



Welcome back!

It's been great seeing all of you again. Many thanks to all who worked so hard to have the building, the information, and the programs ready for your children:

- Office staff
- Maintenance staff
- Parish maintenance committee
- Parish staff
- Parish and school volunteers who worked on the buildings and grounds over the summer
- Teachers and aides

This is a team effort and we all depend on each other to provide a safe, healthy, academically challenging environment. We look forward to an exciting, productive year.



Dollars and Sense

We know the current economy is still hurting many families and appreciate the effort you are making to ensure timely payment of tuition so we can meet payroll and other bills.

Desks and Chairs for sale- \$10.00/set

Still need a study place for your child(ren) at home? We do have some surplus desks and chairs that we are willing to sell for \$10.00/set. Please contact the office if you are interested.

Over the summer

Thanks to our parish maintenance committee, a lot of work was done with the boiler and the heating system to deliver heat safely, effectively, and efficiently to your children this year.

Now hear this—Saint Ann's begins audio podcasting!



Summer has been a great time for professional development for our staff. Many teachers have taken workshops on writing, the connection between math and literature, etc.

One workshop we did together was on **audio podcasting**—creating little radio programs we can post on our website. You'll be able to download them to your MP3 players.



Right now, we have one for the week of August 24. Another has been sent in—you can hear some 8th graders reading some of their recent writing. We expect this to be up shortly

Teachers are working on a lot of exciting ideas for using this technology. While it may take us some time to get up and running, we expect great things.

Cost to St. Ann's? \$0.00
Software—free from Audacity
Training—sponsored by Office of Catholic schools

Want your children safe? Get a greeter for the door for after-school events.

We really need your help to ensure everyone's safety. The outside doors are to remain locked at all times. If you expect people to arrive at different times for activities and signups, please make sure you have someone at the door or have them call you when they arrive. If doors are open, anyone can gain access.

We also know through the Virtus training that students should never be alone or sent alone anywhere in the building.

St. Ann's focuses on writing strategies and math

After reviewing TerraNova scores last spring, we set the following goals:

- Develop a consistent program for writing strategies so students can communicate for a variety of purposes (Illinois State Standard 3)
- Strengthen all areas of the math program throughout the school to ensure student mastery of the curriculum standards for each grade level

More detailed school results and explanations of the TerraNova test results from March, 2009, can be found at www.saintannschool.com.

Want information first? Going Green

Want less paper in your life, on your table, or floating around your car? We're trying to get many all-school documents to you via email and the website—probably before your child gets it out of a bookbag!

If you signed up last year, you're good to go (unless you changed your preferred email).

If you didn't sign up but would like to now, please send an e-mail to janicesummerrise@saintannschool.com so we have an accurate address for you.

Life:Style sale runs Sept. 3-17

Looking for some great Christmas gifts? Maybe just wrapping paper? Our students are bringing home brochures with sale items you may wish to order. There is a great explanation inside the envelope.

Proceeds all go to help educate your child well in a safe, healthy environment.

Title I starting soon

We will be starting the Title I Extended Learning program toward the end of September. This year the program will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:45 pm to 3:45 pm.

This is a program that provides extra time for reading and math instruction to students living in school districts belonging to the TF South coop.

We will be contacting families soon about eligibility.



Nickels and dimes . . . and quarters . . . and dollars

You've heard the expression, "Being nicked and dimed"

Well, because of the wonderful economy, there aren't so many big dollars available to people, and activities requiring big dollars may exclude a lot. Most of us can find a few nickels and dimes, though.

We've added a few things this year that will cost some nickels, dimes, or dollars so anyone who'd like to help the school can do so . . . a little bit at a time.

One of these ideas is a dress-down day each month for \$1.00 (we'll still keep NUT card days for skating parties, etc.). This month, we'll do a Red-White-Blue dress down day for Frankfest, Sept. 11 (being opened to the parish, too, this year.)

Watch your monthly calendars for other days

P.S.—Here's the big dollar item-- Please start saving now for the annual parish Pot-O-Gold—\$100.00 ticket. If you put aside about \$4.00/week, you'd be able to purchase a ticket. The proceeds generally have gone to help the school.

H1N1 virus—what should parents do?

Our information channeled through many sources contains the following directives in normal flu situations:

1. If a child has a fever, keep the child home for 24 hours after fever is gone (*without* using fever reducing meds such as aspirin, Tylenol, ibuprofen, Advil, Motrin, etc.)
2. Remind students to cover their mouths with tissue or their elbow if they are sneezing, coughing, etc.
3. Develop a contingency plan now for child care if you need to work and your child cannot be in school
4. Seriously consider having your child vaccinated for both this flu and the normal variety when vaccines become available
5. Do not allow ill children to be around the general population



Parents are also encouraged to have their children continue good health habits to help them be more resistant to the virus. These include ensuring healthy food, enough sleep, a reasonable amount of exercise, staying away from those who are ill.

What will school do?

- Continue encouraging good hygiene—hand-washing, covering mouth, etc.
- Send students and staff home who display flu-like symptoms
- Take temp if necessary
- Separate possible flu-infected students from others
- Consider providing masks for those waiting

Pick-3 raffle tickets now being sold for October, November

Now that families have signed up for their raffle tickets for the mandatory fund-raising fee, we are selling the remainder of the October tickets and all of the November tickets.

Watch for an order form next week. Individual tickets are \$10.00 each and will be sold on a 1st come, 1st served basis.

Alumni corner

- Mrs. Dermody and the class of 1959 celebrate their 50th anniversary the week of September 19-20
- Megan Sellin, class of 2009, now writes the teen article in the local Shopper

Many hands--Many thanks

- **Great Lakes Bank**—employees in several branches collected school supply items from the classroom supply list and money in case there were items needed that weren't purchased. Thank you, Great Lakes Bank
- **Garage Sale—Profit—about \$1600**—Many thanks to Adriana Fragoso, Rose Duda, and all the volunteers who helped. We'll have a complete list next month
- **Ice Cream social—back to school Mass**—thanks to those who organized, served, visited, etc. Our helpers include the following: Laura Bailey, Judy Brann, Mike Churilla, Lisa Hajduch, Mark Hajduch, Ellen Horn-Jaworowski, Tony Jaworowski, Tommy Lynch, Matt Martinez, Chris McHale, Kevin McHale, Kelli Olson, Mike Olson, and Connie Ryczek