

March 2010

# PTO NEWS

A Newsletter for the Parents & Teachers of St. Mary School

## **Many, many thanks**

**to...**The Staff Hospitality Committee & everyone else who donated food &/or time for the Staff Appreciation Luncheon.

Room Parents for decorating teachers doors for Teacher Appreciation Day (& for everything else they do!).

EVERYONE who supported Winterfest. If you donated, coordinated, transported, decorated, shoveled (snow), baked (desserts), attended, stuffed (envelopes), worked (at the event), cleaned (up), set up, made a bid, bought an item... thank you!!!!

Karol Hellmann & Christine Bell for coordinating the Day of Reflection & to Linder Hunt for providing breakfast.

Debbie Kennedy, Pam Savage, Catherine Gavin & the many other people who gave time, talent or supplies to another very well attended Family Art Night. Also to Sarah Williams for providing drinks & snacks!

Maureen Hickert for a great job bringing back the PTO Fish Fry. Thanks to everyone who volunteered (on a Friday night!) to make it happen!

Mrs. Savard & her crew: Mrs. McAuliffe, Mrs. Reker-Murphy, Mrs. Levine, Mrs. Caster, Mrs. Gorman & Mrs. Stuhldreher for working with the children on another terrific Jr. Theater production! **Thank you - it couldn't happen without you!**

## **The Treasure of Life**

This poem reminds me how important it is to reach out to one another & work to strengthen our sense of community - perhaps especially during times of change & uncertainty. With that in mind, I wanted to share it with you:

*Life is a journey*

*A journey of time*

*Where a heart needs another*

*To give it a shine*

*We're all on a journey*

*With two paths to take*

*One that is right*

*And one that can break*

*With many a set back*

*We'll find hard to bear*

*It's love and true friendship*

*That will help us to care*

*For a heart that is lonely*

*Can fill up with strain*

*Like a plant that can wither*

*Without sun and rain*

*So together when sharing*

*Surely we'll find*

*It's the treasure of life*

*That can give peace of mind. - Olive Walters*

Happy Spring, Happy Easter... *Kathy*

## **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

*PTO meeting* 3/29  
1:30 pm (DATE CHANGE)

*Cici's Pizza Night* 4/1  
(1st Thurs. of month)

*Easter vacation* 4/2  
*Classes resume* 4/12

*Market Day pick up* 4/15

*Papa John's Night* 4/15  
(3rd Thurs. of month)

## **Just a few other things...**

**Proceeds from the Original Works fundraiser (\$2,500) has been given to the art department, to help them buy classroom supplies.**

**\$450 has been used to buy playground items for students to use during recess.**

**As a reminder: please do what you can to keep the PTO closet orderly & clean! Thank you!**

## **Calling all students... recognize a teacher!**

Panera Bread has announced the fifth year of *The Panera Bread Rising Above Award (Honoring Teachers)*, an essay contest for students to recognize outstanding teachers.

Students are asked to submit a 100-200 word essay about why his/her teacher is special & deserving of the *Rising Above Award*. Based on the merits of this essay, the teacher will be chosen based on how they "rise above" within their community & in the classroom. One grand-prize winner & one finalist will be recognized from each of three categories: grades K-4, grades 5-8 & grades 9-12.

*Rising Above Award grand-prize winners will receive:*

- \* \$500 Grant for their school
- \* \$50 Panera gift card for teacher
- \* Panera breakfast for entire class
- \* \$100 Borders gift card for student

Entry forms & contest rules are available at [www.panera-ohio.com](http://www.panera-ohio.com) or at local Panera stores. Hurry! contest ends 3/31/10.