September 30. Have your receipts validated for St. B at the mall office, or drop them in the collection box in the school entry, and a H&S rep will take them to the mall for you. Save all your receipts – shopping, food, movies, eyeglasses, tires, appliances, etc.

- Please plan to use the SCRIP program this year. Last school year, 80 families participated, and earned almost \$10,000 in SCRIP credits off their tuition.... from as little as \$1, to as much as \$650!! With an average of \$120 per family. For more information call the school office, or chairperson Sheryl Meyers.
- Calendar additions: Mother-Son Fun Night- Friday, Nov. 12 Father-Daughter Dance- Friday, April 1

CAFETERIA:

Hot lunches will be available beginning the first day of school. The menus for the first week of school will be Cooks' Choice. **Lunch prices** for 2010-11 will be \$2.00 and include milk. Pre-paid lunch stamps can be purchased in advance every Monday morning (or the first day of the school week). **Pre-paid lunch stamps are the suggested means.** It is easier for students to buy with a stamp, and the lunch line goes much faster. Stamps are not dated and can be used for any school lunch, any time during the 2010-11 school year. **Lunch Prices: 1 stamp-\$2.00, 2 stamps-\$4.00, 3 stamps-\$6.00, 4 stamps-\$8.00, 5 stamps-\$10.00.** For those students who pack their lunch, milk (white and chocolate) is available for 40¢ a ½ pint. Please do not pack pop as a beverage. Monthly menus will be sent home. **FOOD ALLERGY NOTE:** Several of our students suffer from nut/peanut allergies. In an effort to keep all our students safe, we are working toward being a peanut-free school. Our school cafeteria does not serve nut or peanut products, and we ask **all parents**, whenever possible, to send peanut-free lunches and snacks to school.

Cafeteria Volunteers Needed:

As always, we will need volunteers to help serve hot lunch. We look forward to seeing parents, grandparents and friends of the students getting involved. But more importantly, the children enjoy seeing a face from home in the cafeteria. The approximate time needed would be 10:50 AM to 11:50 AM. A Free Lunch is offered to your child on the day that you volunteer. Please complete the form below and return it to school as soon as possible.