



TIGER TIMES

PRECIOUS BLOOD CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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Principal's Notes

In his talk with the children at Friday mass a few weeks ago, Fr. Ed squeezed dabs of toothpaste onto the hands of some volunteers. It was messy and sticky. His point was that, just like the toothpaste, once out, unkind or hurtful words are impossible to return to their origin. One week later, Fr. Bill asked if anyone could recall that talk and its meaning. A field of eager and waving hands filled the pews. Just as Christ used meaningful parables to teach, Fr. Ed's demonstration had become a "just right" lesson for our children. They got it, remembered it, and could use it to find meaning in their own lives. It is exactly that "just right" quality that we seek everyday as we teach children in our school.

A critical part of our school stewardship is the continuing search for tools, resources, and teaching methodologies that help us to get it "just right" with the children in our classrooms. During this 2009-2010 school year, that search is taking on a number of varying and exciting looks. Just walk into the school and take a few steps to the left or right, and you will find new bookshelves in the hallways neatly arranged with books designed to meet the needs and abilities of children in grades K-5. Rather than working with a single, grade-level reading textbook, our staff made the commitment to get advanced trained in the use of leveled books, developmental reading assessment, and the use of learning centers. Thanks to federal stimulus funding and incredible commitment of time and energy from our teachers, this yearlong initiative will pay huge benefits as we work to increase our students' ability and passion as readers.

Additionally, we purchased new texts in science (K-8), English (6-8), and math (6-8), as well as state-of-the-art interactive white boards for all of our classrooms. The previous books were long out of date and out of alignment with state standards. Clearly written and well organized, the science books also spell out exciting, hands-on experiments and activities for the children to do. Like Fr. Ed's toothpaste talk, real-world examples help to make learning permanent. Our math series has met with very positive student and parent response. Clear, focused, and logically sequenced, the Saxon math series has been a resource greatly needed to help our children make necessary gains in math skills. And the energy you feel in the classrooms? Just watch as our teachers and students use the power of our Eno interactive white boards (smart boards) to discover information, learn new skills, and connect to the vast world of information through the Internet. Anything that can be done on a computer is now possible, large, upfront, and immediate in every classroom.

New "stuff," however, is not sufficient to keep up with the changing demands for quality schooling. The Precious Blood staff is working hard to make sure that we both challenge and support our young learners. Half of our 8th grade students are enrolled in a new, honors algebra class. Students in that class enjoy an accelerated curriculum that prepares them for the most advanced tracks at CJ and other area high schools. About half of the students in grades 5-8 take advantage of the new Scholars program that was created to reinforce essential math, language arts, and study skills. Students who've demonstrated solid performance in those areas expand their horizons by taking Spanish. And, the young ladies and gentlemen in our 8th grade are being taught in all-boy and all-girl homeroom, reading, and social studies classes. This pilot is meant to give our teens a chance to learn and express themselves in an alternative setting. Initial feedback has been good, and we are eagerly tracking the benefits/drawbacks of this effort.



Print a color version of Tiger Times by going to our website at <http://www.preciousbloodschool.org/>

Finally, no work is more central or important than the spiritual growth of our students. Jesus Christ, the Master Teacher, spent His life giving us example after example of "just right" teaching. Our most divine purpose is to help our children to learn about, honor, praise, and love God so that they can serve Him well on this earth and be happy with Him in heaven. Our theme this year, "Step Up for Others," calls upon all members of our school community to recognize themselves and others as children of God and to serve Him through care and concern for others. Our new school prayer, recited at the beginning of each day, personalizes that sense of mission to step up for others. Students in grades 5-8 attended grade-level, all day retreats to deepen their understanding of God's call to them and to see each other as brothers and sisters in Christ. Soon, our entire school community will reorganize in multi-age family groups as they attend mass and other spiritual events for the remainder of the school year.

Like Fr. Ed's toothpaste talk, we intend for our work with students to become "just right" lessons for our children. We make every effort to spend our time, effort, and resources carefully in order to have our children grow in confidence and find meaning in their own lives.

Precious Blood Turns 60... From Chicken Coop to the Internet!

In a span of about sixty years, Precious Blood has grown from two rooms in an old barn, housing chickens and other critters, to a modern school which has internet access. Our self-sacrificing parish founders accepted a generous donation of land from the Sisters of the Precious Blood, cleaned out that old barn, and began the fledgling parish and school of Precious Blood. Lots of sweat and toil went into that effort, and today our students are the inheritors of that sacrifice.

