



December 7, 2016

Dear Parents,

I would like to take a moment to introduce you all to Mrs. Ashley Carrier. Mrs. Carrier will be teaching first and second grade until Christmas break. Mrs. Carrier taught preschool in Fairborn, Ohio for 3 years. She moved to Van Wert once she got married. Since she's been in this area, she's substitute taught for Payne Elementary, Thomas Edison, and Van Wert. She has other long-term substitute experiences and will do a fine job maintaining a high academic standard. She has two young boys of her own (Braydon and Logan). She's been married (Brad) for six years.

The position has been posted, and we are working to have a full-time hire in place by January 3rd. We do have some strong possibilities to fill this position. I will keep you all informed as we move forward.

Shifting gears here...on Thursday, December 8th, is the Immaculate Conception Mass at 9:15 am. At this Mass, anyone who has been participating in the Marian Consecration will be saying a consecration prayer to Mary. This is a personal dedication of our lives to the Blessed Virgin Mary. All students are invited to participate, but we realize that non-Catholic students may not want to take part in this. That is completely fine, and during the prayer at Mass your child doesn't have to say it. After Mass, they will be handing out a Miraculous Medal of Mary. Again, if your student would like to take one they are more than welcome to do so. Please discuss this as a family so your student will know what to do.

God Bless!

Mr. Linder  
Principal



Each student received \$5 holiday bucks to spend on Christmas gifts. Thank you Mrs. Stuart for all the hard work on the Holiday Shoppe. She spent a lot of time getting this around, and the kids all loved to shop :)



**We are still looking for volunteers** to drive to area nursing homes on December 15th, to do

Christmas Caroling. We would leave the school at 1:00 pm and get back in time for students to ride the buses home.

**Ohio's child passenger safety law requires the following: Children less than 8 years old, unless they are at least 4 feet, 9 inches tall must use a booster seat.**

Students who are less than eight years old will need to bring a booster seat to school, or else they won't be able to go caroling at the nursing homes.



Thank you to Bill Graham, from the Defiance Walmart, who generously approved a \$2,500 grant to go towards our playground border project.

# Classroom Curriculum News

## **Mrs. Lopshire - Preschool:**

Thank you for the great parent-teacher conferences. Even though we had to contend with a school cancelation and a 2hr delay, they all went well.

The preschool had so much fun constructing turkey puppets out of brown paper sacks, and then the class acted out Turkeys on the gate. Oh the gobble gobbles were everywhere! The preschool and Mrs. Lopshire hope everyone had a blessed Thanksgiving!

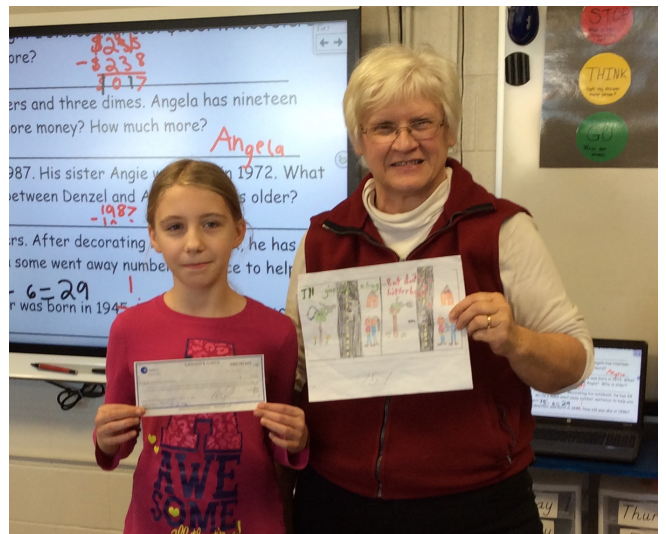
## **Miss Kaufman - Kindergarten:**

This week we learned the difference between the many different spellings and meanings of the word "to" "two" and "too." Dashlyn knows that the number "two" has the letter w in it and means there are two objects of something. He also understands that a "to" with one o is our sight word "to", while the "too" that has two o's means also, such as there is more then one person doing something.



## **Mrs. Carrier - 1 & 2:**

Not only did the first and second graders learn about the election process, they also looked at what qualities made a good leader. They then wrote why they would be a great president. Their next step was to type their story on the computer using Microsoft Word. Their learning continued as they learned how to change the font, color, change mistakes and more.



## **Mrs. Gideon - 3 & 4:**

Emma Benschneider, a fourth grader from Mrs. Gideon's class, won first place in the school billboard drawing contest. Emma's winning picture focused on littering. The contest was through Paulding County Waste Management Education and Awareness. Becky Suvar, WMEA program manager, presented Emma with her prize check.

## **5th & 6th Grade:**

Over the past month or so, students have been working in groups to present information on key figures of the ancient world. This week Kyle Forrer, Kirstynn Roddy, and Landin Stuart presented on Candra Gupta II, a ruler of the Gupta Empire in India in the 4<sup>th</sup> century AD. The groups used their iPads and the Smartboard to display their presentations to the class.

## **Mrs. Gerardot - 2, 4, & 6 Reading:**

4th grade finished reading *Because of Winn-Dixie* last week. When reading the last few chapters, I could tell the students became very attached to Winn-Dixie and the story by their reactions. I am very pleased with their creativity on their dioramas so far. We should be finishing those up this week in class.

