



By: Principal Roseanne L. Williby

Important Reminders for the Weeks Ahead

School Picture Day -Thursday, Sep 8 & Monday, Sept 12

Be sure to dress up to look your best for **School Picture Day**. Students may wear their favorite top with any uniform bottom rather than acquire a new outfit. Remember jeans and T-shirts are not allowed on this Dress-Up Day. Check below to plan for your special picture day!

- ⇒ Thursday, September 8-1st-8th graders, T/Th PreK and HiFivers
- ⇒ Monday September 12 –Kindergarten and MWF PreK

7th-Grade Student Courage Retreat-Tuesday, September 20

Youth Frontiers retreat is a dynamic mix of activities designed to have the greatest possible impact on our 7th grade students. Students will come in their uniform on this day and will be retreating in the GPC during regular school hours. The retreat is aimed at....

- ⇒ building community by breaking down social barriers and accepting people for who they are
- ⇒ helping students identify moments of choice, and act with courage in those moments, and
- ⇒ reducing incidents of bullying as students stand up for one another.

Parents are invited to watch a five-minute video that explains what the retreat day is about and offers parents questions to help them process the retreat experience with their kids at www.youthfrontiers.org/courageparentvideo/.

Week of Assessments: Standardized Achievement Testing and Writing Prompts

Beginning the week of September 19th, students in **grades 3, 5, and 7** will be administered the *Terra Nova* standardized achievement tests. These tests give teachers information that can be used to address student needs for the improvement of instruction. The results help teachers make judgments on the levels students have reached in meeting performance standards.

The 8th graders are given the ACT College Readiness test called the *Explore*, which is a baseline assessment to document if students are on track for college. This test empirically links test scores directly to learning standards, which describe what students are likely to know and be able to do. Teachers and counselors can use the standards to design and deliver instructional programs that will prepare students for success in college.

To ensure valid and equitable test results, certain essential guidelines will be followed. In addition to the Complete Battery of tests, the *In View* cognitive ability test is also given. **So that the test results may reflect most accurately your children's true ability, it is recommended that students get plenty of rest, eat breakfast, and limit evening activities.**

As part of our continuous plan for school improvement, **grades 2, 4, and 6** will be administered a writing prompt to generate baseline data for our goal to improve writing across the curriculum using the Six-Trait Writing Method. This will provide a means to measure comparing pre- and post- results, as to whether a difference has occurred as a result of our writing instruction. Special staff inservice was provided as the school year began and will be supported again in September to train our teachers and teacher assistants in this writing method. Many teachers will also attend additional off-site staff development. Poster reminders for the classrooms on Six-Trait best practices have been ordered. Our thanks go to our special dedicated teacher committee, who continue to meet to monitor progress of this important goal for the year.

Home and School Sets the Pace for the *Martyr Marathon*

Ready with cookies and water bazookas, the Home and School Association did an outstanding job of directing our students and staff to run the *Martyr Marathon* on Friday, September 2nd. The day was perfect to inspire all participants to give their best to rightfully earn the pledges of their supporters. Funds in excess of \$36,000 were collected. Many thanks to all!

Home and School is making ready now to take on the newest challenge by **US Cellular**. Be sure to review the flier included in this issue to find out how you can help to make a difference and win Art Education instructional materials for our school.

Gratefully yours,
Dr. Roseanne L. Williby, Principal

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Advertise With Us!

We Need You To Be #1-Box Top's For Education

Cook's Night Out

US Cellular Calling All Communities

Sky Hawk Cheer Sensation

3rd Annual 6th, 7th, & 8th Grade Fun Night with the Band and Color Guard

Kids Against Hunger—Help Needed in Outreach Ministry

Martyr Marathon Day



Kindergarten



Project HOPE



Throw a great tailgate party with Project HOPE! Pick up all the supplies you need to kick-off football season in style.

Project HOPE offers gift cards for Wal-mart, Sam's Club, Costco, Target, Hy-Vee, Bag 'n Save, SuperSaver and Baker's.

Watching the game from the comfort of your family room? Order a pizza so you don't miss a minute of the action. We carry Pizza Hut, Godfather's and Papa Murphy's gift cards, too. Make it a family tradition to stop by the Project HOPE table weekly following mass or send a Project HOPE order form to school with your child on Monday morning. If we all work together, we can do great things in our parish and our community.

SAVE YOUR HYVEE RECEIPTS!!!!

Sept 1, 2011 through Dec 31, 2011 is the HyVee Receipt Program. Save your HyVee receipts and turn into SSM school! HyVee will pay SSM \$1.00 for every \$200.00 spent (up to \$2,000.00)! Please turn in **ALL** HyVee receipts (small or large) dated 9-1-11 through 12-31-11 from any Omaha or Council Bluffs location. Please send to school with your child or drop off in HyVee Receipts box outside the school office. Receipts can be from any of the following HyVee purchases:

- Groceries
- Gas
- Photo
- Pharmacy
- HyVee Resturant
- Movies
- Flowers
- Starbucks inside HyVee

Thank you!!! We appreciate all your support! Let's make 2011 the year to reach our goal of \$2,000.00!!!!!!!!!!!!

