

HOME BULLETIN

December 12, 2007

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Everyone is cordially invited to join us in celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior tomorrow evening at 7:00 PM in the school gymnasium. All students will participate in singing, and the sixth - eighth grade band will also be performing.

Students in 4K – 5th grade should meet in their homerooms at 6:45. All middle school students (band and non-band) should meet in the band room at 6:45.

Please remember, students should wear concert attire – white tops and black bottoms.

HELPING MY CHILD WITH SCHOOL (PART I)

Many times parents wonder how they can help their children succeed in school when our culture is so full of running from one event to another and there seems to be less and less emphasis placed on excellence in education. Probably the easiest way to help your children learn can actually take place in your automobile while you are traveling from one event to another. How can this happen? It is actually simple. Turn off the radio and begin asking your child math facts. They may be simple addition or multiplication facts. Although flash cards are not present, this is really no different than the old school way of memorizing facts. If math is not a problem, work on a Bible verse, or states and capitals, or anything else that requires some rote memorization. You will be amazed at how this helps your child perform in school, and you will find yourself becoming more informed about what he or she is learning.

WEDNESDAY EARLY DISMISSAL

Next Wednesday, Dec. 19, is our monthly early dismissal day. School will dismiss at 1:20 PM that day.

DISMISSAL TIME CHANGE ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21

School will dismiss on Friday, December 21, **at 12:00 noon**. The calendar originally stated we would stay in school until 1:20 on that day. The earlier dismissal time better matches the dismissal time at Christian High and will make it easier for families to pick up all their children at the same time. There will be no After School Care on that day.

Please make note of this time change as we begin the celebration of our Savior's birth an hour earlier than first planned. Thank you.

JANUARY HOT LUNCH ORDER FORMS

The January hot lunch order form was attached to last week's Blue Note. Please remember that forms are due, with payment attached, on Wednesday, December 19. No late orders will be accepted. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS PROJECT AT OCS

Each year the staff of Oostburg Christian School chooses a project to support during the holiday season. This year God took control of the whole process and chose the project for us. First, many of the teachers were challenged at the Christian Educators' Association Convention during a keynote address to teach our children that they have been blessed and that they needed to be a blessing. Then our school received an email from alumnus, Jody Vander Waal (class of '99), asking us if we were interested in running a clothing drive for the poor in Milwaukee. Jody is currently working at Phillis Wheatley Elementary School, which is located in a neighborhood with low-income families who have a variety of material needs. Our Christmas project is aimed at relieving some of these needs. We invite you to bring used clothing that is still in good shape to school. We will collect the clothing, and Jody will pick it up to be used by the needy children at her school. Please see the attached information in this Blue Note. It is our hope that our children will see how blessed we are and will hear the words of Jesus when He says, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:40)

JOSHUA FOCUS GROUPS

These groups are meeting to give you some information about the vision and strategy for Oostburg Christian, moving into the next five years, and some ideas for promotion committee and planning that is important to you and your family. Please plan to join us on one of the evenings scheduled: January 10, February 12 and February 25, 2008. Meetings will begin at 6:30 and we hope to keep them to one hour.

While we know that you are busy, Oostburg Christian School is moving forward and we want you to understand how these decisions affect you. Please give us one hour of your time to look at some focus points for our school

community

COLD WEATHER REMINDER

Parents are reminded that students will be going outside for recess unless the temperature goes below zero. It is very important for children to get fresh air and exercise as much as possible during the winter months. Please dress your children in layers with snow pants, gloves, and a face/head covering. Thank you.

WINTER WEATHER CLOSINGS OR EARLY DISMISSALS

Parents and guardians are reminded that students should have an emergency plan in case we dismiss early or if school is cancelled. With winter around the corner the possibility of weather related closings is very real. Students will be allowed to make emergency phone calls, and school will stay open until transportation arrives for all students. Parents and guardians are asked to notify the school office if someone other than themselves will be providing transportation for the children. Please listen to WHBL radio (1330 on your AM dial) for closing information due to weather. You can also go to the O.C.S. website www.oostburgchristian.com, select "Links", select "School Cancellations" and a listing of cancellations on WHBL will be listed. Remember, if Oostburg Public Schools close due to inclement weather, so do we (bussing).

BLUE NOTE PUBLICATION INFORMATION

The last Blue Note of the calendar year will be sent home on Wednesday, December 19, 2007. The first Blue Note in the new year will go home Wednesday, January 9, 2008 (there will be no Blue Note on Wednesday, January 2 – our first day back). Deadline for announcements (written out, please) is noon on Tuesdays. Thank you.

YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

Do you have someone on your list that doesn't need a single thing? Why don't you honor them with a gift to school? You could put their name on a date of the Interest Wheel for only \$25 and we will provide a nice gift card for you to use to give them. Just fill out the information below and attach your cash or check and drop off in the office. If you would like a gift card, just ask for that when you stop in.

Name as it should appear on the designated date on the Interest Wheel:

Your Name (if different from above)

_____ Address _____ Phone# _____ E-mail _____

Date (s) you wish to celebrate with a gift of \$25 per day to school:

We will send you a reminder each year by November 15 about this gift. And thank you for your support of Oostburg Christian School.

WISCONSIN CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Oostburg Christian School and Sheboygan County Christian High School will be hosting the tournament this year. We will be responsible for lodging for our visitors on Friday evening and serving lunch and supper to them on Friday. At this time we are looking for a Chair and Co-Chair for the meals. Please call the school office (564-2664) as soon as possible if you are willing to serve in this way. We have excellent notes from past years to help you out. We need to coordinate with SCCHS for meal selections and get all the information to the other schools early in January, so we need help soon! Thank you!

