

**Get to Know Your 2009/10 PTO Board!
What can we do for YOU?**

Co-Presidents:

Sangita Bone - Husband David, child Andrew (2nd grade).

Michelle Zerhusen - Husband Mark, children Megan (1st grade) and Mason.

Co-Vice Presidents:

Rose Curnutte - Husband Spencer, children Jack (3rd grade), Nick (2nd grade) and Gracie.

Charlotte Henry - Husband Jason, children Cade (3rd grade), Andrew (HS Senior) and Danielle (college Senior).

Secretaries:

Sue Karwisch - Husband Mike, children Mollie (kindergarten) and Andrew.

Jen Watkins - Husband Jason, children Sydney (2nd grade) and Ethan.

Treasurer:

Carrie Bear - Husband Ron, child Joey (kindergarten).

Membership:

Linda Threm - Husband Bob, children Emily (7th grade), Megan (4th grade), Andy and Mike (1st grade).

Chris Roettker - Husband Joe, children Meggie (8th grade), Timmy (1st grade) and Sarah (HS Freshman).

Co-Advisors:

Kathy McNally - Husband John, children John (7th grade), Shane (4th grade), Kiley and Abaigeal (kindergarten).

Denise Greene - Husband Bill, children Taylor (5th grade) and Christopher (HS Freshman).

Teacher Representatives: Donna Hayes and Shannon Peters

Principal: Rick Harrmann

2009/10 Committee Chairs

Blue Jay Pride Award Treats: Lori Bollin & Susan Porter

Breakfast in Bethlehem: Janet Lees

Box Tops/Playground: Suzi Roth & Shannon Meyer

Carnival: Candy Moore

Casserole Committee: Lori Bollin

Catholic Schools Week: Jennifer Hollstegge & Pam McLaughlin

Dance Program: Angie Dodd

Everybody Counts: Diann Fischesser & Amy Mallory

Field Day: Stephanie Stegmuller & Suzi Roth

Grandparents/Special Persons Day: Michelle Burke & MJ Speed

Santa Shop: Cathy Dreyer & Anne Johns

Spring Fling: Lisa Hillman & Jena Richter

St. John's Walk-A-Thon: Meredith Milbourn & Angie Naylor

Surveys: Donna Murphy

Uniform Exchange: Ellen Smith

Please contact any member of the PTO Board if you would like to become a committee chair.

Upcoming Events

Box Tops/Playground Equipment - Jan. 7

Keep turning in any Box Tops, Campbell's Soup labels, and Tyson labels to school. Due to the weather, this month's counting date was cancelled. The next counting and cutting date is **Tuesday, March 2nd, 2010 starting at 7:45 a.m.** in the Parent Resource Room. All volunteers are welcomed and appreciated! Bring your scissors!

This is Suzi and Shannon's last year as the chairs for this important program. They would love to pass on their expertise to next year's chairperson by working with them during the rest of this school year. If you are interested, please contact Sangita Bone 742-9686 or Michelle Zerhusen 923-2308.

PTO Membership

Membership dues allow PTO to do so much for our school, including the Christmas program, teacher appreciation lunches, ice cream treats for Blue Jay Pride awards, Catholic Schools Week events, Special Persons Day, 8th grade trips, 2 high school scholarships, and much more!

This year it was difficult to see the PTO membership dues on the fee sheet. If you have not yet submitted your membership fee, there is still time! In addition to all the wonderful things PTO provides for the school, we also provide you a student directory and handy PTO notepads.

Also, please remember that in order for 8th graders to be eligible for PTO high school scholarships (1 boy and 1 girl), your family must be a member.

Send your \$10 membership fee to school attn: Linda Threm/Chris Roettker- PTO.

PTO General Membership Meeting - Jan. 21

We will welcome guest speaker Ramona Toussaint, Director of Community Outreach with the Langford Learning Center. She will present "What Parents Should Know About Reading and Comprehension." Her presentation will guide us in raising successful readers.

Entertainment will be provided by our 4th grade recorder band! Please join us in the cafeteria at 7 pm.

Catholic Schools Week - Feb. 1-5

We would like to thank Jennifer Hollstegge and Pam McLaughlin for volunteering to co-chair Catholic Schools Week and helping us to celebrate the gift we have in St. John the Baptist School.

Open House will be Thursday, February 4. PTO is looking into offering fingerprinting onsite during Open House for school/sports volunteers who need to be fingerprinted to comply with the Archdiocesan Child Protection Program. Please look for more information in the coming weeks.

Upcoming Events (continued)

Spring Fling March 26-28, 2010

The city life is calling...Chicago here we come!!! Spring Fling is a ladies only, kid free weekend that raises money for PTO and lets you get away! This year nearly 300 ladies will be staying within walking distance to Michigan Avenue and the Chicago waterfront, and we are making shows and tours available at group prices. It's a guaranteed good time!

As always, we are looking for some donations for prizes, bus snacks, etc. If you are able to donate a prize or make a monetary donation, please contact Jena Richter 851-5752 or Lisa Hillman 741-4943. Thanks for your generosity.

Past Events

Boo-Hoo/Yee-Haw Breakfast

PTO provided a breakfast at the athletic shelter on the first day of school to welcome new school parents and kindergarten parents. Thanks to all who attended and helped with this event!

Bully Proofing Workshop-Jim Bisenius

Parents learned what dynamics create bully and victim behaviors. They were taught practical techniques to use at home to help their children not to become and/or remain a member of the victimized group.

ST. John's Walk-A-Thon

Despite the rain, the students enjoyed a very successful Walk-A-Thon INDOORS this year. Their hard work and the creativity of event co-chairs Meredith Milbourn and Angie Naylor raised nearly \$9000.

PTO Fall Carnival

Children and their families had a great time with the games, prizes, basket raffles, and food. Thanks to Candy Moore for organizing such a fun event!

Breakfast in Bethlehem

Thanks to Janet Lees for creating a memorable morning beginning with a prayer service, then breakfast, activities, and crafts in the cafeteria. What a great way to start out the holiday season!

Santa Shop

Chairs Cathy Dreyer and Anne Johns and their team of elves created a wonderful Christmas "shop" for our children to find that special gift for their family and friends! Thanks to Cathy, Anne, and all the volunteers who provided this opportunity for the kids.

Past Events (continued)

Blue Jay Pride Ice Cream Treats

Treats were given out to all students K-2 and students in grades 3-8 who received a Blue Jay Pride Award for 1st Quarter. Thanks to Lori Bollin and Susan Porter for organizing the treats!

Teacher Appreciation Christmas Luncheon

PTO Board members provided a simple lunch for the faculty members and volunteered to watch the students in the cafeteria so the teachers could enjoy their lunch.

Did you know...

Research shows that when parents are involved in their children's education, good things happen including:

- ❖ Increase in grades
- ❖ Higher tests scores
- ❖ Improved behavior

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the PTO this year. Our many volunteers allow us to accomplish great things. We should all be proud of our efforts and thankful to be a part of St. John the Baptist School!!

Miscellaneous Information

Uniform Exchange

It's time to clean out your closets of any gently used uniform items. Drop them off anytime during school hours. The uniform exchange is located in the Parent Resource Room around the corner from the school office. This is a **free service** so please help yourself!

PTO Library

The newly established PTO library is located in the Parent Resource Center by the lost and found and offers information from past PTO speakers and workshop presentations. If you are interested in borrowing materials from the library, please contact Sue Karwisch 923-3283 or Jen Watkins 522-4190.

We're on the Web!

www.stjohnbluejays.org

Find PTO information under the Parents section

*A Happy and Healthy
2010 to All!!*