



St. Therese School Newsletter

September 2008

Some Words From Our Principal— Eileen Gray

Dear Parents and Friends of St. Therese School,

It seems like just a short time ago I was writing the end of the school year letter, now here we are ready to start another exciting school year. There has been a lot of activity over the summer at the school.

We had seismic work done in the gym and the four classrooms in our 1927 building. A new safety door was installed in the gym, which can be rolled in front of the stairs. Also, all the bathrooms downstairs have been totally upgraded. I never thought I would be overjoyed about bathrooms, but these look great. We owe a huge thank-you to the parish capital campaign for all this work. We are safer and look better. Rest assured we will be good stewards of what the parish has done.

Our academic focus this year is Math. We will be taking a comprehensive look at integrating Math throughout the curriculum, as well as working with the new Math standards. More to come throughout the year.



The beginning of school is such an exciting time for parents, students, and teachers. Everything is possible. Let us keep this mantra throughout the year, not because it sounds good, but because we really believe that “Everything truly is possible”.

Thanks for choosing St. Therese and let’s keep working toward excellence.

Eileen L. Gray, Principal

What’s Happening Between Now and Christmas!

- **Back to School Night for Middle School (5-8), Thursday, September 4th, 6-8pm**
- **Back to School Night for grades K-4, Tuesday, September 16th.**
- **Sally Foster Gift Wrap and Entertainment Book Sale- Wednesday, September 24- October 6th.**
- **Teacher In-Service Day—Friday, October 17th, school closed.**
- **School Closed for Veteran’s Day—Tuesday, November 11th.**
- **Parent/Teacher Conferences—Tuesday, November 18th through Friday, November 21st. Noon Dismissal**
- **Thanksgiving Holiday—Thursday, November 27 and Friday, November 28th.**
- **Christmas Vacation—Monday, December 22 . Classes resume Monday, January 5th.**

In This Issue:

- **Some Words from our Principal**
- **POLT Update**
- **Meet Your Room Parents**
- **Gift Wrap Fundraiser**
- **Welcome New Families!**
- **School Auction**

POLT (Parents Organization Leadership Team) Happenings

We have a new leadership team to introduce to you! Here are your POLT members for 2008/2009:

Alison Carter, President and mom to Rosa Carter in 3rd grade.

Sarah Luna, Communications Chair (including the newsletter) and mom to Mia in 3rd grade.

MaryAlyce Eugene, Co-hospitality Chair (shares the duty with our president Alison) and mom to Declan in 1st grade.

Monique Adams, Room Parent Coordinator and mom to Christopher in 7th grade and Jamon in 3rd grade.

Steve Berg, Auction Coordinator and dad to Henry, 2nd grade.

Aloria Mercer, Athletic Director and mom to Myra in 8th grade.

Eileen Gray, Principal; Ray St. Mary, Pastoral Assistant for Administration; Sandy Gunder, Volunteer Coordinator.

The team plans several events during the school year to bring our community together and have fun and learn from each other. Duties include: hosting the Back to School Picnic and Welcome Back Coffee, providing hospitality for Back to School Nights, coordinating monthly school hosted after Mass social hours, hosting Catholic Schools Week Open House and Grandparents Lunch, overseeing fundraising activities, producing a school newsletter and communicating school events outside the school community.

A Note from POLT President, Alison Carter

Welcome New and Returning Families of St. Therese!

It's hard to believe summer has already come and gone! Rain or shine I hope everyone had a good one. I'd like to introduce myself. My name is Alison Carter and I have just taken over the position of POLT President. I have a daughter, Rosa, who has been here since kindergarten and is now in 3rd grade. I have also been a parishioner for 10 years and attend the 5pm Sunday service.

I am looking forward to seeing my old friends again and meeting new ones this year. I'd be happy to meet you on the first day of school. Stop by the gym and enjoy some coffee and pastries compliments of POLT! I will also be at the Back To School nights coming up. Please plan on attending. Important information about your child's class and school events are given on these nights!

