

New Uniform Look for 7th and 8th Grade Students!

The seventh and eighth grade students will be sporting new shirts and blouses this year. The white shirts will be replaced with navy blue blouses for the girls and navy blue polo shirts for the boys. These articles are available at Parker Uniform Co.

There will be one year of transition so both the new shirts and the former white shirts will be acceptable for the 2009-2010 school year.

Great Expectations/ Meet the Teacher Nite is Tuesday, Aug 25. Parish Hall 7pm



Thoughts From Our Pastor

I can't believe that a new school year is already upon us! If you're new to Mary Immaculate School I welcome you and your family and I look forward to connecting with you as you connect with our MIS community. If you're returning to MIS, I welcome you back and look forward to reconnecting with you and your family.

While the summer months were a little quieter around the parish campus, things were far from dormant. Most notable changes around the parish include: Hiring Lindsey Whitis as our new Youth Minister and Sally Pazora (8th grade parent) as her assistant; moving the Youth Ministry offices next to the Religious Education

Offices for easier accessibility for our parishioners and, finally, constructing a Ministries Kitchen adjacent to the Youth Room and Parish Hall.

Another item of change that may be of interest to you is that we now have daily mass at 8:00am (8:15 am on Fridays during the school year). So, on those days when you need some extra prayer to get you through the day feel free to come to mass after dropping off your child at school.

Last Sunday a school parent with a "devilish" grin on her face said to me: "I hope you're rested up, Father, because we're coming back to school real soon!" Well, I am rested up and I'm ready for another great year here at MIS. I hope you and your children are too!

God bless,
Fr. Michael

Thoughts From Our Principal

A school of 500+ students is always a lively, busy, noisy place. Even with the children gone there is plenty of activity during the summer months. Several projects and events are taking place daily in school.

The library has received a much-needed facelift. The walls have all been painted and the carpet has been replaced. Mrs. Saldana and an army of volunteers removed the books, shelves and furniture and then replaced everything when the project was complete. Thanks to all who helped get things ready for the new school year.

During the past weeks we have watched Vacation Bible School students come and go. We also host two summer classes during June and July. One class is for phonics students in the primary grades and one for study skills in grades three and four.

The regular summer maintenance of cleaning and polishing floors is continuing. The school will be sparkling clean for the students on Aug. 18.

Remember to mark your calendars for Back to School Orientation Day on August 5th. This is your day to get supplies, used uniforms, shoes, Dine-Rite cards and all the information you need for the new school year. (See page 3 for more on this!)

Enjoy the remaining weeks of Summer 2009!
Nancy Russell

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Welcome From the PTC

I hope everyone has enjoyed their summer and is looking forward to starting another great and exciting school year. The PTC Board and many other volunteers have been working hard this summer planning various activities that will take place during the next ten months.

It all starts with Back-To-School Orientation Day on August 5th. Also before school starts, we will gather all room parents and teachers for a luncheon and meeting on August 14th. Finally, we will welcome our new MIS families at our Newcomers Ice Cream Social on August 15th. This get-together is for the new families and their “experienced” MIS Buddy Families.

Once school gets rolling, we look forward to our annual PTC events – all geared at building community spirit while helping raise necessary funds for the school. As you hear of the various PTC-sponsored events throughout the year, we hope that you will make plans to attend and participate. Please be sure to check the bulletin board in the main foyer for our monthly calendar and list of upcoming events.

It is my hope that through this monthly newsletter the members of the PTC board will communicate exactly what it is that the MIS Parents/Teachers Club does all year for the students, teachers, staff, and parents of the school. Where does all the fundraising money go? Why do we sell cookie dough? Why do we even have fundraising? It is one of our goals this year to get the word out so every family has a clear understanding of what happens within the PTC.

When you have the opportunity, be sure to check out the renovations in the library. New carpet was installed and the walls were painted in the library in June. Another major addition that will be taking place this school year will be the installation of new lockers in the junior high hallway. New lockers for these grades had been on the PTC Wish List for many years, but enough funds were never available. Thanks to the hard work of various volunteers with our fundraising efforts and your generous participation in the 2009 Auction, those funds were available this spring and the lockers will be purchased and installed this fall.

So, welcome to another wonderful and exciting year at MIS! Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns this year: a.gaubert@verizon.net or 972-939-9370.