SPORTS CALENDAR

A list of all basketball games for our 5th – 8th grade basketball teams can be found on our school web site under the tab Middle School / Extra Curricular / Sports.

USBORNE BOOK ORDERS

The Usborne book orders have arrived. You can pick them up in the school office. Thank you for your participation in the Usborne Book Fair. Happy Reading!

TUITION DURING THE HOLIDAYS

The holidays are a wonderful time for celebrations and gift giving. Please do not allow all the activities of the season to cause you to forget or fall behind in tuition payments. Remember, tuition is due the 15th of each month. Thank you.

PROGRESS REPORTS

If you have not signed and returned your child's Progress Report, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you.

YEARBOOKS

Yearbook orders will be taken in January. Forms will be attached to a Blue Note and the cost will be \$12.50. The yearbook staff for 2007/2008 is Jackie Daane, Mary Swihart and Wendy Urban.

CANDY CANES FOR SALE

The 6th graders are selling candy canes during the morning recess to raise funds to help support a family in need this Christmas. Large candy canes are 25 cents – small are 10 cents.

AFTERNOON CARE INFORMATION

Oostburg Christian School offers afternoon care during the hours of 11:00 AM to 3:30 PM (or any portion of those hours). The cost is \$2.50 per hour – parents purchase a prepaid card for either 8 hours or 40 hours. If your child does not attend afternoon care on a regular basis, but if you would just like to take advantage of this program on an irregular basis, you can purchase a prepaid card and just call the school office anytime to sign your child up for a particular date. If you have any questions regarding our Afternoon Care program, please call the school office for more information.

BLUE HARBOR PASSES

There is a limited number of \$5 off Waterpark Passes for the Breaker Bay Indoor Waterpark at Blue Harbor Resort in the school office. If you are planning on visiting there soon you may pick some up. The expiration date for the passes is Jan. 19, 2008.

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Be sure to stop by the Sheboygan County Historical Museum for their "Holiday Memories" exhibit. Oostburg Christian and Sheboygan Christian students each have a tree decorated for this event. The students made the ornaments and garland. There is a family Holiday pass to the museum left from the auction. Please call Joyce Eggebeen at 564-2678 if you are interested.

*There are brochures in the literature rack outside of the administrative offices with information about a winter program at Maywood.: "The Polar Express" movie night on Dec. 14.

GRACE PLACE

SCRIP STORE

Did you ever walk in to the bank with \$100 and ask them what they can do for you? Well, if you leave it a year, you may get \$.50 back in interest. After the government takes their share, you may have \$.40 left.

Have we got a deal for you? Walk into the office, give Barb Nyenhuis \$100 for Piggly Wiggly Scrip. She will be sure that there is a credit of \$4.00: \$2.00 for your tuition account and \$2.00 for school. Then she will give you \$100 back to go buy groceries. Where else can you get that kind of return on your money in two minutes and still get to spend the entire amount?

AND WAL-MART SCRIP IS HERE! Don't go shopping without it!

AUCTION NEWS

Bucks tickets:

Be sure to call Paul and Nicole Mentink 564-6399) or e-mail them at pnmentink@wi.rr.com if you would like tickets for the Bucks game on December 29, 2007. These are \$24 tickets and we are asking for a \$10 minimum donation. We have already sold over 50 of them. Call soon.

Certificates still available are listed below. Please call Joyce Eggebeen 564-2678 if you wish to purchase any of them. There is a couple more added this week.

<u>COMPANY</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>VALUE</u>	<u>Suggested Donation</u>
			\$54.00 (you can purchase one cert. also)
Odyssey Fun Center	6 cert. for 3 games bowling	\$9.00	
Al & Al's	Gift Card		\$10.00
Ella's Della	Buy 1-2' sub, get one free		\$25.00
Big Apple Bagel	1 Deli sandwich		\$4.50
Firestone, Sheb.	Lifetime Computerized Alignment	\$159.00	\$80.00
Quasius Equipment	Purchase or rental of equipment		\$10.00
Quasius Equipment	Purchase or rental of equipment		\$10.00
Imogene's Cleaning	Certificate		\$20.00
Midtown Ford	Oil & Filter Change		\$25.00
Clean Getaway	2 certificates		\$11.00
Above & Beyond	1-day admission family of 4		\$20.00
Above & Beyond	1-day admission family of 4		\$20.00
Sheb. Co. Museum	Family Holiday Pass		\$10.00
Curves of Oostburg	1-month membership	\$99.00	\$45.00
Curves of Oostburg	1-month membership	\$99.00	\$45.00
Dreams Unlimited	\$5 cert. for music store in Plymouth		\$5.00
Shear Imagination	\$15 cert. for one hair cut	\$15.00	

PIZZA SALE

There are still plenty of pizzas available for purchase. Just pick out the pizzas you would like from the kitchen freezer and stop in the office to pay for them.

CALENDAR

December 13	Christmas Concert 7:00 PM at O.C.S.
December 18	B-Ball Girls7/8 vs HF 7 4:30 Boys7/8 vs StD 5:30
December 19	Pizza Lunch 1:20 PM Dismissal
December 20	Cabin Fever Reliever 8:30 – 10:00 AM B-Ball Girls5/6 vs OLL 4:30 Girls7/8 @ CCA 5:30 Boys5/6 @ StD6 6:00 Boys7/8 @ CCA 6:30
December 21	Noon Dismissal
December 22-January 1	Christmas Break
January 2	School Resumes