



October 26, 2009



# Purple & Gold Rush

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

SPX School Office: 466-3361  
Web: www.spxcatholicsschool.org  
Email newsletter articles to Diane Stenson

### School Mass Notes:

Join us for school mass on  
**Wednesday, October 28th**  
at 8:30 am!  
in Anticipation of All Saint's Day  
All are welcome!

\* Mrs. Austin's & Mrs. Stocker's 2nd grade classes are planning mass.

### October Gospel Value:

#### RESPECT

Respect is showing honor, adoration, and love for all people you encounter in your life, knowing that Jesus lives in each one.

*"Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear god. Honor the King." 1 Peter 2:17*



### FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTION

Father Jerry told us to remember that Jesus is present to us in many different forms. He may be wearing different "costumes". What ways could Jesus approach us? What might He be asking us to do? How can we say "yes" to Jesus?

### Dates to Remember

- 10/29-30 St. Meinrad Retreat, 8th Grade
- 11/7 PTO Dinner & Auction, K of C "Blue Jeans & Bling"
- 11/12 Teacher Thursday  
1:00/1:15 pm dismissal
- 11/25-27 Thanksgiving Break  
No School
- 11/30 Advent Prayer Service  
2:15 pm in Church
- 11/30 First Reconciliation - 2nd Grade  
7:00 pm in Church
- 12/5 Breakfast with Santa
- 12/7 Advent Prayer Service  
2:15 pm in Church
- 12/8 School Mass at 8:30 am  
Feast of Immaculate Conception
- 12/9 No School Mass
- 12/10 Christmas Play - 2nd & 3rd Gr  
7:00 pm in Ross Hall
- 12/11 PTO Middle School Party  
7:00 pm in Ross Hall
- 12/14 Advent Prayer Service

## PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

### H1N1 Information

Many important items need to be addressed today starting with the H1N1 flu. We are closely monitoring the situation here at St. Pius X and will keep you informed about our conditions. At this time we are thoroughly cleaning school surfaces on a daily basis. Teachers are sanitizing desk tops, and the maintenance staff is sanitizing doorknobs and cafeteria tables and chairs each day. We are also making sure that children wash their hands or use hand sanitizers regularly. The Board of Health uses a figure of 20% absence as a guideline for when you **begin** to consider closing the school. The following will be considered before making the decision to close the school :

- The number of staff members who are ill
- Sharp increase in the number who are ill
- Advice to close from the county health department
- An overall order to close from the governor, mayor, or other official

At this time, we are not even near the 20% figure. Our daily absence rate during the past two weeks has been 10/6 2.8%; 10/7 4.2%; 10/8 4.2%; 10/9 5.3%; 10/12 7.9%; 10/13 7.2%; 10/14 6.6%; 10/15 5.8%; 10/16 4.8%; 10/19 7.4%; 10/20 8.5%.

No staff members have reported illness due to the flu. We ask that you continue to monitor your children. Please keep them home when they are sick, especially if they have a fever. When you call in to report their absence, please let us know if they are suffering from flu or flu-like symptoms. We want to be very sure that we are doing what is best for the entire school. The Board of Health has informed us that there may be several waves of this flu, so we want to stay on top of the problem so that we can keep our children safe and healthy. Joe Peters, Associate Executive Director of the OCE is in constant contact with the Marion County Health Department. He informs us that they are considering how they will do immunizations for the non-public schools. No conclusion has been derived at this time.

### SCRIP Information

We encourage everyone to support our SCRIP program. There have been many rumors around SPX parish as to why the SCRIP program has changed. As many of you know, in the past school families were able to purchase SCRIP, and the families would receive a tuition credit. As of this school year the Archdiocese of Indianapolis has mandated that we discontinue this practice as it jeopardizes our 501(c)(3) Charitable tax exemption. All parishes were told to stop this practice. There have been rumors that some parishes are not enforcing this rule. We do not know this to be true. The real issue here is that the SPX parish business office is enforcing this mandate, and we cannot be responsible for how other parishes administer this policy. As stewards of the Archdiocese, we need to comply when we are given directives from the Central Office. I realize that this new policy is not favorable with many, but I want to make it clear that this is not an arbitrary rule by the pastor or business manager. The parish truly supports the PTO and the SCRIP program. On Edline you can read two letters that were issued in the spring explaining this SCRIP change.