Precious Blood parish members have always been extremely proud and supportive of their school, and our senior parish members, who were among those first tireless workers, still have a keen interest in our school. They look with pride at what has been accomplished over these past sixty years, and perhaps the best of all—they send their grandchildren to school here.

That old barn is now gone—pulled down in the year 2000—but the spirit and vision of those founding members most definitely live on.



Renee Bondi In Concert Many thanks to Sister Janet Winandy, Precious Blood students and staff will get to listen to Renee Bondi in concert on Monday, November 9th, at 9:30 AM. Renee was a former student of Sister Janet. Twenty years ago, Ms. Bondi had a bizarre accident leaving her quadriplegic and permanently confined to a wheelchair. Despite tremendous challenges, today Renée is one of the top selling Catholic recording artists in the country. She was selected to perform for half a million people at World Youth Day in Toronto, was the keynote speaker for 28,000 teens at the National Catholic Youth Conference in Ohio, and has been a presenter at numerous Religious Education conferences. Renée has appeared on several TV and radio programs including *It's a Miracle*, *Life Today*, and *The Hour of Power*.

Junior High Students Make Time for Reflection in Their Retreats

- These past four Thursdays have been Holy Thursdays for the students in grades five, six, seven and eight. We went on retreats, "a vacation day with God" in the words of one of our 5th graders. And it was a most holy day thanks to the help of the Sisters of the Precious Blood at Salem Heights. Sister Beverly gave a lively talk on the life of St. Gaspar, founder of the Precious Blood Missionaries. We traveled to Switzerland (Grace Hall) to spend some precious time with Mother Maria Anna Brunner (Sister Nadine). Even though she started the Precious Blood Sisters 175 years ago, it was as though she was truly speaking to us. Mother Brunner passed out bread during our meal with the Sisters. The students and the Sisters enjoyed dining with one another. Can you imagine the conversation that transpired between a young student and a religious octogenarian!



Prayer punctuated our day: morning prayer in chapel with the Sisters, noon Mass with a re-enactment of the Gospel (a highlight for the Sisters), and a rosary processional to the Grotto. The students sang and prayed and listened intently all day long—yes, all day long. The Sisters asked, "Are they this good all the time, Mrs. Maloney?" Of course, I said YES.

You have every reason to be proud of your son or daughter. They have the motivation needed now to "step up for others" in the same spirit as Gaspar, Saint of the People, and Mother Brunner, Servant of the Poor.

Interim Reports- PowerSchool - Just a reminder that you did not receive a paper interim grades report during this first quarter. Our reason is that you can check your child's progress 24/7 by logging on to PowerSchool at our web site (<http://www.preciousbloodschool.org/>). If you have difficulty logging on, or if you have forgotten your login information, please give us a call at school and we will help you out. The first quarter ends October 23rd, and parent/teacher conferences will be scheduled for November 3rd and 5th.

Early Dismissals - We want to thank you for doing such a good job this year of scheduling doctor and dentist visits after school. A big help! If possible, please, please, please do not schedule appointments that require an early dismissal between 2:30-3:00. It is very difficult to get word to your child at those times, and causes extra confusion in the parking lot. Thanks very much.

News From the Cafeteria - "PB Catering"

Everything from elegant weddings to informal get togethers, we offer party trays, an assortment of hors d'oeuvre, gourmet brownies, and cookies. All proceeds go back into the school lunch program. Please contact Ginny or Sharry in the PB Cafeteria at 277-2291.

Absence Procedure

If your child is going to be absent from school, please call the school office before 9:00 AM to report the absence. If parents are requesting homework for their child, the office asks parents to call the school by 9:00 AM to request homework.

School Picture Information

The people at Lifetouch did a good job of taking pictures in September; however, when you get your child's pictures back, and you are not completely satisfied with your child/children's school pictures, please return the entire, uncut picture package to the school office with your child's name, telephone number, grade, homeroom number, and reason for retake on the outside of picture envelope. Lifetouch will be at school on November 5, 2009, for picture

retake day. Students who are getting retakes will receive a reminder prior to the retake day. All returns must be in the school office no later than **November 2, 2009**.

8th Graders are the Chaminade Julianne Catholic High School Class of 2014!