Alina Gaubert, PTC President

MIS ADVISORY COUNCIL

President

Jim Bitterman

Vice-President

Mike Tullis

Secretary:

Lisa Staberg

Members:

Charlotte Bickerton

Eddie Eason

Jim Stofer

Thom Suhy

Marcus Scudder

Steven Hunt

Welcome From the Advisory Council

Even though summer and all of the intense heat that goes along with it has come to Texas in full force, the School Advisory Council (SAC) has continued to work on several key initiatives. Members for the 2009-2010 SAC are as follows: Jim Bitterman-President, Mike Tullis-Vice President, Lisa Staberg-Secretary, Charlotte Bickerton, Eddie Eason, and Jim Stofer. Beginning their terms at our July meeting are Thom Suhy, Marcus Scudder, and Steven Hunt.

While the kids have been on break during the summer, we have been hard at work on a variety of projects. These projects include various communication pieces regarding the results of the school survey, work on the 2009-2010 Vision Campaign, and taking on the role of “Chair Persons” in charge of the Raffle for the 2010 Auction.

We will have a table at the Back to School Orientation Day being held on August 5th, and we hope you will stop by our table to learn more about the SAC and the initiatives that we have been working so diligently on all summer long!

Jim Bitterman, AC President

BACK TO SCHOOL ORIENTATION DAY

Wednesday, August 5th marks the big day of preparation for back to school. Plan on coming to the school either during 9am to noon or 5pm to 7pm to get all your back to school issues addressed! In addition to PTC and Advisory Council members being on hand, tables will be set up for all the areas shown on the right...plus more!

School Supplies (Sandy McGrenaghan)

Pre-packaged school supplies are sold this day only...some grades do run out, so get here early! Also available are specialty items required for certain grades (ie, the atlas for junior high, etc...)

School Directory (Dyan Dalton)

Be sure to stop by the Directory table on this day to verify your family listing or make changes. We are still accepting business and personal ads. This is a great way to promote your company within our school community or celebrate your child's accomplishments. For \$45 you can purchase a half page ad and for \$90 you can purchase an entire page. For more information, contact Dyan Dalton at ddalton@airmail.net or 214-478-7431.

Volunteer Services Table (Catherine Bitterman and Julie Donnelly)

As the Texas summer continues to heat up, so do our preparations for a fantastic 2009-2010 school year filled with lots of volunteer opportunities. We will be present at the Back to School Orientation Day with loads of volunteer opportunities. Be sure to stop by our Volunteer Services table to see where your time and talents could be put to their best use! Already scheduled is our first big event, the back to school Room Parent Luncheon set for Friday, August 14, from 11am to 1pm in the MIS Cafeteria. This luncheon is a great way for the room parents to start off the year, meeting fellow room parents, teachers, both old and new, and getting the chance to plan for the year ahead. All room parents and school staff should RSVP to this event via the evite invitation.



Used Uniform Sale (PTC)

The Used Uniform Sale will be held on this day in the Parish Hall. Buy or sell uniforms, shoes and/or accessories that are uniform compliant.

Sellers: Bring your uniform items WASHED on hangers. Please use a safety pin to attach an envelope to each item with your name and price. (Please no straight pins.)

Buyers: Bring cash or individual checks for each item purchased from every individual seller. Please note that change will NOT be available for any purchase made.

All payments are collected and sealed in the attached envelopes and will be delivered to the seller. If you have any questions please contact the PTC representative.

DineRite (Dave Burns)

Sign up (or renew) now for the DineRite lunch system so that from the very first day of school, your child will be able to have lunch purchases deducted by computer from their account.

Green Team (Rita Ford)

MIS is going green! In our continuing efforts to be environmentally responsible, MIS is forming a "Green Team." And we need your help! Look for our table to learn about our program and how you can help. Questions? Contact Rita Ford at ritabford@msn.com or 972-393-4537.

Safe Environment Training (Paula Echeverry)

The Family of Faith video training is a requirement for all new MIS Volunteers. This video will be shown and information on Safe Environment Training requirements for MIS parents who wish to volunteer at MIS will be available on this day.

