

March 13, 2008 “And by His stripes, we are healed.....” Isaiah 53:5

## PRINCIPAL'S PRATTLE FOR PARENTS



### Dear Families and Friends of Notre Dame,

I have finally realized a goal that has eluded me for months. I tried to put a newsletter together several times since I became principal, however the publishing software is not publisher friendly. After several frustrating attempts, I just gave up hoping that sooner or later a parent with a gift for such endeavors would come along and format my writing into a publication worthy of a Pulitzer or something. But alas, while I have been blessed with many parents who possess a sundry of talents and expertise, apparently none seem to be into publishing (they may know what I have recently discovered—publishing software... yadayadayada...). So after much consideration and consternation, a thought came to me. I decided to just drop several “text boxes” on a page and write in them. Admittedly, this method is not very sophisticated, but it gets the job done. And at last, I have a newsletter which I intend to make a monthly event. So read and enjoy and see you again in April.

### Thank You Coach Angelo!!!

Notre Dame wants to thank Mr. Angelo for his hard work as volunteer Athletic Director and coach this past year. Mr. Angelo resigned from his position of AD at the close of the Basketball Season to pursue a new opportunity at his job. Mr. Angelo undertook a challenging task as he worked to schedule games, engage coaches, and put together a sports program of which we can be proud.

The children had a wonderful season as a result of his dedicated support. We wish him well and again we want to thank him for all he has done for our children. Mr. Angelo will continue to coach our JV Girls Basketball Team for the 08-09 season. Mr. Angelo, we wish you many blessings in your future pursuits.

### Thank You Mr. Occhiolini

Mr. Occhiolini has been a silent partner to Notre Dame for the past 15 years as our maintenance coordinator. Even after his last child left our school four years ago, he continued to serve the school. Whether it was a plumbing problem, a leak, a heating problem or any other issue, Notre Dame could call upon Mr. Occhiolini and he would call someone to fix it for a reasonable price, pay someone himself to have it fixed, or fix it himself thus saving us thousands of dollars over the years.

Mr. Occhiolini has finally decided to pass the baton to another parent who will continue to maintain the school. Mr. Occhiolini is stepping down and taking a well earned respite. We want to thank him from the bottom of our hearts for his generosity and dedication to Notre Dame School. We are grateful for all he has done.

**The Promise of Easter** --- Our circadian clock associates Easter with the warm sun of spring, colorful tulips, the happy sounds of the robin's chortle, and the beauty of the fluffy blossoms of the fruit trees. However it is a bit difficult to feel the hope of spring or the promise of Easter with a chill in the air and bare trees. We find that every year we simply have to trust or have faith that after the cold bleak winter, spring is just around the corner and that soon life will be new again.

And so we find it is with Easter. After a Lenten season of repentance and denial, our liturgical winter, we rely on our faith and trust believing that life will be new again in the Resurrected Christ. During Holy Week we take a journey with Christ as he restores the hope of eternal life through His death and by His Resurrection. We follow him as he dines with the Apostles at the Mass of the Last Supper on Holy Thursday. We are saddened as we contemplate Christ's crucifixion during the Good Friday service. And ultimately we rejoice at His conquering death at the Mass of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

“By His stripes we are healed...” or made new in Christ. This is God's promise to us...the reason He permitted His only Son to suffer and die fulfilling the promise that has given us eternal life. It is God's promise of renewal and healing that we celebrate each Easter. It is the promise of our faith. Happy Easter!!!!

# PRINCIPAL'S PRATTLE FOR PARENTS

## Welcome Mr. Francis

Mr. Francis has volunteered for the job of Athletic Director. We are grateful to have him on board and thank him for volunteering for this job. I know he has many ideas for the coming school year while we continue to work to make the NDRS sports program the best in the area.

## Welcome Mr. Hagerty

Mr. Hagerty has taken the place of Mr. Occhiolini as our Building and Grounds Coordinator. He is volunteering his time to ensure that our school facilities and the grounds remain in good repair and Notre Dame is grateful for his help. Thank You!!

## Proposed Sports Activities

### Spring 2008

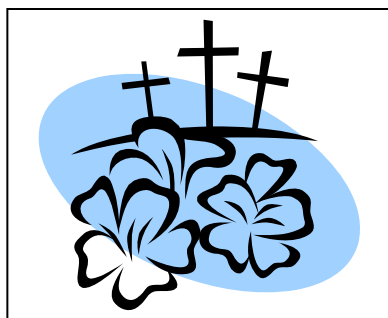
Lacrosse  
Baseball  
Softball

### Fall 2008

Volley Ball  
Soccer  
Basketball  
K-8 Cheerleading

### Bishop Schad League

Spring Track  
Winter Wrestling



## Bingo Update

The response to the changes in our Bingo Program has been positive. Several families have chosen to opt-out while other families have chosen to work their four bingos or even work more hours. We are listening to you and your ideas as we work to make things better for our school and our families. In response to your concerns about working every bingo from 4 to 11 pm, we are trying to see if we have enough coverage before we make any changes to that schedule. We **may** be able to split shifts, but we will not know for sure until we have all the forms returned to the school.

Thank you for your response to this important fund raiser. We cannot survive without the \$80,000 that bingo brings to the school and we can not do this without YOU!!!

## Science Program Improvements

We are updating our science program this year with new books and materials. Currently we are planning to fund book replacements for the upper school, but if funds permit we will purchase enough books and materials for the entire school.

Future plans include moving the science lab into Mrs. Carrow's classroom, purchasing new tables, and installing a sink in the classroom. We are also moving to include more hands-on activities at all grade levels.

Our Golf Tournament funds have been dedicated to the improvement of our science program. And several families and individuals have inquired about the costs of the new program and the needs. When we finalize our purchases, I will forward you a list of our needs and our wishes in the event you would like to contribute to this endeavor. In the meantime, please encourage the golfers in your life to join the tournament for \$100 on Friday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. Not only will this promise to be a fun day, but the revenue will help our school grow.

## Sports Fields Donated by Pierson Family

We are working closely with Mr. Pierson, a parent, to plan the construction of a baseball field which he has volunteered to construct. Mr. Haggerty has developed a site plan for us which we will be reviewing in the near future with Mr. Pierson and Mr. Francis. There will be more information as the plans are finalized.

A BIG THANKS to ALL for working together to make this happen for our School.