CJ Open House, Sunday, Nov. 1, 1-4 p.m. Guest speaker, **Kathy McEuen Harmon**, Executive Director of Financial Aid and Student Success for the University of Dayton, will present: *Why CJ Graduates Experience a High Level of Success in College*. The day's program also includes a tour guided by student Eagle Ambassadors, a tuition assistance session, and opportunities to meet teachers, coaches and CJ families. Visit cjeagles.org for more information, or contact J.P. Gregory '02, admissions coordinator, at 461-3740 x210 or jgregory@cjeagles.org.

High School Placement Test, Saturday, Nov. 21, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

The HSPT is recommended by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and required by CJ for admission and Catholic Leadership and Heritage Scholarship consideration. Students must register by Friday, Nov. 13 by calling Mrs. Jeanne Spitzig at 461-3740 x249 or jspitzig@cjeagles.org. Pizza party included!

CJ Youth Girls Basketball (3-8th grade) Try-outs

THIS WEEKEND: Sunday, Oct. 18 @ CJ gym. Athletes are expected to attend both try-outs and **MUST** be accompanied by an adult. There is no fee to try out. Please plan to arrive 15 minutes before your grade's schedule time in order to register:

5th and 6th grades: 3-4:30 p.m.

7th and 8th grades: 4:30-6:30 p.m.

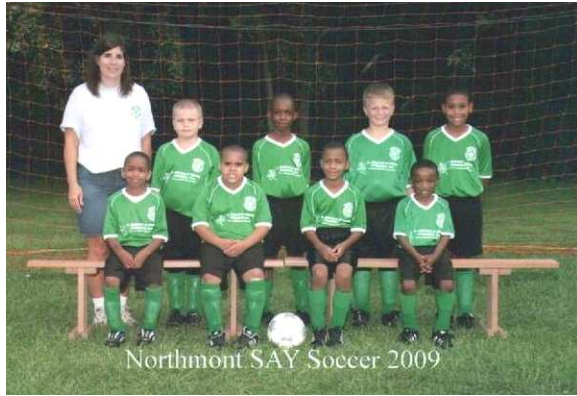
Visit cjeagles.org or contact Tony Greene at 231-4493 for more information.

PB Golf Team The 2009 golf season was challenging as much as it was rewarding. The season started with only 3 players. After recruiting all winter and spring, we had Conor Hickey, William Howard, and Jacob Murray - a very good nucleus for a successful bid. Just before the season started, a student from St. Chris, Kaitlyn Cartone, moved into the area. As prayers would have it, St. Chris did not have room for her. It was a quick fix for Precious Blood! But the downside still remained -if one player was out we stood to lose the match and hurt our average. Then comes along Arthur Impson to give us that very badly needed assurance that we would not be penalized! Now we were prepared to move forward with the leadership of experienced 8th graders, William and Conor, the proven play from Jacob, and two solid players for support. I felt we should "go all the way" with Arthur providing the guarantees and confidence for the team to move forward. With a little experience, Kaitlyn quickly improved her game by 10 strokes by the second match. Jacob continued to provide the quiet leadership on the field with consistent play and a solid average of 44 all year. Conor continued to show leadership and courage working toward improvement every week until the last match where he improved his score by 10 strokes! William (most improved player) also improved his game by 10 strokes by mid season and by the last two matches, he had two birdies and several pars! In the Final Round, William shot 43, Jacob scorched 44, and Conor sizzled at 45 - the best three scores in one round all year! Then Kaitlyn outright beat two of the four opponents, and Arthur tied one and outright beat his other opponent for a final score of 185. It was our season best unofficially to beat a score of 218 for Holy Family. which showed greatness and maturity and skill, and especially great sportsmanship, and very worthy opponent. - Respectfully submitted Coach Blasko



