

**Home & School
Co-Presidents Scoop
Barbara Diamond & Kate Neitzel**

We hope you enjoyed the long weekend!

VOLUNTEER FORMS: Please take some time to complete your volunteer forms. We would like to see ALL families return their forms and participate in the many Home & School Activities that occur throughout the year. Without the efforts of our Home & School Association, our tuition would increase dramatically. Every St. Monica family has a responsibility to volunteer and participate in the many activities that make our Home & School Association so successful. In addition, we would like to see each family make an effort toward the success of our "Winter Wonderland Auction and Dinner Dance". Whether or not you attend, this event is the primary fundraiser of Home and School. The dollars raised by this event contribute a minimum of \$75,000 toward the school's operating budget. Additional dollars raised are used for the school board's priority list.

HOME & SCHOOL MEETING: Please join us on Thursday morning for our monthly meeting. We love to see interested parents attend and contribute toward our efforts! The meeting is held in the Ministry Center board room at 8:15 am. Babysitting is available in the lower level of the Ministry Center. The agenda is attached. If you are listed on the agenda, please plan on attending or send one of us a summary of your event.

VARIETY SHOW: Please support the efforts of your child's class director. Stop in at a practice, offer to help with props, costumes or chaperoning the night of the show. Many hands make light work!

Have a great week!

Barbara & Kate

Scholastic Book Fair

Join us in sharing a love of reading with our students at St. Monica School's Scholastic Book Fair in Donovan Hall from March 8 - 14.

Hours are March 8 from 3:00-4:00, March 10 from 2:00- 3:00, March 9 & 11 from 10:00-4:00, March 12(during the fish fry) from 3:00-8:00, and March 14 (during donut days) from 11:00 - 12:00.

The profits from the Book Fair will go towards the 8th grade mission trip to South Dakota in May 2011. We appreciate your support and hope to see you at the Fair.

Questions? Contact Kathy Gomez or Jennifer Lamont.



Congratulations JK-4th Grade Read-A-Thon Participants!

We are proud to announce that Saint Monica School Junior Kindergarten-4th grade students raised over \$1,300 for those in need in Haiti by participating in St. Monica's first ever Read-A-Thon. Great job!! During the Read-A-Thon, students read for one hour during pajama day of Catholic Schools Week. Reading took place in many forms: buddy reading across grade levels, partner reading, independent reading, and read alouds. Thank you to the wonderful readers in the JK-4th grades and their generous donors. What a wonderful way to give to our brothers and sisters in need!

Development**Corner****Tom Mlada****SMS Basketball News!*****St. Monica School Heads to the Padre Serra!***

Congratulations to the St. Monica School 8th grade girls basketball teams upon receiving an invitation to play in the 52nd Annual Padre Serra basketball tournament! This prestigious tournament, an invite-only event, is held at the Mount Mary College Bloechl Rec Center (located at 2900 North Menomonee River Parkway in Milwaukee). It involves the top 36 8th grade boys and girls Archdiocesan teams, a true pitting of the "best against the best."

First-round games in this year's tournament will be played March 4th – 12th. Our 8th grade girls will open the tournament matched up against St. Boniface (Germantown) in a 6:30 p.m. game on Thursday, March 11th. Should they be victorious, they would advance to play in a 4:45 p.m. game on Saturday, March 13th versus the winner of the Holy Family (Sheboygan) and St. Gregory the Great tussle. So, St. Monica School athletics fans, get ready to don your red and white and come cheer on our Lady Raiders team with pride!

For more information or to follow our 8th grade girls throughout this year's tournament, you can visit the official Padre Serra website: <http://www.thepadreserra.org>.

Again, congrats, 8th graders on all of your accomplishments this basketball season! Best of luck – we're proud to have you as student-athletes representing our Exemplary Recognition school community!

Save the Date: Spring Potluck Dinner

Please mark your calendars now for our upcoming Spring Potluck Dinner, scheduled for Sunday, March 21st from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Franciscan Room. ***Please note the change in date and time (to a dinner format) – it is listed as a brunch on March 14th on the school calendar.*** All SMS families are invited to the festivities; dinner will begin around 5:30 p.m..

The event, sponsored by the SMS Multicultural Arts and Recruitment Committees, will feature food (and lots of it!), fun (with open gym for the kids!), and fellowship with other SMS families. It is a wonderful opportunity to relax and catch up a bit with other school families in an informal setting. All attending families are asked to bring a favorite dish to pass and enjoy some time chatting with other parents while the kids play. Drinks and tableware will be provided.

Please join us the evening of the 21st for this special school community celebration!

Sports Night 2010: Save the Date!

While you've got your calendar out, please mark your calendar for the 63rd Annual St. Monica Sports Night to be held on Thursday, April 29th in Donovan Hall. The night's activities will begin at 6:00, with doors opening at 5:30.

Still going strong after 63 consecutive years, Sports Night helps the St. Monica School Booster Club fund 100% of the St. Monica School athletic budget, including the cost of coaches, training, tournaments, uniforms and equipment. This year's oral auction will once again feature incredible sports items. We will also continue our tradition of honoring all 8th grade athletes.

The Booster Club is seeking support in several ways, including:

Advertisements for the Sports Night program

Volunteers and/or your attendance

Sports-related raffle items

If you would like to help or have questions, please contact Mike Bradford, St. Monica School Athletic Director (mbradford@st-monica.org), Dan McNally (dmcnally@starkinvestments.com), or Dave Rusch (dhr6761@yahoo.com).

