



TIGER TIMES

PRECIOUS BLOOD CATHOLIC SCHOOL

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2008



A Note From The Principal

What an amazing fall this has been! Our students, along with the rest of our country... and the rest of the world, didn't just witness an historic election – they were an emotional part of it. Americans, young and old, became involved in the presidential selection process at all levels. Parents woke children up in the wee hours so they could watch and listen to Senator (now President-elect) Obama, address the thousands of supporters in Chicago on the news of his election to the presidency. Pride soared as we all blinked and realized that America chose an African-American man as its leader and guide. That pride was deepened even more so when Senator John McCain, after a passionate and hard-fought campaign, delivered one of the most moving and gracious concession speeches ever given. In classroom discussions in rooms throughout Precious Blood, Senator McCain's call for loyalty and support for "my president" demonstrated that hallmark of American democracy – peaceful transition of power. For this, we should be ever thankful.



Students prepare for scripture with Mrs. Maloney

But reasons for thanks and pride are happening everyday at Precious Blood. In every classroom, in the halls, and on the playground children, are demonstrating a growing sense of the importance of care and respect for one another – the importance of peace. This is happening when classrooms of older students reach out to read with our younger ones. It's happening when our junior high staff members come to the intermediate classrooms to tutor in math. It's happening when you, our incredible parents, give of your time to re-do our library, volunteer at our book fair, cook for our teachers, coach athletic teams, organize parties, go on field trips, attend Home and School Association meetings, work tirelessly on fundraising projects, and attend parent/teacher conferences.

We are very thankful for the opportunity to learn and grow spiritually as we come to school each day. As Catholics, we are blessed by and deeply committed to the Sacraments – those outward signs of God's goodness and grace. When we attend mass, our students, regardless of Christian denomination, have the chance to celebrate God's goodness, to pray for mercy, and to ask Him to bless us as we seek to do his will.

In this time of preparation for celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ, may God bless all of you for the gifts you bring to Precious Blood School.

Annual Food Drive December 1 - 12

Every year, PB students and staff collect food items to feed over 100 needy families at Christmas. Each family is given enough food for three meals. Our students have been collecting canned and boxed food items. The goal is for each homeroom to collect 100 items – about 5 items per student. When we meet our goal, we will have collected over 2,000 items.

Yes, there is a friendly competition among the classes. Each day, they check out their progress by looking at the chart in the hallway by the office. The "reward" for classes when they meet their goal? The

reward is immediate and powerful – the incredible and satisfying feeling of having helped others in need. Jesus said, “Feed the poor.” Our students are lucky to have the chance to follow his call and enjoy the feelings that come with it. ☺

Thanksgiving Lunch

On Tuesday, November 25th, the Tiger Café’ will host its annual Thanksgiving Lunch for our students. This is a wonderful way to begin the Thanksgiving holiday. As a service to their schoolmates, the 8th grade will once again serve the lunch. Unfortunately, because our cafeteria will be full with students, teachers, and staff at the same time, we cannot accommodate family members for lunch during this time. The lunch is free to students, and it will be the only option for the day.

"Hints From The Tiger Café"

Guilt free treat: Core an apple, place in a microwave safe dish. Fill the hole with diet cola. Cover with plastic wrap and microwave for 3 minutes. Great tasting - low sugar baked apple."

Second Graders Learn to Take Care – Students in Grade 2 made a visit to Shiloh House, the adult daycare across the street from school. They made a special effort to bring dietary cookies as a treat, made a special box of treats, and sang songs to the seniors. A great time was had by all.



Students in Mrs. Hoy’s class get to take Lily, the blue parakeet, home for a weekend. While on vacation from school, Lily teaches the children how to be gentle, how to take good care of her, and she teaches them patience. Anna Kutter was so taken with Lily that she wrote a journal of all her activities. Anna tells us that Lily was afraid of their pet dog, Homer, ... and her brothers.

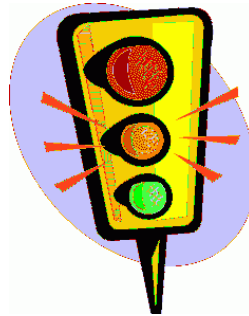


Sister Gretchen Talks About Hurrican Katrina

Sister Gretchen from New Orleans visited the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade classes to update the students on the aftermath of Katrina, and how the children of New Orleans still feel the effects of this devastating hurricane. The school children of PB will be sending letters to the children of St. Rita in New Orleans. We are hoping to make a connection that blossoms into some pen pal relationships that will last for years.