The dates are: Thursday, Sept. 4, grades 5-8, 6-8pm and Tuesday, Sept. 16, grades K-4, 6-8pm.

We have lots of fun activities planned for this year and all of us on POLT are grateful for your support and involvement because we couldn't do it without you.

Best regards,
Alison R. Carter

Meet Your 2008/2009 Room Parents

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| Kindergarten – | To be decided on soon! |
| 1 st grade - | Rhonda Banchemo (Paolo's mom) |
| 2 nd grade - | Kellie Valdry (Catherine's mom) |
| 3 rd grade - | Lisa Holden-Jackson (Jasmine's mom) |
| 4 th grade - | Peggy Jackson (Malcolm's mom) |
| 5/6 boys - | Kellie Bendickson (Jessie's mom) |
| 5/6 girls - | Colleen Rideout (Bianca's mom) |
| 7/8 boys - | Annemarie Stewart (Tahj's mom) |
| 7/8 girls - | Monique Williams (Myah's mom) and Erica Pollard (Taylor's mom) |

Thank you to these wonderful parents who have volunteered to act as a communication link between other parents, the teacher and the school. Duties include: creating a class roster (with emails and phone numbers); coordinating school/classroom hosted social hours after Mass once a year; coordinating classroom activities and celebrations including teacher's birthday, Christmas, Teacher's Appreciation Week in May; help teacher communicate special needs or projects to class; encourage parent participation in our annual auction in February and ensure classroom auction project is done!

Room parents are coordinated by Monique Adams, Room Parent Coordinator on POLT (Parents Organization Leadership Team) and mom to Jamon, 3rd grade and Christopher, 7th grade). They work hard so please **step up** when they communicate with you and ask for your help!



Our Parents Organization Leadership Team (POLT) has chosen a new gift wrap vendor this year—Sally Foster. We're excited to enter into this new partnership and know that we will have a very successful sale. In addition to gift wrap, we will be selling Entertainment Books for \$20 each.

You'll receive your Sally Foster catalog in a few weeks and when you do, you'll be impressed with the variety and quality of items and gift wrap they are offering. Items include: over 50 different gift wraps; cards, and other gift wrap accessories; candles; sweet treats; items for the kitchen; and other gift ideas. The Entertainment Book has special discounts on local services and restaurants as well as some out of town deals!

Once you've had a chance to mark what you want to order, share the catalog with friends, family, neighbors and co-workers. **St. Therese earns 50% of what you sell and that means you get to count that towards your fundraising.** As incentive, Sally Foster offers a fantastic prize package for your kids to motivate them to help you sell!

Some of the catalog items will be on display at both Back to School Nights. In addition, you will be able to purchase Entertainment Books.

We look forward to a successful year!

We Are Happy to Welcome the Following New Families to our St. Therese School Community!

Welcome to the following 20 families who have joined our school community this year!

Say hello to these new Kindergarten families:

*Samuel Blackwell and Sereatha Lee (daughter is Savannah) * Sarah Catlow (son is Marcelo)

*Kathleen Freeman (daughter is Olivia) * Rob Morrison and Christopher Roberts (son is Oscar) *Jeremy Robinson and Katherine Schomer (son is Owen) * Chris and Carla Spaccarotelli (son is Vince)

*Monica Thomas (son is Myles) * Maria Marshall (daughter is Javeschia)

And while these families are not new to our school, they have another child coming to Kindergarten!

Del and DaVonna Johnson have twin girls Alina and Kyndal joining their brother Jalen (2nd grade).

James and Rachel May's daughter Mychal will be joining her sister India (7th grade).

Michael and Lanie Nowell's younger son Shane will be joining big brother Jaylen (4th grade).

Dwight Prevo and Peggy Jackson's son Dillon will join big brother Malcolm also in the 4th grade.