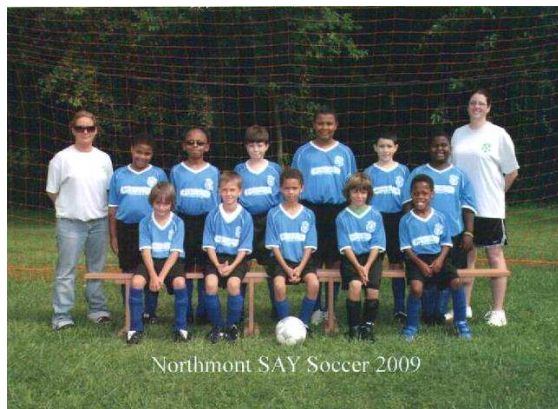
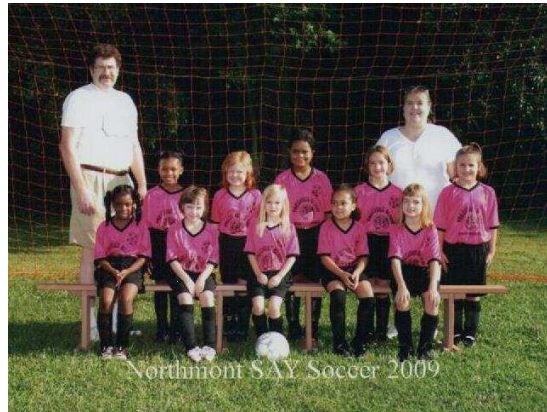
Regular PB Soccer Season Comes to an End

The PB Boys and Girls Passer teams completed their fall soccer season on Oct 3rd. The boys started out slow with two losses, but ended the season with five victories in a row. The girls also had a great year. They improved with each game ending the season by tying an undefeated team with a goal scored by Tessa Hoskins. A good time was had by all the girls and boys. They learned a lot about the game of soccer, teamwork, and sportsmanship.



Boys Passers-Mahlik Allen, Nick Bridgett, Blake Burnside, Obinna Onuoha, Terry Thomas, Demetrius Williams, Kellen Williams, VJ Matthews, and Ja'Von Gunn. Coach, Mrs. Bridgett.

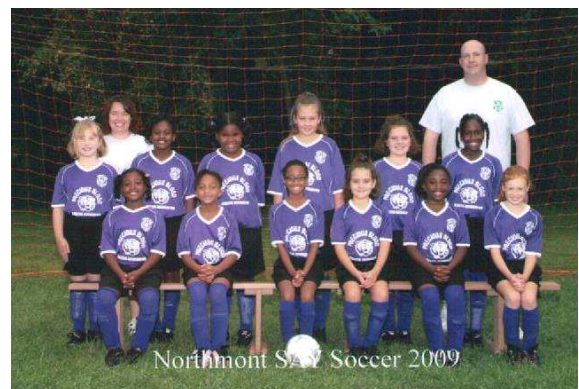
Girls Passers-Marylynn & Gina Mbah, Tessa & Gracie Hoskins, Amiya Brantley, Makayla Cuesta, Kyla Williams, Mary Grady, Monica Emery, Maria Weizman, and Jewel Allen. Coaches, Mr. and Mrs. Grady

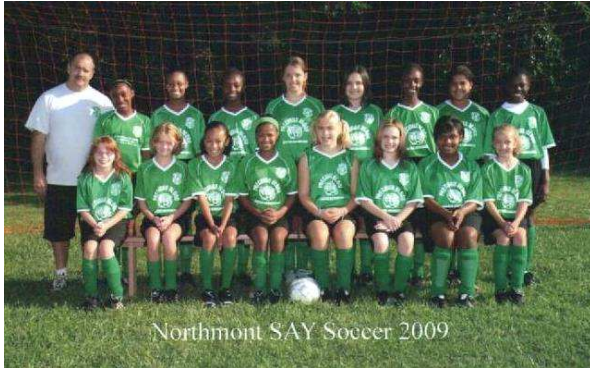


The PB Boys and Girls Wings and Boys and Girls Strikers completed their regular season games and will participate in the upcoming Regional tournament beginning October 17th. Both Wings teams had a tough season; however, they learned a lot and had a good time. The veteran members of the teams worked well together mentoring the players that were new to the game.

Boys Wings-Alec Daniels, Julian Thomasson, Collin Piser, Eathan Grieshop, Trent Karl, Ghiman McKinney, Tyrell Dyer, Nick White, Nick Henne, Eugene Gray, Bradlee Elders, and Michael Burks. Coaches Ms. Stephanie Karl, Ms. Ann Gutman

Girls Wings-Kyerra Cospy, Gabrielle Coleman, Erin Norman, Shamari Dyer, Raejean Gray, Courtney Ballinger, Cahalan Hickey, Delenasia Jones, Taylor Fields, Arianna Bartholomew, Cheyenne Collins, & Kristen Dare Coaches, Mr. and Mrs. Norman