Heavy Traffic A Pleasure at PB – There's a lot of traffic at PB... and we're glad! That's because the traffic is on our PB web pages. Our web master, Paula Reed, informs us that we had 2,030 visits in September, 2,290 in October. Those "hits" represent about 1,000 different individuals visiting the site! The "Top Ten" pages visited were:

1. Home page
2. Classes
3. Faculty Directory
4. School Info
5. Cafeteria
6. Contact Us
7. Newsletters
8. Handbook
9. October Newsletter
10. Parent Resources



Classroom pages getting the most individual visits were: Mrs. Hoy, Miss McGee, Mrs. Kawai, Mrs. Weizman, Mrs. Vogel, and Mrs. Stell. That traffic should increase dramatically after the second quarter. That's when parents and students will be able to access our site to check for their own up-to-minute grade and attendance information. We are pleased to have your traffic and looking forward to it becoming even heavier! Thank you for browsing our site.

4th Graders Read with 1st graders. Students in Miss Powers' fourth grade class enjoyed reading along with their first grade buddies during class. First graders are interested in absolutely *everything*... but only for a short time!



First Graders (And Sisters at Salem Heights) Learn About Ohio Birds First grader teachers made full use of the resources available to them when they shared their in-school, Aullwood presentation with the retired nuns across the street. Mrs. Stell and Mrs. Reed knew that the good Sisters, along with our first graders, would be interested in learning more about birds. They also knew that the sisters keep a wonderful collection of finches in their large aviary. That combination created a wonderful setting for everyone to learn about our feathered friends from Aullwood naturalists.



Title I Parent Education Night will be November 19th. All parents of identified Title I Reading students in grades one through three, who work with **Mrs. Fraser**, are invited to find out more about this program and how they can help their child with reading at home. Reminders will be sent home beforehand and the meeting will be in our newly organized **library at 7:00 p.m.** We will provide materials/activities handouts and delicious snacks as well! Childcare will be provided. Look for a flyer to come home soon.

Home And School News Keep those Campbell soup labels coming in. Dawn Amos is ready to clip and sort away! Everyone had an awesome time at the November Skating Party, be sure to mark your calendars for January, 11th – our next time out. Thank you to all PB families for your participation in our fundraisers. You make all the extras possible. Everyone is encouraged to attend the next H&SA meeting, we promise not to give you a job.... Yet!



Kindergarten Students Learn About Living/Non-Living Things

As a part of the Aullwood Adventures in-school program, kindergarteners explored bird wings, alligator skulls, live turtles, live snakes, a huge variety of animal skins and more under the guidance of Aullwood naturalist, Tom Hissong and kindergarten teacher, Nan Halton. The in-school, hands-on sessions are an important part of the field experiences all K-5 PB students enjoy as members of the Aullwood Adventures program. Transportation funding for the trips to Aullwood is being provided through a generous gift from our Home and School Association.

Announcement for those interested in Destination Imagination:

For anyone interested in coaching a team for this **creative problem-solving competition** and who enjoys working with children and guiding them in teamwork, research, theme development, and creative development of ideas over a period of several months—here is an **opportunity to be a team manager for 5 to 7 children**. Teams may be formed with students in grades K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12. This is a commitment to work together at least once a week to develop a central challenge and practice for instant challenges as well, from November until the competition day in March. There is a **team manager training on November 15th at Sinclair Community College from 8:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.** You may contact **Mrs. Fraser** with any questions you might have.

7th Graders Team Up At Marmon Valley – October is always an exciting month for 7th graders at PB because they go off to Marmon Valley Farm for two days of team building exercises, hiking, archery, horseback riding, Ohio pioneer history demonstrations, and plain ol’ fun. Mrs. Ricciuto discovered MVF years ago, lived and worked there in the amazing, outdoor faith-based experiences they’d developed for youth. She felt so strongly about the MVF “way” that she has been organizing the trip for PB students for many years. Mr. Sorrell, Mrs. Meyers, and PB parent, Bob Hickey were all there to provide adult encouragement and guidance.