So what do we need to do? Continue or start supporting the SCRIP program! Much good comes to our students from this program. SCRIP is still an excellent program because buyers purchase cards for services that they are going to pay for anyway. We are all going to buy groceries, or gasoline, or go to the movies, or shop for Christmas gifts. Why not use SCRIP cards? The ultimate beneficiary is the students of St. Pius X, your children. Let's all work to keep this program as successful as it has been.

<Principal's Corner continued on Page 2>

# Purple & Gold Rush



October 26, 2009

Page 2



**HAPPY HALLOWEEN!**  
**Have a happy and safe  
Halloween night!**

## **Oktoberfest Thanks!**

Thank you to everyone who attended and all the many volunteers! We appreciated your support for our large parish fundraiser!

## **8th Grade Video!**

Start collecting your pictures for the 8th grade video. Group pictures of school functions work best. Please start compiling grades K-5 at this time and send pictures into the office marked 8th grade video. Please remember to mark your name on the back of the pictures so they can be returned. (Don't use a marker as this will ruin the pictures.) Don't forget to make sure you get lots of pictures of your children during all of their 8th grade activities this year!

## **SPXtras Reminder**

**(For those students already  
registered for these activities)**

**Contact: Erin Dorsey or Christine Marsella**

**NOTE:** You can assume that if your check was cashed and you did not receive a message about a class cancelation or a full class, you are registered for the classes you submitted.

**Unfortunately, the following classes have  
been canceled:** Chess

Strategy Games

Zumba II (Grade 4th-6th)

## **Drawing and Cartooning by Richard Morris**

Gr: 3rd-5th

Day: Tuesdays 3:15-4:45 pm

Oct 13 - Nov 3 (4 weeks)

(10/13, 10/20, 10/27, 11/3)

Location: Ross Hall

## **Ceramics**

Gr: 3rd-5th

Day: Tuesdays 3:15-5:00 pm

Oct 27 - Nov 17 (4 weeks)

(10/27, 11/3, 11/10, & 11/17)

Location: Art Room

## **Meet the Author: Maureen Brierton**

Gr: K-1st

Day: Thursday, Nov 12 3:15-4:15 pm

Location: Ross Hall

## **PRINCIPAL'S CORNER (Continued)**

### **Facility Dedication Recap**

We would like to call your attention to the beautiful new art in the entryway of the school. This art was blessed at the dedication ceremony last Saturday evening. What a wonderful testimony to the mission of this school! The artwork was created by Katie Sahn, a 1997 graduate of St. Pius X School, and a graduate of Bishop Chatard High School and DePaul University with a degree in Fine Arts and Catholic Studies. It was funded by former 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes whose charitable contributions have been accumulating until we needed something very special. These pieces of art certainly qualify as "something very special" to welcome visitors parents, and students into the building. We thank both Katie Sahn and the St. Pius graduates who sponsored this work. As always, let's pray for each other.

## **Yearbook Opportunities for 8th Graders**

### **Eighth Graders - design the cover of the yearbook!**

All 8th graders are encouraged to enter your original picture/design to be considered for the cover of this year's yearbook. Please submit your original artwork (pencil drawings need to have dark outlines). You may give your entry to Mrs. Bastnagel by Thursday, November 5th. Any questions, you can ask Mrs. Bastnagel.

### **Eighth Graders - interested in working on the yearbook?**

We are going to select four 8th graders to work on the 8th grade pages of the yearbook this year. This will include gathering and organizing photos as well as creating the pages using a simple-to-use web-based software program. If you are interested, please submit a short paragraph explaining why you are interested in working on this project and return it to Mrs. Dorsey by Thursday, November 5th. Please include your experiences and strengths that would lend success to this project. The time commitment will be several after school sessions beginning in January. There will be a short meeting in November to cover the specifics. If you have any questions, please contact Erin Dorsey— phone number in directory.

