

Communicator

Letter From the President

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school! It's been a busy first month here at St. Hedwig. The children are already settled in to their classes and we parents have been busy with all of our back to school events. Thank you to all who helped with our back to school BBQ. We had a great evening and it's always fun to catch up with friends after summer. Also, we welcome all of our new families. Please call on us if you need any help or have questions. We are always here for you.

One of the Parents' Association's responsibilities throughout the year is to plan fundraising events in order to support the school. Fundraising allows the school to keep tuition rates low as well as to fund special projects. Over the next several months, we will provide you many opportunities to raise funds in order to meet your family's fundraising commitment to the school. I want to remind you that all of these events are completely voluntary. Please take the time to choose the events in which you'd like to participate. As always, we also welcome your thoughts and suggestions.

Our next Parents' Association meeting will be on September 27 at 7:00pm in Room 8. You are always welcome to attend and listen and share your thoughts with the Board. We're off to a great start and a fun, new school year!

Liz Ashworth
Parents' Association President

Welcome back!



Key Reminders:

- September 30: School Mass- 9:30 A.M.
- October 7: Living Rosary - 9:15 A.M.
Faculty Meeting- Noon Dismissal
- October 13: October Birthdays
Parenting Night - 7:00 P.M. in Quinn Hall
- October 14: School Mass - 9:30 A.M.
- October 18: Fall Sports Pictures - Bring uniforms!
- October 21: School Mass - 9:30 A.M.
- October 24-27: Red Ribbon Week
- October 25: Parents' Association Meeting -
7:00 P.M. in Room 8, All are welcome!
- October 27: Autumnfest Set-up - Noon Dismissal
- October 28-30: **Autumnfest**
- October 31: Autumnfest Clean-up - No School

Looking Ahead:

- November 1: All Saints Day Mass - 8:30 & 11 A.M.
- November 4: Diocese Inservice - No School
- November 17: Teacher Conferences - No School
- November 18: Teacher Conferences - Noon Dismissal
- November 23: Mass - 9:30 A.M. - Noon Dismissal

New Birthday Celebrations

There will be a change this year in the monthly birthday celebrations. In order to have consistency throughout the school, we are assigning a monthly "birthday treat". For those who volunteer to participate, please bring the assigned treat of the month, a drink and paper goods. Your room moms will notify you what has been pre-selected for each month. We are aware that some children have allergies, and we recommend that those parents should send a treat for their child. Parents who sign up to bring treats need to abide by the new policy and bring the one designated treat assigned for that month, in fairness to all. Parents are asked not to bring balloons or extra treats for the children to the classrooms or at the lunch tables at any time of the year. Thank you!

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school! At St. Hedwig, your child's SAFETY is our primary concern. Here is a little "primer" on SHS AM Traffic procedures! PLEASE follow the drop-off line into the playground area. The gate will open at 7:40AM. After you have passed the first cone at the corner of the building, when the line stops, let your child out. DO NOT wait until your car reaches the end of the cones by the lunch window, this will back up traffic.

Kindergarten families PLEASE begin using the convenient valet service by the Kindergarten gate as soon as possible. We understand some children still need to be walked in for a few days, but after a weeks time they should become accustomed to proper drop off procedures. It is the safest way into Kindergarten! Kindergarten families will drive all the way through the regular playground drop-off line, make the turn, and come around the coned off area in front of the Kindergarten gate for the valet. Easy! DON'T drop off in the church parking lot. This is tempting, but it causes traffic back-up on Orangewood. It also frustrates parishioners trying to park for morning Mass.

Lastly, out of courtesy and respect, NO CELL PHONE USE during morning drop-off. You wouldn't want YOUR child vulnerable to a distracted driver would you? Thank you so much for your cooperation in making the morning work for everyone! Questions about the morning traffic procedures? Contact Julie Brown 562-260-3385

Student Council News

Hello Everyone,

Although the year has just started, Student Council has already been very busy. We just had Friendship Week and a fun beach themed Friendship Rally; which I am sure everyone enjoyed. We are so happy to be able to get our students to bond with each other through friendship and kindness. We are looking forward to celebrating August and September birthdays, and planning the upcoming Otter Pop sales.

If you have any ideas or suggestions for Student Council events or activities, please stop by and talk to us. Our meetings are on Wednesday mornings at 7:30 a.m. We welcome your thoughts and comments and are always open for suggestions. Thank you for your support.

God Bless,
Cayman Rojas

Scrip News

September 2011

Grocery Card Renewal

This is the time of year when you must renew your commitment to grocery earning programs through Ralph's and Vons(e-scrip).

Even if you just signed up for these programs this summer, as of September 1st you must go back to these websites and reregister (Ralph's) or renew (Vons/escrip), or your earnings will CEASE!

