

St. Anastasia Catholic School

(Your Child Our Commitment)



Newsletter September, 2011

Welcome Teachers and Families: The school year is off to a great start with 282 students, three short of last year. We welcome everyone old and new alike. We thank Mrs. Susie Erdal for being self-driven in making sure that our new families are taken care of. She has assigned mentors for all of them. If there are any new families who were unintentionally overlooked, please call the school office.

We also thank the mentors for taking on this responsibility. The new families should not hesitate to call their mentors for any question concerning school.

Ms. Amanda Grazier, our second-grade teacher is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin with a Bachelor of Arts and was on the Dean's List. She is pursuing a Masters of Arts in Teaching degree at Dominican University. Her claim to fame here at St. Anastasia parish is that her aunt, Sr. Loretta Tiernan was a teacher her and at the age of three her mother used to bring here to our rectory and they would bake cookies with Sr. Loretta.

She received rave reviews for handling the Curriculum Night with parents. Welcome, Ms. Grazier!

Mrs. Cheryl Jerik is no stranger to us. She is the mother of Carson (K), and she was a volunteer Art teacher last year and was a Language Arts long-term substitute at Antioch Upper Grade School. She graduated from Southern Illinois University, with Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education. With impressive college credentials, being consistently on the Dean's List, she holds a Type 3 State Certification with endorsements in Language Arts, Social Sciences, and Art.

Mrs. Jerik will join us in the middle of September. We thank Mrs. Fitzgerald for substitute teaching while Mrs. Jerik is slowly weaning herself away from her new baby Parker.

Grandparents Day: We are always excited to see our grandparents on this special day that's dedicated to them. Our Grandparents Day will be filled with activities, including a visit from a Ugandan priest, Fr. Simon Peter, and our Book Fair. Fr. Simon Peter will celebrate the school mass and then do a presentation. For the Book Fair, we know that the grandchildren will try to squeeze out all the cash from grandma's purse and grandpa's wallet.

Parent Participation Contracts: As of September 1st, there were only 50 forms submitted. All families are required to submit those forms. Your participation hours will be monitored by Mrs. Mon. All chairpersons must make sure that their log sheets are submitted to Mrs. Mon in a timely manner.

Rummage Sale: In June, the Rummage Sale Committee composed of Patti Cortichiato, Monica Mercado, Greg Schueneman, Cathy Geier, parents and parishioners worked patiently to sort out and tag donations of all kinds. It was a tedious job and everyone who lent a helping hand is to be commended especially with the hot temperature in the building. The guys who did the pick-up including Steve Peddicord, Greg Johnson, and Todd Clark used their muscles to the fullest. They even went as far as Chicago and Skokie for pick-ups. Little Jonathan Peddicord was his dad's assistant during the pick-up.

It was a very successful drive. The committee raised almost twice as much as they did last year.

The net profit was \$9,300.00.

Thanks a bunch for all of your great effort to maintain a high-quality rummage sale.



Parish Community Carnival: Indeed, this fundraising was a community effort, having volunteers from all sections of Waukegan, especially our very own parishioners and school parents. We had an awesome team running the carnival. No words can describe the dedication, effort, and professionalism of our very own parents and parishioners. The atmosphere was pure joy and we thank them with grateful hearts.

They are Homer Benavides (chair),

and Sandy Sobczak (co-chair), along with the subcommittee heads namely: Alice Swank (Contracts & Certifications), Victor Hernandez (Food & Entertainment), Don Meadie (Security), Sara Reid (Advertising & Marketing), Cathie Brolley (Volunteers), Jamie O'Meara (Finance), Debbie VanArsdale (Sponsors), Mikki Vela (FSA), Kim Needham & Elvie Ocampo (First Aid), Jim & Michelle Ross, Kevin Sivia (Groundskeepers), Marcos Guerrero (Facility Electrician).

We thank the Knights of Columbus for taking care of the beer garden, as well as Nacho Orozco and Jose Hernandez for managing the corn booth.



We thank all our business and individual sponsors. They are: *The Hunter Family Foundation, International Autos, Waukegan Hospital Corp. (Vista), Dr. Kyle Kostroski, Metro Machinery Repair Service, Mr. Ron Bernardi, Atty. & Mrs. Charles Smith, Computer Power Systems, First Midwest Bank, Fox Valley Fire & Safety Company, Inacomp Corp, Mr. Kevin Kuebler, Norstates Bank, The Cleaning Company Inc, Mrs. & Mrs. John Anderson.*

We are neophytes in running a carnival, and we are experiencing some growing pains. However, comments from all sectors are 99% positive. The carnival company ran it very professionally. Its staff was very courteous, respectful and attentive to all the young children taking the rides. They made sure everyone is securely fastened before running the equipment. Staff members were all in uniform. There was great entertainment galore. The food was superb. The grounds were kept clean at all times. Some of our student volunteers were graduates of our school.

The net profit was a bit better than last year, which is **approximately \$8,235**. Any way we looked at this event, it was a win-win situation, especially promoting the image of St. Anastasia Church and School.

Word of caution from the carnival committee: *Don't ride the ferris wheel if you are a deadbeat dad. You'll get an extra free ride to the police station.*

Building Painting: In the heat of summer, the painting of the hallways were done by very dedicated volunteers including Fr. Aloy (in overalls), Jose Hernandez, Cathie Brolley, Cathy Geier, Cindy Gessert, Brian Kassin, Steve Peddicord, Joan Parker, Pete August and of course Jaime Portillo. The building looks much brighter with the change of color.

Everyday Open House: In spite of the fact that school has just started, we are continually marketing our school. We are not designating any particular weekend for an Open House anymore. Everyday is Open House. This will hopefully be more effective because prospective families will see the school in operation, instead of describing to them what goes on in our classrooms. Besides, our students are the best marketers.



It has been proven time and time again, that when our students give the tours of the school they are very effective.

Dropping-Off & Pick-up Safety Precaution: *When you need to cross the street on Glen Flora in the morning or at dismissal, please use the **pedestrian crosswalk** for your safety and the safety of your child/dren. There is a crossing guard to assist you. Glen Flora is a very busy street and we would not want anyone to get hit or run over by any vehicle.*

It doesn't take any more time to cross the street properly.

Newsletter Going Green: Starting in October, all school communications will be sent through e-mail. Here are the reasons why:

1. You will receive your newsletter faster and more efficiently. You don't have to dig into your child's schoolbag to search for it.
2. We can save some trees, help the environment and save the school some money.

Note: *Parents whose e-mail is now registered with the rectory will be sent a group blast. If you don't have access to internet and prefer to receive a hard copy, please notify the school office.*