



Fourteen Holy Helpers School News

January 5, 2012

Happy New Year!

Volume 17

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

It's wonderful to be back at school and to be celebrating the new year with all the kiddoes! These remaining months of the school year will fly by with in-school and out-of-school events that will continue to celebrate the community of Fourteen Holy Helpers!

JANUARY EVENTS

January alone is proving to be a jam-packed month of workshops and events!

- Friday, January 13th is a scheduled teacher in-service training day at Erie I BOCES. We'll be focusing upon the new Common Core (academic) Standards which will drive the curriculum beginning in 2012. Because our teachers will be in training, **SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED** on Friday, January 13th.
- The weekend is extended with the observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Monday, January 16th.
- Our **8th Annual Snowball Sweepstakes** takes place on **Saturday, January 21st at the Hearthstone Manor!** Doors open at 5:45 p.m. and the action begins shortly thereafter! Please be sure you have your tickets, and don't forget to invite parents, sisters, brothers, aunts, uncles, friends and neighbors to join you!
- You'll just have time to catch your breath before joining us on **Wednesday, January 25th for our Open House and Scholastic Book Fair!**
- The following **Monday, January 30th** is our kick-off to **Catholic Schools Week** – a celebration of the gift and excellence of Catholic education. This year's theme is ***Catholic Schools: Faith. Academics. Service.*** We hope to celebrate each aspect of the theme throughout the five days of Catholic Schools week. Stay tuned for details!
- Our **Niagara Chocolates Easter Candy Sale** also begins on **January 30th** and extends until **February 17th!** Can we be thinking of Easter already? Watch the time fly! Many thanks to Kathy Makowski for coordinating the sale!

½ DAY OF SCHOOL ON FRIDAY

This Friday, January 6th, we'll be having a ½ day of school to facilitate a teacher meeting in the afternoon. Our Pre-K students' pick-up is at 12:00 and our elementary students' pick-up is at 12:15 p.m. At this week's meeting, we'll be preparing for our upcoming Common Core training and planning Catholic Schools Week with recommendations from our Student Council.

SNOW UPDATES

Snow is in the air (sometimes!) and this is just a reminder that – in the event of a storm – we follow West Seneca Central School District's closing protocol. Tune in to channels 2, 4 or 7 for closing updates. When West Seneca closes, you'll see that Fourteen Holy Helpers School is also closed.

THE "24 HOUR" RULE

Respiratory infections and that nasty stomach bug are still going around, and this is just a reminder that no student is to return to school within 24 hours of a fever, vomiting or diarrhea. Please take that extra day to assure full healing and help stop the spread of illness!

PRE-K WISH LIST

Our Pre-K classroom is in need of an adult-sized rocking chair. If you have a “decommissioned” rocking chair at home that you’d be willing to donate, please give us a call at 674-1670. Thank you!

THE GROCERY RAFFLE IS HERE!

With only 1000 tickets being sold, your chances are greater than ever to win one of **fourteen** raffle prizes: gift cards to *TOPS, Wegmans or Market in the Square* – the choice is *yours*! Tickets may be purchased at the rectory and after Saturday and Sunday Masses. Hurry! The drawing will take place on January 21st at the SNOWBALL! ☺

BINGO UPDATES

Our Next BINGOs will take place on 1/5 (tonight) and 1/12. Please be sure to remember your Bingo commitments so that our sessions may run smoothly. Team 2 is scheduled on 1/5. Temporary workers are the Bojarski, Gibson, Keenan, Nowicki and Vallone families. Team 3 is scheduled on 1/12. Temporary workers are the Dempsey, Kij, McCarthy, Nowicki, Scudday and Zimniewicz families. If you have had to cancel working a bingo, please call Carol Winiarski at 668-3528 to reschedule. Those families who have not picked their 4 bingos as of yet should also give Carol a call. Many thanks to all our families who make this important fundraiser happen!

LOTTERY CALENDARS COMING HOME TODAY

Our first round of lottery calendars earned over \$5000 for Fourteen Holy Helpers School! The next round of lottery calendars is coming home today to anyone who has not yet purchased one. We hope that you’ll purchase or sell one and return the payment stub to Carol Winiarski c/o the office. Please return any unsold calendars, also. Thank you for your support!

CALL FOR BASKETS & BASKET MAKING

Many thanks to the Mulcaire family for hosting a SNOWBALL basket-making gathering on January 15th! We’ll be collecting baskets and cellophane building materials in the office until January 13th. If you can contribute time or materials, be sure to stop in and let us know!

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED IN LUNCH ROOM!

We are still in need of parent volunteers in the lunch room from 11:30 until 1:20 p.m. If you have committed to come -- or if you would like to come – please stop in and lend a hand. Many thanks!

A PLEA FROM EDP

Our colleagues in the EDP have asked that parents be vigilant in noting student activities throughout the week. As a matter of safety and appropriate staffing, it is important that we know when your child is in an activity and when he/she is expected at EDP. If you haven’t registered for EDP and your child checks in there, we will complete a registration form for you and ask that you sign on when you come to pick your child up. Thank you for your support!

CHRISTMAS THANKS

The final “word” this week is a resounding “THANK YOU” to our HSA, to our parents, to our students and to our colleagues for unsurpassed Christmas spirit and generosity! This has been a most joyous and blessed season, celebrated as a family – the family of Fourteen Holy Helpers! God bless us, everyone!

HAVE A BLESSED WEEKEND!