Reminders and Other Important Information:

- The school office cannot make change. If dropping off a payment, please have the correct amount of money for the invoice/field trip, etc., before leaving it in the school office.
- If calling the school to inform your child that he will be a car rider, bus rider, or attending Extended Learning, please **call before 2:30 P.M.** The office gets very hectic around dismissal time and not all messages can be passed on to students in a timely manner.
- **All parents/visitors that enter the school must first report to the school office.** Do not go directly to the classroom. If you need to talk to your child, the school office will call the child to the office. Parents cannot interrupt class. If you would like to observe a class, please call the school office in advance to set up an appointment with the teacher.
- Detention is held on Tuesdays from 3:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. in Room 12. If your child cannot stay on that Tuesday, please write a note ahead of time. At 4:00 P.M. **all** students must be picked up from the underpass, not the school’s main front entrance. If a student is not picked up by 4:10 P.M., that student **must sign in** at Extended Learning. There is a charge for Extended Learning.



Red Ribbon Week Full of Fun and Healthy Choices

Every October, students in schools across the country take a stand against drugs and *for* making healthy choices during *Red Ribbon Week*. PB students spent the week of October 20-23 having fun while thinking about the importance of making those choices. Each day of the week had its own theme, but one of the most fun was crazy, mismatched clothing day (as in, “you’d have to be craaaaaazzzzzy to do drugs!”). One thing for sure – we’re craaaaaazzzzzy about our students!

News From CJ High School – 8th graders wishing to make application to CJ may do so now through Saturday, Dec. 19. Forms are available online, or call 461-3740 x249. High School Placement Test will be

Saturday, Nov. 22; 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at CJ. The HSPT is required by CJ for acceptance and scholarship consideration. Students must register at 461-3740 x249. Catholic Scholarship Deadline is Monday, Dec. 1. Catholic students wishing to apply for CJ’s Catholic scholarships (information online) must submit a completed application postmarked by December 1st .

Sixth Graders A Myth? Greek mythological gods and goddesses, creatures and heroes converged in Room 17 to enlighten the 6th grade readers. Everyone from Hercules and Hera to Cerberus and Atlas appeared in full costume and told their stories. Note: No one was turned to stone or gold, thank goodness.



IT ALL ADDS UP !

Seeking excellence in math education, we at Precious Blood School have made as one of our yearly goals to increase the skill level in critical thinking skills and math application skills for all of our students.

As a result of choosing this important math goal, Precious Blood School has begun a new math initiative to help students who want help strengthening their math skills. Two teachers in the junior high division of the school have called upon students to be math mentors for students seeking help in math. Mrs. Maloney, junior high religion teacher, discussed service opportunities with her students, and Steve Ramos, Tia Jones, Justin Clark, Nick Gavin, and Jazmenn Turney rose to the occasion. Under the direction of Mrs. Meyers, junior high math teacher, these students volunteer after school once a week. Students who come to tutoring sessions think it is very helpful, as well as fun, to have a student mentor in math. Eighth grade tutor, Tia Jones stated, “ I like math and do well in math class, so I knew I could be of help to others.”



In addition to the student mentoring, four faculty members are also math tutors. Junior high teachers go into intermediate and primary classrooms four days a week to help students. Under the direction of the classroom teachers, these faculty members tutor small groups or individual students, helping them to gain confidence in math skills. Students feel special when they get this individual attention and eagerly welcome

their mentors. Chelsey White, a sixth grader who is new to our school said, “I definitely have been helped by my eighth grade tutor.”

Master Elves At Work In The Library – Have you been to the Precious Blood library lately? Thanks to the vision and incredible work of media specialist, Kay Feldmann, our students and teachers have a totally transformed space in which to enjoy the wonder of books. Some of us think that Kay has a magic wand somewhere because not a day has gone by without some improvement having been made. Sort thousands of books, move tables and shelves? Kay waved her wand and thanks to help from library elves, Frank and Daniel Feldmann, Cindy, Amanda, Mary, Jonny, and Gabby Farrow, Chris and Noah Mulcahy, Corry Kutter, Angela Mescher-Downing, and Laura Discher – poof! It was done! But, Miss Kay-Kay was not finished. She talked extensively with local librarians and came to the conclusion that the books should be arranged by reading level. No easy task. This meant getting volunteers to come in and use the Library computers (or, even taking boxes full home and bringing back the next day) to get the books ready. Those volunteers were Cindy and Amanda Farrow, Corry Kutter, Angela Mescher-Downing and Laura Discher. Kay says, “The people on the lists are truly a blessing in my life and to this school. They give and give and still come back and ask, ‘What can I do next?’ We could not have accomplished even half of what we have done without them.”