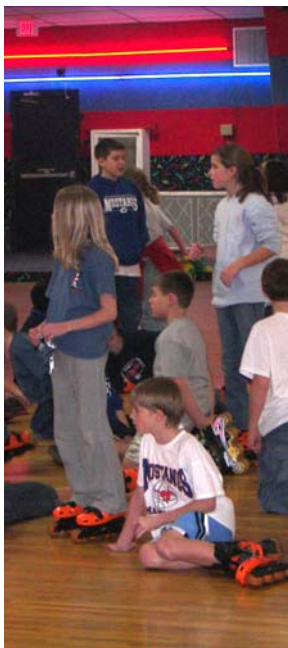
Magazine Drive (Marissa Tomlinson, Christine Huff)

Pick up your magazine sales packets on this day so you can get a jump start on selling magazines...it's one of our largest fundraisers!

Scrip (Paula McAfee)

Start meeting your annual family purchase requirement of Scrip early...buy Scrip at this event!

SOCIAL
EVENTS/
FUNDRAISERS
THIS MONTH



Newcomer Ice Cream Social: Sat., Aug. 15

The MIS Parent Teacher Club is looking forward to meeting all the newcomers at the Newcomer Ice Cream Social on Saturday, August 15th. Thanks to all Buddy Families that signed up to make the newcomers feel welcome. We could not have done it without you! If you are a new family to MIS or signed up to be a Buddy Family and have not received your invitation in the mail, please contact Leslie Sakalas at 972-393-1009.

Coffee & Donuts: Tues., Aug. 18

Kick off the first day of school with coffee and donuts which will be served in the school cafeteria immediately after drop off. Then head over to the chapel to pray the rosary at 8:30 am. Hosted by the PTC Hospitality and Spiritual Enrichment committees.

Magazine Drive: Starts Tues., Aug 25

Your help is needed for the 2009/10 MIS magazine drive. Our official kick off date will be August 25th. Please renew your favorite magazine, order something new or purchase a subscription as a gift. Each order received is 47% profit for MIS. Ordering is easy! The Mary Immaculate school website, www.mischool.org, has a direct link to the QSP order page. Easy to follow instructions are on the QSP website.

Remember, by renewing your favorite magazine subscription you are helping the students of Mary Immaculate School. Our sales last year were approximately \$96,000 bringing a gross profit amount to the school of \$44,000 (our profit percentage last year was 45%). All orders placed beginning July 1st will be included for all incentives. We will be handing out packets, postcards and t-shirts at the Back to School Orientation Day on August 5th.

For those interested in the Buy-Out option, please look for that with your packets at the Back to School Orientation Day. Please contact Marissa Tomlinson at mntomlinson@verizon.net or Christine Huff at cmhuff@verizon.net for any questions.

Back to School Skating Party: Wed., Aug. 26

The PTC invites you to the Back to School skating party on August 26 from 3:30 to 6:00 pm at Interskate in Lewisville. A great time to catch up with friends you've missed over the summer. Bring your own skates or rent a pair and join your friends for fun, games and food. It is sure to be a great time. Admission is \$5. See you there!

MIS 50th Anniversary Mass and Reception: Sat., Aug. 29

Our 50th year of MIS will be celebrated in our Church at the 5:00 Mass on Sat., Aug. 29. Bishop Farrell will be presiding and a reception will be held after Mass in the Parish Hall.

LOOKING
AHEAD... 
and looking
for help!

Fall Festival: Sat, Oct. 3

Save Sat., Oct. 3rd to attend our parish's annual Fall Festival...which includes a Tour de Branch 5K Fun Run, cake walk, game booths, midway amusement rides, live entertainment, big festival raffle and more! So much to see and do, all benefiting Mary Immaculate Church and School! Join us in planning the festival and in inviting corporate sponsors to help underwrite our festival and donate products to it. For more info, contact festival chairpeople Anne Baum (469-232-9900) and Mike Murawski (972-243-2080).

Heart of Gold Auction: Sat, Feb. 20

Mark your calendars now and plan on attending the 2010 Heart of Gold Auction: Windows to the World. The dinner and live & silent auctions will take place the evening of Sat., Feb. 20th, at the Intercontinental Hotel. If you'd like to join in on the planning of this wonderful community-building event, please contact Christine Huff at 972-394-0429 or Alina Gaubert at 972-939-9370. Watch for updates throughout the year in future Mustang Mail emails and Mustang Express newsletters!