

**May 20, 2009**

**THANK YOU, PARENTS AND FRIENDS**

The staff of Oostburg Christian School would like to thank everyone for the many gifts, notes of encouragement, and kind words received during Teacher Appreciation Week. It is a blessing to teach at a Christian school where prayer support from home and church accompanies the teaching process.

**CONGRATULATIONS MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK TEAM**

This past Friday all the students in grades 6 – 8 took part in the annual Parochial League Track Meet. Our students joined approximately 300 students from Christ Child Academy, Holy Family School, St. Mary School (Sheboygan Falls), Sheboygan Christian School, St. Dominic School, and St. John the Baptist of Plymouth.

OCS finished in third place overall, one point behind second place, St. Dominic. OCS had two first place finishes.

Jo-Leigh VerVelde took first in the softball throw with a toss of 141' 6". Our 4 X 100 girls' relay teams did a great job. The girls' team of Katie Flipse, Morgan Ledeboer, Allison Scheidt, and Jo-Leigh VerVelde took first; and the sixth grade relay team of Allison Gartman, Jess Lemmenes, Breanna Van Ess, and Jackie Wisse finished in second. Thank you, Mrs. M. VerVelde for all your work in P.E. class as you prepared our students for this meet.

**ASSOCIATION MEETING**

Thank you to all who came to our Annual Association Meeting last night. The School Board and GRACE Board both gave full reports and new board members were selected. New School Board members are Kevin Ludens, Beth Modahl and Gordon Oliver. New GRACE Board members include Melissa Scheidt, Becky Zylstra and Rebecca Johnson serving three year terms; Michelle Epping will serve a two-year term, replacing a board member who moved from the community.

**4K IN 2009 – 2010**

Praise the Lord! We have 17 children signed up for our 4K program next year. Registration will continue throughout the summer. Due to the size of the class there will be two sessions of 4K next year. This means we will have a great student to teacher ratio. If you have not registered yet, please do so as soon as possible. Please let your friends know about this great opportunity to have your child in a small, Christian, 4K class. If you know of public school friends whose child turns 4 in the summer, and they are not sure if four days of preschool at Oostburg Elementary is too much, let them know of the choice at OCS to enroll for two days per week or three days per week. Thank you.

**ATTN. PARENTS OF 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS**

A Don VanDerJagt memorial scholarship is awarded by SCCHS each year to a student who will be attending SCCHS in the fall and who will also be involved in basketball, volleyball or golf. The application forms, to be filled out by the student, are available in the O.C.S. office. The application deadline is noon Tuesday, Feb. 26 AT SCCHS.

**FINAL BLUE NOTE OF THE SCHOOL YEAR**

The final Blue Note of the school year will go out on June 3. THERE WILL BE NO BLUE NOTE ON JUNE 10, the last day of school. Please plan accordingly.

**BARNABAS**

We are pleased to announce that Don Long, our Barnabas representative will be here to meet with families to help set up/review their estate plans next week May 26-29th. This is a free service to all school families because of our partnership with the Barnabas Foundation. Don will meet you in your own home and visit with you confidentially about your will or estate plan. In the last year, 17 of our families have had a meeting and found this to be helpful in their estate and will planning. Please call Joyce Eggebeen today at 564-2678 and she will arrange for your appointment for next week.

## **END-OF-YEAR ACTIVITIES**

Listed below are the dates of many of the end-of-the-school-year activities so you can plan ahead:

Monday, May 25	No School – Memorial Day
Wednesday, May 27	Nacho Lunch
Thursday, May 28	Mom's In Touch Prayer Time
Friday, May 29	3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade to Manitowoc
Wednesday, June 3	Last Blue Note
Friday, June 5	All-School Chapel 2:30 PM Concert in the Grass 2:30 PM 4K Graduation 3:40 PM
Monday, June 8	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade to Great America
Tuesday, June 9	Grades 1 & 2 to Milwaukee Zoo Graduation 7:00 PM
Wednesday, June 10	Last Day of School – Noon Dismissal
Wednesday, June 17	Pick Up Report Cards 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

## **GYM USE RULES**

Many of our families enjoy using the gym for a quick game of basketball or some other physical activity. These quick uses of the gym are not family rentals but are instead times when a dad might bring his children in for some fun during a rainy day. Whether the gym is being rented or is used by a school family for a short game of physical activity the same rules apply. No students may use the gym without adult supervision. Please follow this rule. We would hate to have an accident take place and there not be an adult around to help the children. This really boils down to a liability issue for the school. In summary, we want our families to enjoy our wonderful facility as much as possible, but we do insist an adult be present. Thank you.

