

St. Francis Xavier Newsletter

St. Francis Xavier School, with family partnership is dedicated to the development of the whole child through the spiritual and academic excellence of Catholic education.

September 30, 2016

Father Dennis Stilwell-347-4133 James Kanine- 347-3651 ext. 426 School Office-347-3651

Dear Families of St. Francis Xavier,

The beginning of the school year is almost always busy and at times it can be overwhelming for students, parents and staff. It is definitely an exciting time, but there are things that can cause anxiety and worry for all of us. St. Francis Xavier School has had a great start to the 2016-2017 school year. Yes, we have had some moments and there is still lots of work to be done, but we are off and running. Particularly, the students and teachers have been great. I am looking forward to the coming weeks where the routine is familiar and things run smoothly. As always, pray for each other. I told the children this on the first day at our Prayer Service. Please continue to pray that this school year is the best one ever for our children and staff.

What has changed at SFX? We have three new teachers. Katie Hoyt is teaching music and Title One. Krista Lavelly is teaching Kindergarten, and Katie Miller is our new first grade teacher. These new folks have been wonderful and they are acclimated to our school already! We have a new technology provider. In July we entered into an agreement with the Public Schools of Petoskey to provide all of our technology needs. Every teacher has a new computer and we have 20 new laptop computers in our computer lab. The efforts on the part of the Public Schools of Petoskey to provide SFX with the best technology support possible have been outstanding. With any new venture, there will be some hiccups, but things are progressing well and getting better every single day.

The Michigan Catholic Conference did a Safety Risk Assessment at our school on Tuesday, September 20th. The safety inspection went well; we have a few things

to address, but overall we're in great shape. I will be reporting this information to all of you when it becomes available to me. In the meantime, we have done several safety improvements to our building. We have added Emergency Trauma Kits on every floor, the Main Office, Gym, and Cafeteria. We also purchased a portable AED to go along with the one we have near the Main Office. Currently, we are updating Go Bags, which are classroom safety kits that go with the teacher if there is an emergency. Also, we are going to be looking to buy a door-locking system for our Main Entrance, the Michigan Street doors. We will be able to program the Michigan Street doors to be open when we need them open. Then, we will have a buzzer system for visitors to use to enter our building. Safety is our main concern, and these recent safety improvements are important and necessary for our school.

September can be a very busy month as we all know! Take a few minutes to thank God for all your blessings. If you can make it to our All-School mass on Wednesdays at 8:30am you will find this 45 minutes to be invaluable to your day!

Yours in Christ,

*James Kanine
Principal*

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

Background checks: These are required if you are volunteering in the classroom, lunchroom or on field trips. Stop by the office if you have not submitted these important documents. If you have not updated these documents in the past three years, please stop by to fill out new forms.

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Office sign in: Don't forget to sign in and out at the office if you are volunteering in the classroom, in the lunchroom or other activities. Be sure to wear the red School Pass badge as well.

Lunchtime monitors: All school families must work 4 lunch shifts throughout the year. Please call or stop by the office to sign up on the office calendar so we can track your hours.

Ren-Web: We are continuing with Ren-Web for our 4th-8th grade parents to check attendance, homework and grades. New users go to internet explorer browser and navigate to www.renweb.com. Hover over Logins and select Parents Web Login. Type in our district code: sf-mi. Enter your email address. Click: create account. A password will be emailed to the email address entered. You can then log on to renweb the same way and enter the district code and your temporary password. The system will allow you to create a new password once in the system. Returning users should use their previous user name and password for access.

Home/School Communication: Please send any new contact information (phone numbers, e-mail, addresses) to us at school to keep our records current. Our school website is www.school.petoskeyfx.org.

Lost Items: Please label all coats, lunch boxes, and other personal items as we are having many items in lost and found.

Grand Raffle Tickets: School families are asked to help sell the 1500 available tickets to support the school auction. Each family received 5 tickets to sell. You are required to sell a minimum of 3 tickets. More tickets are always available in the parish and school offices.

SFX School Election Results:

Congratulations to our new school officers:

President- William Gagnon

Vice President-Patrick Coveyou

Secretary-Meghan Brown

Treasurer-Alexis Glaser

8th Grade Class Representative-Ashley Nguyen

7th Grade Class Representative-Lia

Iacoangeli **Alternate-**Mary Fran Forton

6th Grade Class Representative-James

Connaughton **Alternate-**Bea Miranda

5A Class Representatives-Payton

Beckerling and Ava Saunders

5B Class Representatives-Maura Brown

4A Class Representatives-Gaby Smock and Grace Broz

4B Class Representatives-Gabby Cesario and Mitchell Eberhart

3A Class Representatives-Adam Nguyen

3B Class Representatives-Matthew Cesario

2B Class Representatives-Spencer Smock and Cecilia Miranda

1A Class Representatives-Luke Licata and Luke Pike

1B Class Representatives- Ellie Daniel and Tate Russell

Upcoming dates:

10/4 Blessing-2:45 Playground

10/7 PTO Fall Fun Crusader Run

10/13 Interim Reports go home
1st Grade Raffle-All school non-uniform day

10/20-21 Middle School to Camp Daggett

21 Non-uniform day- Pink day-wear pink shirt with uniform bottoms

10/31 8th Grade- Haunted House for Brother Dan's Food Pantry