

# ST. GREGORY THE GREAT!

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

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**WE GATHER TOGETHER:** Thanksgiving is an occasion to express heart-felt gratitude towards Almighty God for His favors and all the joy and happiness we experience in life. You have injected life with joy, thus we know laughter. You have dabbed creation with color, thus we enjoy beauty. You have whistled a divine tune into the rhythm of life, thus we hear music. You have filled our minds with questions, thus we appreciate mystery. You have entered our hearts with compassion, thus we experience faith. Thank You Lord, for the amazing gifts you bestow on us each day.

We, the faculty and staff, join in prayer to God, who is our source of life and our hope for eternity, for peace, joy and abundance of His blessings for you and your family on this Thanksgiving Day!

**STUDENT COUNCIL GIVING TREE:** The Student Council of St. Gregory the Great School, in cooperation with the parish Women's Guild, is sponsoring the "Giving Tree" from Sunday, November 29 through Friday, December 11, 2009. This year, due to the economic conditions of the times, The Fatima Center has asked us to collect children's clothing, such as gloves, hats, scarves, and pajamas, rather than toys. Labels will be available to indicate whether the gift is appropriate for a boy or a girl, along with the size of the item. Because we are hoping to meet a wide range of needs, we are asking that gifts for infants be purchased by pre-school and kindergarten families; toddler gifts be purchased by those in primary; garments for grade school aged children be purchased by families whose own children are in the intermediate grades; and teen items be purchased by St. Greg's families whose own children are in junior high.

If you choose to help with this project, please bring your unwrapped or wrapped items to your child's homeroom. If you choose to wrap your item, please write the size or attach a label indicating the size to the outside of the package. All donations should be brought in by Friday, December 11, at which time we will bring them all to the Giving Tree in the church. Everything donated will help to bring Christmas to those who are less fortunate.

AS ALWAYS, WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SPIRIT, ESPECIALLY AT CHRISTMAS TIME!

**MUSICAL NOTES...** To parents of students in Grades 2 and 4: The December 10<sup>th</sup> Christmas Concert is quickly approaching. Please assist your children in memorizing the words to songs and speaking parts. The concert is on Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00AM and 7:00PM. Attire is red or green solid shirts/blouses, khaki pants, and gym shoes. This is a required performance for all students in Grades 2 and 4. Parents are asked to please contact coaches and/or extracurricular teachers to clear this date for the performance. Your assistance is appreciated. Please contact Mrs. Freas or your child's classroom teacher if you have any questions.

Also, we are in need of lighted reindeer for the stage decorations. If anyone has one or two we could use for the set design, they would be returned after the concert for your own holiday displays. Please contact Mrs. Freas or your child's classroom teacher.



## Breakfast with Santa

PRESCHOOL THROUGH GRADE 2 AND FAMILIES  
Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>/Cafeteria doors open at 8:45AM  
Continental Breakfast and Activities from 9AM-11AM  
\$5.00 Per-person (Children under 2 are free)

Please return this invitation by Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> with your check payable to St. Greg's PTC. Questions call Denise Pease at (216) 299-0010.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ # OF ADULTS \_\_\_\_\_

# OF CHILDREN \_\_\_\_\_ # OF CHILDREN UNDER TWO \_\_\_\_\_

**Please bring your camera.**

Santa and Mrs. Claus will be available for pictures.

‘HOME OF THE JAGUARS’ NOVEMBER 23, 2009



**The Twinkle Shop** will be held Wednesday, December 2nd and Thursday, December 3rd in the Church Hall. The Twinkle Shop, a wonderful St. Gregory the Great tradition, provides the children with an opportunity to purchase gifts for family members, friends, pets and loved ones. All the items are priced between \$1 and \$9. This is not a fundraiser; it is simply a way for the children to think of others during this wonderful season. An envelope with further details and your child(ren)'s shopping date and time will be coming home soon.

We are looking for volunteers to help make the Twinkle Shop a success. If you are interested in helping with the set up, class shopping days or the clean up, please call Carol Sisson at (216) 381-9317 or Rhea Evans at (216) 297-1428. Thank you!

**STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS:** We asked you to open your hearts and cupboards to help us with our Thanksgiving food drive and you surpassed our expectations. Student Council thanks everyone for their generosity in helping to make our food drive such an overwhelming success. We wish all our St. Gregory families a blessed and happy Thanksgiving.

**ATTENTION ANYONE INTERESTED IN SKI CLUB IN GRADES 4-8**

To date, we only have about eight students who have turned in their forms for Ski Club. We are trying to get a good estimate of participants BEFORE the due date for the fee, which is December 11<sup>th</sup>. If we do not have at least 30 participants, we may need to cancel for the season. PLEASE turn in your forms by TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24<sup>th</sup> to Miss Vercellino. Thank you very much for your cooperation!

\*\*Also, if there are any 4<sup>th</sup> graders interested in Ski Club, we have room. Information is available online at [www.stgregoryonline.org](http://www.stgregoryonline.org), under the Student Life tab. See Mrs. Hanus for the Brandywine registration in interested.

**Destination  
BOOK FAIR**

Read around the world... Destination Book Fair was this year's theme. The students decorated the library in places to go and things to travel in. Flags, passports, hot air balloons and a replica of the Statue of Liberty were just a few of the decorations they created in the library.

The students were then issued a challenge. Purchase 450 books at this year's book fair and Mrs. Hart (a real Cleveland sports fan) would have to wear a Yankees uniform to school...500 books and she would also don a Stealers hat. THANK YOU... to all the students and parents who purchased books at the fair! Not only did we meet this goal, we beat the goal by 200 books. Our sales topped \$4000.00! \$300.00 will go towards the purchase of books for classroom libraries. Profits of over \$1500.00 will provide new books for our library shelves as well. In addition, we collected \$120.00 dollars in our One-4-Books campaign and Scholastic will donate 120 books to *Children in Distressed Situations* in our name. A huge thank you to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade set-up and tear-down committees who did a great job!! Another thank you to our parent volunteers Deanne Hurley and Ellie Kohl.

**EDUCATION STIMULUS PLAN:** Benedictine High School introduces three new tuition and transportation initiatives:

- The Catholic School/Parish Grant- \$1000.00 granted to five or more freshman students from the same parish who enroll at Benedictine for the 2010-2011 school year. A \$1000.00 grant awarded to students who have a parent employed full time in a Cleveland Diocese school or parish.
- Brother Legacy Grant - \$1000.00 discount granted to each brother enrolled at Benedictine High School.
- Transportation Discount – A \$200.00 transportation discount to five or more students who are picked up at the same transportation location beginning 2010-2011.

For questions please call Mr. Kieran Patton at (216) 421-2080 ext. 356.

**EAT HEALTHY...GET ACTIVE...** a new youth program sponsored by the National Dairy Council and the National Football League designed to empower students to take action for their health and improve their school environment. All you have to do is eat healthy and play at least sixty minutes a day participating in fun activities in and out of school. Please check out this website for more information [fueluptoplay60.com](http://fueluptoplay60.com).

**Parents...**check out the following website to help engage your child/children in their academics and be rewarded for their hard work...[www.indians.com/highachievers](http://www.indians.com/highachievers). It is free to sign up. This is sponsored by Key Bank and the Cleveland Indians.