

Titan News #10

Parent Newsletter for Holy Trinity Catholic School

Editor: Principal Michael Oslance

Date: October 22, 2008



Parent-Teacher Conferences

If you have not already done so, please send in your Parent/ Teacher Conference schedule which is due Oct. 24. If the form is not returned by this date, a conference time will be assigned for you. Conferences are limited to 10 minutes per student. ECP will be available on both days.

Parent Meeting:

Oct. 22/ 7 PM/ Parish Center

Please join us for refreshments and a host of presentations: meet the principal, Auction 08-09, preview of Althoff High School, discussion about new school policies (tardiness; discipline), summary of test scored from 07-08, an art exhibit, volunteer opportunities (including our TUTOR program) and other information. **BABY SITTING IS PROVIDED** and there will be attendance prizes available!

Special Uniform & Free Dress Days

- Wed. Oct. 22: End of summer dress code options
- Fri. Oct. 31/ Black and orange day/ jeans acceptable
- Mon. Nov. 3 / Free dress day for those who made pizza sale quota
- *Note: HT "hoodies" are allowed only during outdoor recess*

Halloween Parties

Halloween parties will take place on Friday October 31 at 2 p.m. Each homeroom teacher will make arrangements for how the party will be conducted.

Scientific Announcement

As part of our science program, a weather station has been installed on top of the school and can be accessed by anyone with a computer through the internet. The company that is participating in the project has many ideas for not only our curriculum but for experiments with renewable energy! We will provide more details in upcoming newsletters. The web address is www.weatherlink.com/user/trinity

Box Top Contest

Everyone has done a great job! Over \$1000 profit was obtained by the drive! The contest winners are:

- Primary grades/ the 3rd grade with 1,613 labels— closely followed by Mrs. Kauling's class with 1,335 labels
- Upper grades / the 7th grade with a total of 1,457 labels— followed by 6th grade with 1,108 labels
- This means that the 3rd grade & the 7th grade win the Pizza party. (Exact date: coming soon!)
- There will be "runner up" prizes for Mrs. K's kindergarten class and for Grade 6.
- 7 of our 11 classes had 100% participation: Grades 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7. Free dress day: TBA

Pizza Sales Contest

- Please pick up your pizza orders on October 24
- The Athletic Association's Pizza Contest generated over \$12,000 in sales. The winning class: Mrs. Hodapp's kindergarten had over \$3000!!! They will receive a pizza party! In addition, 77 students will receive a free dress day on November 3 because each person had sales which totaled \$50 or more. Thanks to all who participated and Mr. Ley for organizing all the results!

Trunk or Treat

The "Trunk or Treat" event will be held Saturday night after 5 p.m. mass at Holy Trinity. Rumor has it that a "super" guest may be in attendance!

Donut Sunday This Week

Both kindergarten classes will help to sponsor a "Donut Sunday" at Holy Trinity on Sunday October 26 (following the 8 and 10.30 am masses). Please stop by and join us for fellowship!

Retreat for Mr. Oslance

All of the elementary and secondary school principals in the Belleville diocese will be attending a retreat on October 23 and 24.

Report Cards

Report cards will be sent home on Wednesday Oct. 29 (in the Wednesday folders)

→ Special Policy Update/ on next page →

MODIFIED DISCIPLINE POLICY: GRADES 5-8 PROVISIONAL STATUS

INTRODUCTION:

At the last School Board meeting (October) and at our recent faculty in-service day, a discussion ensued about the review of our discipline policy. The board and faculty made a recommendation to modify the policy for grades 5-8. However, this is a PROVISIONAL policy: it will be in place for the remainder of 2008-2009 school year and will be subject to board, teacher, and parent review before it receives final approval. We ask parents to review the policy and feel free to offer their input via written comment or e-mail (htschoolp@sbcglobal.net) to Mr. Osance.

Modification:

To be Implemented beginning with Quarter 2

I. ACADEMIC EFFORT AND CONDUCT

A. Academic Performance

Talking out of turn, missing materials, lack of attention, and other such incidents are directly related to academic performance. The teacher should indicate to the student that improvement is needed. If the teacher's efforts to provide direction and motivation for the student are unsuccessful, the teacher should notify the parent. A conference may need to be held if the situation so warrants.

B. Accountability and Consequences

1. Accountability

Check marks for talking, missing materials, lack of attention, and any other incidents that directly relate to academic performance shall not be used as indicators for detention. Instead, such matters are to be recorded and used as a basis for formulating the Effort and Conduct grades (which are part of a student's academic progress).

Scale: Satisfactory, Needs Improvement, Unsatisfactory

- **EFFORT** grade:
 - listens, follows directions, uses time well, completes work on time, works well with others, neatness, prepared for class
- **CONDUCT** grade:
 - maintains self control in class, talks and responds in appropriate way, is respectful of teacher and classmates

2. Intervention Required

- Before a teacher gives a "Needs Improvement" grade: parent should be contacted via phone or e-mail. Incident details and an improvement strategy should be communicated.
- Before a teacher may give a student an "Unsatisfactory" grade, a parent-teacher conference must be held. The grade of "Unsatisfactory" indicates that despite teacher and parental intervention, little or no improvement has been shown by the student.

3. Students who receive an "Unsatisfactory" Effort or Conduct grade at the end of a quarter:

- Are ineligible for the Honor Roll
- Are required to attend a parent-teacher(s)-Principal conference

At the conference, an improvement plan will be discussed. A written contract will be established that will specify the needed improvements and a timeline for implementation. Other recommendations may be indicated (counseling, academic testing).

- May be subject to certain loss of privileges and/ or participation in school-sponsored events

II. BEHAVIOR CODE

In addition to the academic/ classroom aspect of education, certain behaviors are also expected of our students as we strive to be a community that lives by Gospel values:

A. Christian Community

- Respect Other Students and Adults as Sons/ Daughters of God
- Respect Authority of Pastor/ Teachers/ Adult Leaders
- Treat all people with kindness and care
- Never use bad language, rude behavior, or physical force on another person
- Never threaten or bully another person

B. Regulations to Follow

- Respect for Property
- Observe Uniform Rules
- Observe School Safety Standards
- Observe Playground, Cafeteria, and Recess Guidelines

C. Accountability and Consequences

- Incident (see above) is documented in student's "Discipline Record"

Note: this report is NOT part of Academic Record; it is not sent to High School or transfer school

- Depending on the seriousness of an incident:
 - Warning
 - Loss of Recess
 - Detention on Thursday (30 minutes) or Saturday (Two Hours)
 - Restriction and/or suspension of extracurricular participation
 - Probation
 - In-school suspension
 - Out-of-school suspension
 - Withdrawal from school
- An incentive program will be enacted that rewards students who have exhibited Christian values, provided an exemplary role model and have shown consistent excellence in behavior.