Questions: contact Cori Ward at 896-2263 - jeward3@cox.net or Kami Shalhoob at 894-1433 - kshalhoob@gmail.com

Sports Club Information-Basketball

Registration for basketball for all 5th -8th grade boys and girls has been extended through Sept 11th . If you are interested in joining a team please contact Mike Foster or Mike Litz.

8th Grade Spikefest

The 8th grade volleyball tournament is coming soon. The dates are Sept. 16th, 17th and 18th at the courts . If you can volunteer a few hours, they would sincerely appreciate your support

Parking Lot Drop-Off and Pick-Up

Each year we send out a reminder in regard to safety and procedural for our students. Dropping off and picking up over 850 students in a day is an adventure. We would like to ensure that all students and younger siblings get into school on time and are able to locate their ride after school as well.

Morning - the first level on the north side is a drive-through and let-out lane.

Need to park to let your children out: use the second and third levels

Afternoon - safety concern with children running and not watching

We would like to maintain a safe environment, so please use the areas where we have safety patrols to cross! If we all work together, we can continue to make this a safe environment for ALL.

2nd Grade Sacrament Important Dates!!

First Reconciliation Parent Meeting: Sun., Oct. 9th at 7:30 in the Dining Room

First Reconciliation:

2A- Mon., Dec. 5th at 7 pm

2B and 2C- Tues., Dec. 6th at 7 pm

First Communion Parent Meeting:

Sun., Jan. 22nd at 7:30 pm in the Dining Room

First Holy Communion:

Sun., April 22nd

2A- 9 am Mass

2B- 12 pm Mass

2C- 3 pm Mass

First Communion Rehearsals

2A- Thurs., April 19th at 7:30 pm

2B- Fri., April 20th 6:30 pm

2C- Fri., April 20 at 7:30 pm

Advertise With Us!

The St. Stephen the Martyr School Buzz Book is the perfect place to advertise your business. The St. Stephens Buzz Book reaches over 400 families and is a great way to gain exposure in your area. Many SSM parents keep one copy at home and another with them in the car! Sponsoring an ad is 100% tax deductible.

Your feature in the St. Stephens Buzz Book will be a business card size advertisement. This is a great way to reach families close to you!

Company Name: _____
Company Address: _____
Company Phone: _____
Contact Name: _____

\$50.00 donation, Make checks payable to SSM Home and School
Please email your logo or business card layout before September 8th
to Patty Brown - lpbrown95@cox.net

Proceeds from this fundraiser go to the SSM Home and School 2011 Martyr Marathon



WE NEED YOU TO BE #1!



Please help St. Stephen's continue to be the #1 school in Nebraska for Box Top collections! Yes...that's right...#1!

Last year our school earned \$7,000 from the General Mills Box Top program. We need your help to get there again this year. Our goal for the 2011-12 school year is \$7,500!

Please continue to clip and drop off Box Tops to your child's classroom every month. They not only help the teachers, but also help the children earn free dress days!



COOK'S NIGHT OUT!



Tuesday, September 20th
5-8 p.m.

Where: *Godfather's Pizza near 168th and Center*
This location is now a Carry Out/Delivery restaurant ONLY

Use the coupon below and our school will receive 20% of what you pay! (Also, cut out the fedora hat on each Medium/Large pizza box and send to SSM (school receives 25 cents for each all year long).

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



St. Stephen the Martyr Coupon COOK'S NIGHT OUT!

- When you use this coupon, 20% goes back to St. Stephen the Martyr School (please hand to cashier or delivery driver).
- Coupon good Tuesday, September 20, from 5-8 p.m.
- Only at the 168th and Center St. Godfather's Pizza location

Call 402-758-9200 to order!

U.S. Cellular Calling All Communities

Help Us Win This Year!!!!

\$\$\$\$\$ for Art Education Enhancement/Department

- ✓ The school with the most votes will win \$150,000 and the next 17 schools with the most votes will each win \$50,000.
- ✓ Rally your family, friends and community to vote for St. Stephen the Martyr School!

Voting is Easier!!!!

- ✓ THIS Friday, September 9th is the FIRST day to VOTE!!!
 - ① Get your card early so you can vote every day!
- ✓ Go to your local U.S. Cellular® store to get your voting code
 - ① **U.S. Cellular Omaha - Lakeside Plaza**, 17392 W Center Rd
- ✓ Visit uscellular.com to enter your code and vote
- ✓ Vote once daily for your St. Stephen the Martyr School until October 6th
 - ① Only one code needed per person.....you can vote once per day with the same card!!!!
 - ① Friends and relatives need to only stop once to get a card, but can vote every day for our school!!!
 - ① Only 1 month for voting this year

SkyHawk Cheer Sensation

CHEER FOR THE SKYHAWKS

Clinic for Kindergarten through 8th Graders
Sponsored by the Skutt Catholic Cheerleaders
Friday, September 16th, 2011

Registration 3:30-4:00pm

Clinic: 4:00 p.m. thru the half-time performance at the Football game
Skutt Catholic High School
3131 So. 156th Street

Cost: \$35.00, two or more siblings \$30 each.