## **TUITION ASSISTANCE**

Oostburg Christian School is partnering with the Christian School Tuition Service of Fulton, Illinois, to determine how best to distribute the school's tuition assistance to those seeking help paying tuition expenses for 2009 – 2010. This "outside" service can impartially evaluate family needs. The only charge is \$15 per family payable to Christian School Tuition Service and sent in with the application. Please call the school office and ask for an application if you so desire.

## **KASH FOR KIDS**

Attached to this week's blue note is a reminder for you to help us save the labels for the Kash for Kids program over the summer. Due to your help during this school year, \$1,500 was able to be designated for the General Fund here to help pay for field trips for our kids. Remember, your extra help clipping and saving is for the kids.

# **The GRACE Place**

## **WOW, WHAT A WEEKEND—PRAISE THE LORD WITH US!**

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! To all our students, parents, workers, diners, and riders! This past weekend was an example of God's grace over and over:

- Run-Jog-Walkathon: these tremendous students (and parents) ran, jogged or walked their way around the area to ask for pledges and around the playground, without having to dodge raindrops to raise over \$20,000 for our school. Thank you, Becky Zylstra, for your leadership in making this event exciting once again. Our kindergarten class was the winner of the Blue Harbor party—congratulations!
- Spaghetti Supper—nearly 250 people enjoyed a delicious spaghetti supper served in our student center under the chairmanship of Dan and Lisa Roerdink. We hope you got plenty to eat!
- Unity Bike Ride---over 260 riders came out on a warm and sunny day and braved high winds, to ride over 5,000 total miles for the sheer enjoyment as well as support of Christian education. This event was chaired under the leadership of Randy Swihart, Jason Alsum, Carolyn Morgen, and Beth Modahl.
- Spring Fry---many people enjoyed fresh brats and hamburgers on Saturday. Teresa VerVelde ably served as chair of this event for the second year. Good fellowship by our school families as well as many of the bike riders who came from all over the Midwest was a blessing to all.

There are no final totals to report on each project, but we rejoice in over \$30,000 coming into the school in one weekend! God is good and we are thankful!

#### **4<sup>th</sup> of July Project—Pie in the Park**

Mark your calendars. Our school has the privilege of selling pies in the village park on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. This event will allow us to keep your tuition costs down through the profits we receive and promote the school to many who will visit the park that day. Each family is asked to donate two pies. If you can make three, that would be even better because we can sell them ALL. These may be homemade or bakery. We ask that your pies DO NOT require refrigeration (no cream pies). Our refrigeration is very limited.

You may either have your pies in the school kitchen on Friday, July 3 during the morning from 9:00-noon, or bring them directly to the park by noon on Saturday morning, July 4.

Be sure to come to the park for a lot of fun and festivities helping Oostburg celebrate our centennial. There will be special activities and entertainment and some delicious pie.

#### **SCRIP**

Bad news—good news!

- Bad news—Scrip will not be available on the Thursday evening time slot this summer. If you know of someone who needs to pick up Scrip after their working hours, please have them call our Scrip team members and we will make

arrangements for them specifically. Call Melanie Wisse (564-6031) about alternate arrangements.

- Good news—the Scrip Store will be open every Wednesday morning all summer from 9:00-noon and any other morning that Mrs. Nyenhuis is in the office. Please call ahead, but she is available regularly in the summer and we appreciate that she will gladly sell the Scrip when she is in.

Are you a Scrip user? If not, what would it take to get you to participate in this program? Perhaps you don't understand what this can do for you and for our school. Every year our families leave literally hundreds of dollars on the table because they either don't understand how Scrip can help or how the program works in allowing these businesses to support our school.

In the coming weeks, someone will call you and explain how this program can help your family and our school. Please have all your questions ready—if we don't know the answers, we will find out for you. We look forward to visiting with you.

#### **REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS**

##### **ST. NICHOLAS HOSPITAL FREEDOM RUN**

There are registration flyers in the school office for the Freedom Run which will be held on Saturday, July 4. The proceeds from the Freedom Run will benefit the Friends of St. Nicholas Hospital.