**Please read over the attached notes from our PTA meeting that was last night. Please let us know if you have any questions about anything, or if you would like to volunteer for anything. Thank you to all who attended last night. We are very fortunate to have a great PTA that does amazing things for the students at our school!**



Your student should have brought home a smoke alarm today. Thank you to the Payne fire department for donating these to our students. They were able to raise enough money from local businesses to buy one per family (at Payne Elementary and Divine Mercy).



Father Poggemeyer will be hearing advent confessions for grades 3-6 on Friday, December 9th. May we all continue to prepare for Christmas during this Advent season.



We are still in need of volunteers to work the concession stand at **boys** home basketball game below:

Monday, January 9th, 5:30 & 6:30

**For the girls game on December 12th there will only be one game because Edgerton's 4/5 team has a band concert. The game will start at 6:00 and there will be 5 quarters. All of our girls grades 4-6 should all still come, and they can all still play in the game. The only change is there will only be one game instead of the two that were scheduled.**

## **Upcoming Dates:**

- Thur 12/8 - Mass @ 9:15  
(Immaculate Conception)
- Fri 12/9 - The "Big Give" canned fruit must be to school by today  
- Father religion classes
- Thur 12/15 Christmas Caroling at nursing homes @ 1:00
- Fri 12/16 - Mass @ 9:15  
- Father religion classes
- Tues 12/20 - Christmas Program showings @ 1:00 and 7:00  
- The Cookie Walk will start after the 1:00 afternoon performance and end right before the 7:00 performance
- Weds 12/21 - Last day of classes before break  
- Pizza Lunch for students and staff today - no lunches from Payne Elementary

## **Dec 22- Jan 2 NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break**

Tues 1/3 Classes Resume



If you ordered any spirit wear last week, the orders will be delivered to school on **Monday, December 19th.**



If you would like to donate cookies for the cookie walk, please fill out the attached form so we can keep an accurate count. Volunteers will be notified of their times to work.

## DIVINE MERCY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

### PTA AGENDA

DECEMBER 6, 2016

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

- Profit from Apple Pie fundraiser - \$10,343.00, all ingredients donated, only expense was the top seller prizes \$60
- Lora Lyons is getting us 5 more apple peelers (Lora thought we can get one of these for free, and they're still checking on prices for the rest.)
- Expenses (we bought a new vacuum for the school, Veterans Day lunch expenses, Thanksgiving meal expenses, say no to drugs items)
- Risers for Christmas Program - around \$800 a set (need 4) (Mr. Linder is checking into this more. No one objected to purchasing these so we will move forward on this purchase. These should last us for many years to come, and can be used for other programs too.)
- Bill Graham approved a \$2,500 grant from the Defiance Walmart to go toward the playground boarder project. Mr. Linder is applying for more grants and we could use School Endowment fund also. (We are looking at applying for more grants to offset the cost of the playground border. There was a quote for a border when the new playground was installed, but we're looking into other options too.)
- Flower sales in Spring-Schmidlin Greenhouse (No one objected to keeping this as our spring fundraiser. The prices will be the same as last year, and the time frame will be the same as last year too.)

#### VOLUNTEERS

- Concession Workers still needed for 1 of the boys game: Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30 & 6:30pm (Beth Young volunteered to take this time slot, but we could still use one more person to help this day too.)
- Caroling at the Nursing Homes on December 15: we could use more parent drivers, we have 6. Teachers have to drive as of now. (The teachers were happy to help with this, but if anyone else is interested they can drive too. You need to have VIRTUS completed. Rachael Head said she could drive too.)
- Cookie Walk December 20th: Chair Person / We have 7 volunteers, we like to put 3 volunteers on every shift (before and after program), we will sell them at both programs (afternoon and evening) \*\*\*We need more cookies donated, we have had 22 families volunteer so far, thank you! We need more families to donate please! We are asking for 4 dozen per family and we will never turn away extra! Patty offered to head this up. Sally Wannemacher said she could help after the show.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Holiday Shop going on now December 5-7th (The kids are loving this, and it's going really well.)
- Christmas Program/Cookie Walk December 20th (discussed above, but also added that we will change the location from the stage to the kitchen area.)
- All School Christmas Pizza Lunch December 21<sup>st</sup> - applesauce & chips will be available as well (Santa will also be visiting the classrooms on this day around 10:00, and Michelle Davis offered to donate candy canes for him to pass out to the students.)
- Mardi Gras February 24th (date is set, but we'll talk more about this at a later date)
- Pete the Cat Play February 28<sup>th</sup> - PTA paying/or possibly paid for by a Target grant (The PTA has already paid for this, but if the Target grant goes through we can get reimbursed for this.)
- School Dance - Matthew O'Shaughnessey February 25<sup>th</sup>? (A date of Saturday, April 1st, was set for the dance. We thought if we get away from basketball season there could be a better turnout that day. Kylie Folsom and Rachael Head volunteered to help out with the dance, and we are looking for more volunteers to help too. Melanie Forrer has been contacting photographers to work at the dance.)

Teachers concerns/Suggestions (no concerns, but Mr. Grant did thank all of the PTA members for all of their efforts and expressed how he does feel very supported by them.)

Annual Christmas Gifts for Staff - Ordered each teacher/staff one spirit wear item and Staff Christmas Dinner

Next Meeting Tuesday January 31<sup>st</sup> 6:30pm