Clinic price includes:

T-shirt, fun theme stuff, Pizza, drink, dessert &

Family admission to the game

Complete registration form below with checks payable to SC Cheer and mail to:
Denise Kolkman at 18058 Leavenworth St., Elkhorn, 68022. Questions? Call Denise at
402-359-1630 or email at dkolkman@cox.net

You will receive an email confirmation with additional information.

You won't want to miss this "Cheer for the SkyHawks" performance!

X Cut Here - - - - - *Save information above*

Participant: _____ Phone: _____ Grade _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Parents Names: _____ School: _____

Email address: _____

Souvenir SkyHawk Bracelet (\$7.00) - yes, order _____ for my cheerleader!!

T-shirt size (circle one) Youth Sm Youth Med Youth Lg Adult Sm Adult Med Adult Lg
(6-8) (10-12) (14-16)

Please put me in the same group with: _____

Call your friends today - get a group together!

Phone numbers we can contact you at in case of an emergency: _____

Any dietary or medical information we should know about? _____

Please register by September 4th to insure proper T-shirt size. See you soon!



3RD ANNUAL 6TH, 7TH & 8TH GRADE FUN NIGHT WITH THE BAND & COLOR GUARD

QUESTIONS CONTACT:
 Joe Homan
 Band Director
 402-333-0818
 jahoman@schools.archomaha.org
 Skutt Catholic High School
 3131 South 150th Street
 Omaha, NE 68130-1700
 www.skuttcatholic.com

**Time: 4:30pm
until after the
football game**

\$15

T-Shirt & Fun Band STUFF

Food

Drinks, Dessert &

Family Admission to
the 7pm Skutt vs. NE City game

Date: Friday, September 23, 2011

Drop your child off on the south side of the school next to the football field between 4:30pm—5:00pm and we will lead them to the band room to register for our door prizes and meet with Mr. Homan for a pre-game rehearsal. *Because of Angel Flight decorating we can not enter the building through the front doors.* Meet the Skutt Band and Color Guard and eat with us at 5:30pm. Families are welcome to hangout and join us to eat in the media center.

SCHEDULE	
Time	Event
4 : 3 0 P M	MEET IN BAND ROOM
6 : 0 0 P M	EAT TOGETHER
6 : 3 0 P M	PERFORM WITH BAND & CG

Complete registration form and mail with checks payable to SC Band by 09/21 to: Amy Beran, 15960 Ames Avenue, Omaha, NE 68116



Student Name

Parent's Names

Address

Phone

Email Address

School, Grade and Instrument

Student T-Shirt Order Information **QTY**

Adult Small _____

Adult Medium _____

Adult Large _____

Youth XL _____

Youth Large _____

Adult XXL & 3XL _____

Additional Shirts can be ordered for \$10

EMERGENCY CONTACT AND PHONE

Please RSVP by September 21st _____ Number of people eating

Kids Against Hunger®

Omaha Kids Against Hunger is a non profit humanitarian organization that works with the community in the Omaha and surrounding areas to engage volunteers in a hands on service activity that benefits families around the corner and around the world.

Office address: 20940 Dutch Hall Road, Bennington NE 68007
 Warehouse location: 13409 I Circle, Omaha NE – Phone: 402-213-1718
 Email: kah@omahakah.com Omaha Website: www.omahakah.com
 Kids Against Hunger Omaha is a satellite of Kids Against Hunger International
www.kidsagainsthunger.org



**25
cents**

= 1 meal

**1 bag =
6 meals**



**1 box = 216 meals which
will feed a child in a third
world country for
6 months
1 box = \$54.00**



HUNGRY KIDS NEED YOUR HELP

Join in our parish outreach project in conjunction with our Parish Mission. Visit the website—www.kidsagainsthunger.org.

GOAL: Package 20,000 meals at 25 cents per meal = \$5,000.00

OCTOBER 1-2: Opportunity after all Masses to make a donation and sign up to assist with packaging the meals.

OCTOBER 13: Send \$2500.00 to KAH to begin purchasing the food.

NOVEMBER 13: Deliver the remaining \$2500.00 to KAH for food.

NOVEMBER 13: Package the meals at 13409 I Circle in Omaha. Need 40 people from 1:00—3:00 PM and 40 people from 3:00—5:00 PM. Great family event—children as young as five years old can participate.

MAKE A DONATION NOW:

Checks payable to **KIDS AGAINST HUNGER**. Drop off in the Parish Office or GPC.