Have a fantastic week – only 18 days until Spring!

Tom

Our Neighborhood, Our Community, Our World

In February, the students and faculty at St. Monica School continued to keep service a main priority. During Catholic Schools Week, the Multicultural Arts Committee and the 8th grade Student Council teamed up to collect almost \$3,000 for "pennies for Uganda" and to collect gently used books for the country. Uganda is our "country of focus" this year which means the students have special opportunities throughout the year to learn more about Uganda and her people.

In addition, the Junior Kindergarten through 4th grades participated in a Read-A-Thon for Haiti. Students got sponsors who pledged a small donation in return for 60 minutes of reading from the kids. The kids raised over \$1,000 for Haiti by butting their noses into some good books. Way to go, students!

SMS SCRIP REWARDS PROGRAM

Easter break is approaching quickly! With that in mind, anyone planning a trip should look at the gift cards available for travel through SCRIP. SCRIP offers gift cards for rental cars, hotels, airlines and even cruises. With a big ticket item like travel costs, think of the tuition credits you could earn!! Not sure what you want? Consider purchasing Visa or American Express SCRIP cards. Go to glscrip.com for a full list of available vendors.

In need of some new warm weather clothes? Don't get caught without your SCRIP! We have Gap, Banana Republic, J Crew, Brooks Brothers, Lands End, Kohl's and so much more. To place an order, contact Norma at normaherbers@earthlink.net. Any questions, contact Jennifer Lamont (540-0186) or Norma Herbers (962-9193) or stop by Thursday from 3:00-3:30 pm at our regular SCRIP Inventory Sale.

Dominican H.S. Presents the Musical STATE FAIR, March 5-7 and 12-14, Featuring Current St. Monica Students and Alumni!

Make plans now to see Rogers and Hammerstein's classic musical, STATE FAIR. Fun for the whole family, STATE FAIR is the story of the Frake family of Iowa, who makes plans to attend the State Fair in late summer 1946. Filled with great music like, "It Might As Well Be Spring," "Our State Fair," "That's For Me," "When I Go Out Walking With My Baby," "You Never Had It So Good," and "A Grand Night For Singing," STATE FAIR features a cast and crew of more than 100 students, including St. Monica students Sara Duval, Shannon Garwood, Patricia Gomez, Claire and Lauren Heil, Hannah Jablonowski, Carolyn Long, Annie Mattix, Lexie and Mackenzie Meyer, Laura Poellmann and Carolyn Reilly, Charlotte Sather, Madeline Taphorn, Emily and Kate Van Dyke, and Caitlin Wolf. St. Monica alumni who are part of the show include Emma Bradford; Mary Alice Carroll; Caitlin Gronski; Emma Logman; Ellie Mattix; Ellie, Katie and Mattie O'Neil; Leigh Poellmann; Katy Schuele; Jory Thompson; and Lily Vartanian.

The show opens on Friday, March 5, at 7:30 p.m. with performances on March 6, 12, and 13 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 7 and 14, at 2:00 p.m. Reserved seat tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7 for students at the door. Tickets can be purchased online by selecting your own seats and paying with a credit card at www.dominicanhighschool.com (\$.50 service fee applies to each ticket). Tickets will also be on sale an hour before each performance at Dominican. For more information, call the box office at 414-332-1170, ext. 485.

Variety Show Update

It looks as though everyone is well underway with their class routines. Thank you for your leadership in this role. We appreciate all your time and energy! Please mark your calendar for **Wed., March 10** to attend the **Technical Meeting at Dominican High School** in the **auditorium @ 7:00pm**. This is a very important meeting in terms of learning about your lighting options, fly prop and backdrop information as well as the writing of your script. The staff at Dominican are very helpful and can offer suggestions if you have questions or need direction with your act. We will also be distributing **class checks at this meeting**, so please have at least 1 member of your "creative team" attend. Thank You!

Please hand in worksheet #1 if you have not done so yet. Have a great week!

Kathy Jablonowski, Jennifer Keough and Amy O'Connor

St. Monica Parish Children's Choir

Thank you to all of the wonderful and dedicated members of St. Monica Parish Children's Choir! We have had a great year proclaiming God's word together at Mass. Listed below is the rest of the rehearsal and Mass dates for the year.

It is never too late to join! Come join us in prayer and song!

Rehearsals:

Wednesday, March 3rd 3:30-4:15
 Wednesday, March 17th 3:30-4:15
 Wednesday, April 21st 3:30-4:15
 Wednesday, May 5th 3:30-4:15

Mass:

Sunday, March 7th 9:45 Warm Up for 10:15 Mass
 Sunday, May 9th 9:45 Warm Up for 10:15 Mass

2010 Spring Showcase

It's finally here.... Mark your calendars....

Auditions for the 2010 Spring Showcase are March 23 & 24!

The show is Friday, May 14, at 2:00 p.m.

4th-8th graders should look for important audition information in today's Monday folders!

Alumni News...

Divine Savior Holy Angels High School is proud to announce that St. Monica's graduate Eleanor Christenson has been named a 2010 National Merit Finalist. All 12 of the DSHA students that were selected as National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists qualified as Finalists making them eligible to win over \$36 million in scholarship awards! Congratulations!

Please send your articles and attachments to

stmonicanews@st-monica.org by 3:30 pm each Thursday.

Thank you!