## **Scrip - The Giving that Costs You Nothing!**

### **October Raffle Information:**

This is the last week of the October raffle Buy Scrip on Friday at Scrip to Go (STG) and you will be entered to win a \$25 Schoolbelles gift certificate!

Get an additional entry into the drawing if you buy Scrip from the following vendors this month:

\* Schoolbelles \$25

\* La Hacienda \$25

\* Puccini's \$20

\* Blockbuster \$10

\* SuperCuts \$25

\* Macy's \$25

\* Sullivan's \$25

\* Best Buy \$25



### **Purchase Halloween supplies through Scrip!**

The doorbells will be ringing - are you ready? Pick up your Scrip gift cards this Friday at STG for the following stores before getting those last minute Halloween treats, costumes, and decorations:

\* CVS

\* WalMart / Sam's Club

\* Marsh / O'Malia's

\* Michael's (great decorations!)

\* McDonald's (hand out gift certificates!)

### **Thank you for supporting St. Pius X Scrip!**

Questions? Contact Gretchen Capo or Stephanie Van Horn

See phone numbers in directory.

# Purple & Gold Rush



October 26, 2009

Page 3

## Veterans' Day Mass

All are welcome to attend our Veterans' Day celebration on Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. It will begin with Mass at 8:30 am followed by a program at school to honor the veterans. You will also be able to see our newly renovated school. A reception will follow the program in Ross Hall.

If you have a picture of a veteran or someone who is currently in the service, please send it to school by Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. (If you have submitted a picture in the past, you do not need to resubmit the photo.) Indicate on the envelope who the picture is to be returned to. If you would like to send it via email, you can send it to [jwarrick@spxparish.org](mailto:jwarrick@spxparish.org).

## PTO Information

### Parent Room Update

Thank you for keeping the room SO clean & neat!

- This room is intended for volunteers to share its use during the school day without necessarily reserving it.
- On the occasion you may need exclusive use, please note it on the calendar (with your name/phone) or write note on the board.
- This space allows volunteers to perform most tasks, including phone & computer, without interrupting the office staff to coordinate the room or borrow items.
- Thus, if you haven't had a chance to hangout there while working on something, now's your chance!
- Contact a PTO exec or chairperson to obtain computer access, if needed.

Contact [heatherdouglas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:heatherdouglas@sbcglobal.net) to store infrequent use items (in PTO barn) or frequent use items (in parent room). Some temporary use storage is available in parent room. Please checkout the room while at Scrip-to-go sales Friday drop-off & pick-ups to plan your next use!

### THANK YOU, Stephanie Van Horn & Gretchen Capo!

The Scrip chairs have been unbelievably flexible in offering SCRIP to our school and parish families. They are LOVING the new parent room (just inside the main school doors to your left) for selling and running their program to raise money for SPX. Thank you to those families who have continued to support Scrip thru the years and those who are new gift card shoppers! If you can't believe you haven't even bought Scrip yet, don't worry, the chairs and their team are amazing mentors. Just remember to bring your checkbook.

### Playground Update

It took a lot of work to research, plan, install the new equipment for the students. Thank you, Steve Ferguson, Melinda Nash, Bill Herman, Sharon Wagner, PTO, and the students for sharing their suggestions and making it happen. The students were overwhelmed with excitement as they rushed to try out the new equipment! Thank you recess supervisors & teachers for your patience and guidance as you remind the students to play, have fun, and share.

### PTO Thank You's:

**Jacqueline Morone & Terri Brumleve** for co-chairing the EXCELLENT Everybody Counts program!

**Susan Wolfla** for organizing the DELICIOUS monthly Teacher Appreciation Lunches!

**Tracy Murphy & Bill Herman** for planning NEW, EDUCATIONAL & FUN School Cultural programs!

**Blue Jeans & Bling Chairs & Volunteers** for creating a FUN-FILLED, ADULT-ONLY FUNDRAISER for our school!

**SPX Students** for the AMAZING DECORATIONS & **SPX School & Parish Staff** for their HARD WORK for the school dedication!