Third Graders Make The Most Of Aullwood Visits Thanks to extra effort from their teachers and parent volunteers, students had a chance to spend extra time at Aullwood after their field experiences. Hundreds of local school groups take part in Aullwood field experiences under the guidance of the naturalists. However, few get a chance to linger at the center afterwards to spend more time on the trails and in the center. But, Mrs. Kawai and Mrs. Vogel jumped at the chance to become naturalist leaders for their groups and extended their visit to make the most of a day spent exploring nature.



December/January Dates to Remember

NOVEMBER

- M-F, 17-21 - 7th Grade Writing Assessment
- Weds, 19 - Title I Parent Night, 7:00-8:39 PM
- Thursday, 20 - Home and School Meeting, 7:00PM
- Friday, 21 - Sally Foster Order Pick-UP, 3:00-6:00
- Tuesday, 25 - All School Thanksgiving Luncheon, Free
- W-F, 26-28 - Thanksgiving holiday

DECEMBER

- M-F, 1-12 - Annual Canned Food Drive
- Weds, 3 - Spelling Bee, 8:30 AM
- Friday, 5 - Interims sent home
- Weds, 17 - Christmas Holiday Program, 7:00PM
- Monday, 22 - Christmas Holiday begins – No School

JANUARY

- Monday, 5 - Return to school from holiday break
- Sunday, 11 - Skating Party, 5:30-7:30PM
- Thursday, 15 - Spirit Day & Bake Sale
- Friday, 16 - End of Second Quarter
- Monday, 19 - Martin L. King, Jr. Day, No School
- Friday, 23 - Report Cards Home, Market Day Pick-Up
Gym Uniform Sale
- M-F, 26-30 - Catholic Schools Week
- Tuesday, 27 - Family Math Night/Open House, 7:00PM
- Friday, 30 - Science Fair



Fifth Graders Experience Election Fever First Hand –

Want to know how to run a campaign? Miss McGee's 5th grade students would be the experts to go to after their extensive, mock election unit. Students were given the task of taking on a variety of roles essential for running an effective campaign through their in-class, presidential elections.



DISTINGUISHED HONOR ROLL – FIRST QUARTER 2008-2009

**Nnaemeka Anene
Kaitlin Blanchard
Jacob Coleman
Airrea Durden
Lindsay Dwire
Gabrielle Elders
Maria Emery
Daniel Feldmann
Michelle Hibbard
Conor Hickey
Olivia Levine
Marcie Meyers
Ian Moorefield
Jacob Murray
Lauren Pegues
Jordan Thomasson
Francesca Weizman**

FIRST HONORS – FIRST QUARTER 2008-2009

**Isabella Anene
Ify Archimalo
Mark Barhorst
Taylor Bridgett
Nicholas Butler
Leah Byrd
Kyleigh Denson
Casey Dwire
Alana Ewald
Gabby Farrow
Kiera Fletcher
Barry Kingston
Rosie Kingston
Akintoye Kuti
Maxwell Leibold
Maresha Peavy
Steve Ramos
Michael Spencer
Johnny Trigg, III
Christopher Williams
Terri Vo
Antwand Wilson, Jr.**

SECOND HONORS – FIRST QUARTER 2008-2009

**Therial Alsup
Nnamdi Anene
Chantel Bester
Tonae' Boddie
Ahkeem Brown
Miles Clark
Quinn Corrado
Garrett Daniels
Messiah deWeaver
Kensia Fletcher
Marques Furr
Blake Garman
Catherine Grady
Sarah Grady
Chenayah Grissom
Xavier Gullatte
Taylor Hayes
Jala Hines
Kadeim Jones
Tia Jones
Vincent Kassis
Willie Lindsey, III
Kyle McKinney
David Mead
Sha'myra Myrick
Adrienne Myton
Makayla Nash
Alexis Onuoha
Tyler Pavelka
Ta'Veon Reed
Arianna Reid
Bryanna Robinson
Harrison Smith
Jordan Smith
Marina Sorrell
Brandon Spearman
Brandon Sutherland
Kelsee Thomas
Cyrah Ward
Brandon Watson
Jumarion Wills
Tommy Yoshida
Malik Zaire**