Ralph's

1. Participants will be required to register or re-register for the new term at www.Ralphs.com Our NPO # is 84607

Participants of the Food 4 Less/Foods Co Community Rewards program do not need to re-register. If you would like to register go to www.food4less.net.

eScrip- Vons/ Credit Card Program

You can renew your commitment to eScrip now! Go to www.escrip.com and hit the "renew now" button. Contributions will cease Nov. 1 if you do not renew. Be sure to go into your account and update if you have any new debit or credit cards.

If you are not signed up with eScrip, do it now. Go to www.escrip.com. St. Hedwig ID # is 137646527. Sign up your Vons or Pavilions card to earn money each time you swipe your savings card at these stores. Also, sign up your debit and credit cards for use in the program. Participating merchants will make contributions to St. Hedwig, based on the purchases made by you, when using the cards you have registered. Do your on-line purchasing through the eScrip On-line Mall to automatically earn fundraising credit when you buy from participating retailers. Your eScrip purchases are tracked and available to you online, allowing you to see how much you are earning towards your fundraising goal.

Your groceries can be purchased with Scrip Gift Cards too!

Whole Foods scrip is now available in denominations with a percent rebate. Don't forget we also carry Von's, Stater Brothers, Sprouts, Sam's Club and Target for all your grocery needs.

Save your Box Tops and Campbell's Soup Labels

Turn them into your classroom and you could win an extra recess and special snack for your class!

Please contact the scrip office if you have any questions at 562-296-9069 or email sh_scrip@yahoo.com. You can also stop by the scrip office on Wednesdays or Fridays from 8:00-10:30 for assistance.

HEALTH NOTES FROM THE HEALTH ROOM

The Health Room has been readied for the new school year. We have a wonderful team of Service Workers and we are so thankful for their dedication to this important area for our children.

This year, we would like to re-emphasize the importance of bringing a verification of your child's appointment when they have missed any portion of the school day. Your health care provider or dental care provider can provide you with this documentation as you check out from their care. An **excused medical absence** is granted when a student returns to school, signs in through the health room, obtains a health room pass, and takes the pass and verification of the appointment to the teacher. This policy may be found within the parents handbook.

If you have any questions regarding your child's attendance, either excused or unexcused, please discuss the questions with your child's teacher. Attending the **Back to School night** will provide you with the information regarding absences and other important details regarding your child's class and the school year. This is a great opportunity to start open communication with your child's teacher.

Prayers for a healthy and safe new school year!

Hello, St. Hedwig Families, welcome back to school!

September 2011

For those of you who don't know me I am Peggy Carabine, head of **Prayer Ministries** for St. Hedwig School. For the new families reading this I will give you a brief outline of what your kids will be involved with concerning prayer, and there will also be some new information for those of you who are veterans.

We have Prayer Boxes, Prayer Buddies, and a monthly Prayer Theme Sheet.

Prayer Box—There is one in each classroom in grades 1 through 8, where the kids are encouraged to write prayers to our God about anything and deposit the written prayer in the prayer box. At the end-of-the-month school Mass, the prayers are all gathered and brought forward to the altar and blessed by Father. Prayer Buddies—At the beginning of every month, your child will have a prayer buddy that they will pray for throughout the month. I would ask you as parents to please encourage your child and remind your child to pray for their prayer buddy during the month. Prayer Theme Sheet—This is new, and we are excited!! Our running theme for this is the Fruits of the Spirit—Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-Control. Our first will be Patience for the month of October. The sheet will be broken down into four segments for the four weeks in a month, and we will have all kinds of ideas and purposes for the kids to pray for, including their prayer buddies and the prayer box. They will keep this sheet in their take-home folder at all times and they will be writing their prayer buddy's name for the month right at the top to help them remember and pray for their PB all month.

At the present time we are not holding Parents in Prayer meetings. Mainly because I am working everyday and have no time to facilitate them. I would encourage you, if you have not already done so, to join our parish-wide prayer network hosted by Ann Getscher at agetscher@socal.rr.com. I can't even begin to tell you the incredible power of this prayer group. Please email her with any prayers or questions and she will get you started. No obligation—just prayer!!

In closing, I would like to share with all of you two devotionals that I turn to daily that give me peace of mind and a closer relationship with Jesus. The first is the Magnificat which is a monthly book with the daily readings for the Catholic Church, and the meditations are written by saints and Catholic scholars down through the ages. The second is an on-line site called sacredspace.ie. Just take ten minutes with the daily Gospel at your computer or phone. This one truly brings you peace, especially in the middle of your day!!

Thanks for reading this. Please feel free to contact me at any time with ideas or questions.

Peggy Carabine, Prayer Ministries, 562 676-7192, pcarabine@verizon.net