Kevin and Nakia Ray's middle daughter Aniya will join her brother Derek (2nd grade).

We also have two families transferring into the 1st grade – Warren and Yvette Moy and their son Corrado and Kellitra Bunton and her son Maurice Allen. In addition, Henry and Crystal Garrett's second son Christopher will join his brother Henry who is in the 2nd grade.

Welcome to Thomas Mathiesen and Jennifer Sarriguarte and their son Stellan who is transferring into the 2nd grade; Yoli Chisholm and her two daughters Zanele (3rd grade) and Ayanda (6th grade); Seneeka Colly and her son Jaedyn joining Mr Leo's 4th grade class.

And Welcome to the following new middle school families:

Carol Haythorne and her son William Beale, 5th grade; Jawann Bennett and his son Jaylen, 5th grade

Shannon Horton and her son Tyshon, 5th grade; Julia Baker and her son Jordan, 6th grade

Eboni Bland and her son Antoine, 5th grade; Howard Goldberg and Lynn Berry and their daughter Zoria, 5th grade

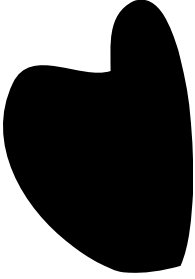
Tina Houston and her daughter Montana, 5th grade

Cleveland King and his daughter Camariah, 6th grade

Kregg and LaShaun Perdue and their daughter Azane, 6th grade

Please make our new school families feel welcome!!!!

AUCTION NEWS—by Steve Berg, Auction Coordinator



Valentine's Day traditionally has been reserved for couples to go out and celebrate their undying love for each other. In that same spirit, we invite you to come out next Valentine's Day and celebrate the love we have for St. Therese School and the students who benefit from the riches it has to offer.

Mark your calendar for Saturday, February 14th, 2009 for the annual St. Therese School dinner and auction, "From the Heart" at the "W" Hotel in downtown Seattle. "From the Heart" promises to be even better than last year's fun event. Plan on staying a while afterwards for a post auction party complete with dancing and more fun. In keeping with the "love" theme, think 60's/70's psychedelic, "Love American Style" attire and "The Love Bug" when considering your wardrobe. Polyester never looked so good!

There will be lots of ways you can help; by procuring auction donations, volunteering and especially, by attending.

Because this year's auction is two months earlier than in the past, we need to get started earlier than usual. Class projects need to be COMPLETED by Christmas break and the deadline for auction items is the first of January.

"From the Heart" is co-chaired by First grade parent Angela Corpus, and St. Therese Parish member Gina Purdy.

Please contact me if you can help out with planning and implementation of the auction.

*I can be reached at 206-720-7080 or by emailing at:
auctionc@saintthereseeparish.org.*

*Also, watch the website for updates, ticket reservations and to view auction items at
www.stthereseeseattle.org*

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS – 2008-09

ST. THERESE SCHOOL

206-324-0460

FAX: 206-324-8464

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|--|------------------------|
| Priest Administrator: Fr. Stephen Okumu | 206-325-2711 ext. 12 |
| Pastoral Assistant for Admn. – Mr. Ray St. Mary | 206-720-7270 |
| Principal – Mrs. Eileen Gray | 206-324-0460, ext. 100 |
| Administrative Assistant – Ms. Louise LaDay | 206-324-0460, ext. 102 |
| Bookkeeper – Mrs. Irene Mullen | 206-720-7272 |
| Food Service: Mrs. Yvonne Spellman | 206-322-2129 |
| Network Database Administrator – Glen Cunningham | 206-720-7274 |
| Parish Athletic Coord./Safety Coord.:Ms. Aloria Mercer | 206-324-0460, ext. 118 |
| School Counselor – Brian Cruess | 206-324-0460 ext. 101 |
| Volunteer Coordinator – Sandy Gunder | 206-324-0460, ext. 117 |
| Auction Coordinator – Steve Berg | 206-720-7280 |

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

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