##### **SUMMER TUTORING**

Does your student need help in phonics, reading or math to make him or her more successful at the next grade level? Does he or she need some "catch-up" help? We can work with your child's teacher to provide the help your child needs. Call Mary Jane Gruett (564-3788) or Sandy Gartman (564-6279). Reasonable fees. Individualized instruction can make a difference.

##### **OOSTBURG COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE**

This blood drive will be held at Oostburg Middle School on Wednesday, May 27, from 12:30 – 4:30 PM. Call 980-8371 to schedule a donation time or sign up at the Oostburg High School Office. Appointments are encouraged, walk-ins are welcome.

##### **SHARE THE HARVEST**

Share the Harvest Community Farmers' Market first market date is May 30, from 8 a.m. to 12 noon, featuring a Craft and Plant Sale. The mission of Share the Harvest is to raise funds through vendor sales as well as through the sale of donated garden produce. Profits from the sale of donated produce and vendor fees are used to provide financial assistance and support for identified needs in our community. This year we will be located at 919 Center Avenue, next to Oostburg State Bank, rain dates at Oostburg Christian School. Monthly craft sales will be schedule in addition to our seasonal vendors. Please consider becoming a vendor, donating your extra garden produce, volunteering to sell at the market, shopping the market, and most importantly pray that God will bless this ministry. We are also in need of recycled produce containers (the stackable strawberry and cherry tomato size) and we need a few more coolers. If you can help out in any way, contact Patti Duenk at 564-3221 or visit [www.sharetheharvest.org](http://www.sharetheharvest.org).

##### **MAY IS NATIONAL POSTURE MONTH!**

Call Lakeland Chiropractic today to receive a complimentary posture check and consultation with Dr. Dulmes. How important is good posture? There is much more than most people think. Your

posture is a result of the position of your spinal bones and the condition of the spinal muscles and ligaments. Your spine is the single most important factor affecting your posture. Posture is the window to your spine. Chronic poor posture can lead to early and accelerated degenerative changes of spinal and hip joints. You can tell a lot about the state of one's health by the stance of one's posture!

#### CAKE FUNDRAISER FOR THAILAND MISSION TEAM

The Thailand mission trip team of the Oostburg First Christian Reformed Church Youth Group is selling party cakes for any occasion. Looking for a Mother's Day cake, birthday cake, graduation cake, or Father's Day cake? Call Doris Hendrikse at 564-2460 to order the cake of your choosing for \$20.00. Thank you for supporting the on-going work of Dave and Jan Veldhorst in Thailand.

#### COACHES NEEDED

Sheboygan County Christian High School is seeking coaches for its fall sports. Girls' varsity and JV volleyball coaches and boys' varsity and JV soccer coaches are needed. Please request more information and/or an application by calling Deb at 458-9981 or e-mailing [dvandrunen@scchs.com](mailto:dvandrunen@scchs.com).

#### BIBLE BEE

There are information flyers in the school office regarding the Shelby Kennedy Foundation very first National Bible Bee ([www.biblebee.org](http://www.biblebee.org)), a Bible memory competition for children and youth from ages 7 to 18.

#### CAMP CALVIN

An informational/registration brochure for Camp Calvin (June 22-27, 2009) is available in the O.C.S. office.

#### DORDT DISCOVERY DAYS

Dordt Discovery Days, our summer camp for students who have completed 6th, 7th or 8th grades, is set for **June 22-26, 2009**. The week offers some exciting new classes like How do They do That?, Radio Drama, and Beginning Knitting. Returning favorites include War and Soldiering, Design on a Dime, and Digital Scrapbooking. More than 30 courses will be posted in early March at [www.dordt.edu/events/ddd](http://www.dordt.edu/events/ddd) with registration opening at 12:00:01 a.m. on March 25. Registration fees are \$300 and three attendance options remain: Day Campers (9 a.m.-4 p.m.), Commuters (9 a.m.-9 p.m.) and Residents (students stay in a residence hall Mon-Thurs. evenings). If you have questions, call 712-722-6029 and ask to speak with Dianne DeWitt.

#### GREEN BAY PACKERS YOUTH FOOTBALL CAMP

Please check out [www.packerscamps.com](http://www.packerscamps.com) for information on community-based non-contact football camps for kids ages 6 to 14 featuring Green Bay Packers heroes and professional educators.