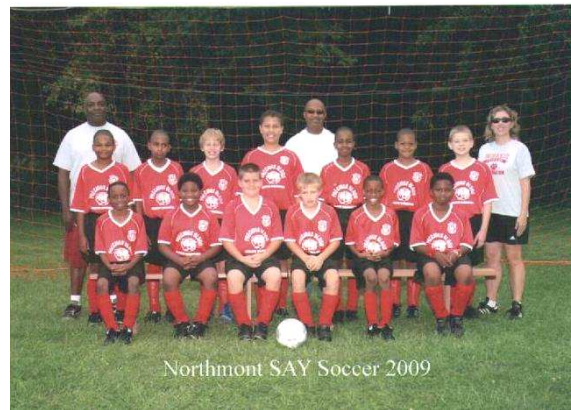




The Girls and Boys Striker had a very good season and both teams finished 1st in their division. The girls had a winning record with 9 wins 1 loss. The boys also won 9 games and tied 1 game.

Girls Strikers-Chantel Bester, Cassidie & Kelsie Pavelka, Airrea Durden, Taylor Bridgett, Gabrielle Elders, Alexis & Alexia Onuoha, Sarah Grady, Lindsey & Kelsey Hoskins, Maria Burks, Kennedy Fields, Makayla Nash, Lauren Pegues, and Khristina Dare. Coach Mr. Bridgett

Boys Strikers-Tayviaon Barnett, Mark Barhorst, David Mead, Brandon Sutherland, Blake Garman, Akintoye Kuti, Jacob Coleman, Jordan Thomasson, Miles Clark, Jaion & Jordan Reed, Cameron Monie, Zach Bridgett, and Jayden Sanders. Coaches, Mr. Monie, Mr. Sutherland, Mrs. Barhorst



Thanks to all the parents, players, coaches, and fans for supporting our PB soccer teams. Thanks to all our sponsors too, A. Brown and Sons Nursery, Boord Henne Insurance, & Precious Blood Athletic Association. Congratulations to all of our teams on a great fall season! Stay tuned to the announcements and future Tiger Times newsletters to see how your Wings and Striker teams finish in the upcoming Regional tournament.

PB Students Visit Aullwood Many thanks to continued funding from our Home and School Association, students in grades K-5 have begun their visits to Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm. While there, students learn first hand about the environment and the animals and plants that God fills it with. Rain or shine, our young naturalists, their teachers and parent chaperones enjoy lots of learning and ... fun!



Home and School Has Big Plans Home and School is planning to kick off an important fundraiser on Friday, October 23rd. As you know, we had to get rid of some of our playground equipment in order to comply with safety regulations. Our plan is to raise money so that the children can help us choose some new equipment to take its place. Thank you for helping out with this important project!



Oct./Nov./Dec. Dates to Remember

OCTOBER

- 13 School Advisory Council, 6:30PM
- 14 Grade 7 to Marmon Valley Farm
- 15 Grade 7 returns from MVF
- 16 Aullwood, Kindergarten
- 21 St. Gaspar Feast Day and Mass
- 22 Spirit Day
- 23 End of 1st Quarter
Fundraiser Kick-off
- 26 Second Quarter Begins
- 30 First Quarter Report Cards Go Home
Book Fair (thru November 5)

NOVEMBER

- 2-5 Book Fair
- 3 Parent/Teacher Conferences ,3:15 - 8:00 PM
- 5 Lifetouch Picture Re-Take Day
- 5 Parent/Teacher Conferences ,3:15 - 8:00 PM
- 6 No School
- 8 PB 60th Anniversary Celebration

NOVEMBER (Cont'd)

- 9 Renee Bondi in Concert, 9:30
60th Celebration Dessert, 11:00-12:30
- 10 Grade 1 to Aullwood, Candle Dipping
- 12 Home and School Meeting, 6:30PM
- 13 Market Day Pick Up, 5:30-6:30PM
Gym Uniform Sale, 5:30-6:30PM
- 17 Grade 3 to Boonshoft, Simple Machines
- 19 Spirit Day
- 24 All-school Thanksgiving Lunch, 8th Grade
hosts
- 25-27 Thanksgiving Holiday (Three Days)

DECEMBER

- 5 First Reconciliation
- 11 Market Day Pick Up, 5:30-6:30PM
Gym Uniform Sale, 5:30-6:30PM
- 16 Christmas Holiday Program – 7:00 PM
- 17 Spirit Day
- 21 Christmas Holiday Begins – No School