## Warm Weather Clothing Thanks

A BIG THANK-YOU to all those who generously donated winter clothing and other items for our Burmese families here at St. Pius X. Your gifts have made a big impact here in the community. God bless you.

## Teacher Luncheon Thanks

Thank you to everyone who helps with the teacher luncheons. Walking in and having a lunch always makes the day a bit better! Thank you for all you do! Thanks also to Susan Wolfla for coordinating these Teacher Luncheons!

—SPX Teachers



## Jeans & Bling Auction & Dinner Dance Saturday, November 7th!

Remember to return  
your reservations!



## HIGH SCHOOL ADMISSIONS INFO

See school website for Shadowing Information

### \*Bishop Chatard High School

Open House: Sunday, Nov-8 at 12:30-2:30 pm

Admissions Tests: 11/14, 12/5, & 1/9/2010

Application Deadline: 1/15/2010

[www.bishopchatard.org](http://www.bishopchatard.org)

### \*Brebeuf Jesuit High School

Admissions Tests: 11/14 & 11/21

[www.brebeuf.org](http://www.brebeuf.org)

### \*Cathedral High School

Open House: Thursday, Nov-19 at 5:30-8:00 pm

Mass before at 5:00 pm for anyone who would like to attend.

Dinner served in the cafeteria.

Admission Tests: 11/7, & 12/5

Application Deadline: 12/11/2009

[www.cathedral-irish.org](http://www.cathedral-irish.org)

### \*Guerin Catholic High School

(Don't get confused with Guerin Prep HS which is located in Chicago area.)

Open House: Sunday, Nov-15 at 1:00 - 3:30 pm

Admission Tests: 12/5

Application Deadline: Applications are available online and are currently being accepted.

Priority Placement Deadline is 12/15/2009

[www.guerincatholic.org](http://www.guerincatholic.org)

# Purple & Gold Rush



October 26, 2009

Page 4

## **SPX Athletic Booster Club is Getting Together Again!**

What: The Athletic Booster Club will be re-established at SPX  
When: Sunday November 8 at 7:00 pm in Ross Hall  
Who: Open to any parishioner (or non-parishioner) who is involved with athletics or has a child involved in SPX athletics  
Why: To open athletics to the parish at large  
Topics: Vote on updated Bylaws and Constitution  
Volunteers needed for fundraising events  
Fall Athletic Committee positions and 4 Committee Officer positions which will be open to Booster Club Members in May  
Spring Athletic Committee positions now open to Booster Club Members:  
\* 2 At Large Positions                      \* Wrestling Coordinator  
\* Baseball Coordinator                      \* Softball Coordinator  
\* Soccer Coordinator                      \* Track Coordinator  
\* New Sports on the Rise at SPX

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## **Youth Ministry!**

### **Service Opportunities -**

Cathedral Soup Kitchen Saturday Lunch Program - October 31 from 10 am-1:30 pm.  
If you wish to participate, please contact Maureen Allen—phone number in directory.

## **BEST WISHES & PRAYERS**

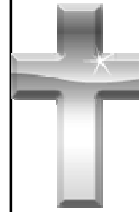
### **TO SPX 8th GRADERS**

**on their trip to**

**St. Meinrad!**

**Our prayers are with**

**all of you!**



### **Wellness Corner**

#### **How to reduce exposure to Fall allergens**

1. avoid being outdoors in the morning hours between 5:00 and 10:00 a.m. when pollen dispersal is peaking
2. avoid lots and fields where ragweed grows
3. shower and wash hair immediately after coming in from outside activities, and especially before going to bed.

Enjoy the season!

### **Box Tops Thanks!**

We have just mailed in a box full of Box Tops for Education and we should receive around \$1,000! Thank you for all of your help in collecting and sending them in. Keep up the good work! We would love to see another \$1,000.

Also send in the Tyson A+ 1 2 3 labels. Although we don't get as huge a response for these, every little bit helps, and they are worth 24 cents each.