



# Presentation of Mary Academy December 2006 Newsletter

182 Lowell Road Hudson, NH 03051

Visit us on the website.

www.pmaschool.org

## A Message from Sister Maria's Desk

### A Holy and Joyous Advent to All!

There is a certain magic to this most welcome season. It cannot be described and cannot be escaped.

Preparing our hearts for the Christmas Moment has the power to warm hearts, make troubles seem less important, and make bitterness disappear. It can turn a hard-hearted person into a silent Santa.

The magic puts a sparkle in children's eyes and puts a touch of beauty where none existed before.

Christmas knows no boundaries. Its legends and customs have come to us from the far corners of the Earth, and every year its holy touch brings people closer together. Can we even doubt for a moment that truly—**JESUS is the HEART** of Christmas.

The magic of Christmas has lasted through nearly twenty centuries. The message of Christmas, "Peace on Earth, good will toward men," is as powerful as though it had just been written. These words, sung by angels on the first Christmas Eve, mean more than an end to conflict between nations. They mean that true peace of mind starts with the individual. Their intent is to make the world a more peaceful place. Let us continue to pray for an end to war, peace in our hearts and home,

May we all have a wonderful, God-filled Advent season. May peace, love, joy, and charity fill our hearts and homes.

Advent Peace,

Sister Maria Rosa, p.m.



### *I BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW ...*

"It is fitting that the feast of St. Nicholas comes at the beginning of Advent and the beginning of the shopper's season. As the patron saint of shoppers he proclaims, 'Keep it simple!' Keep it simple enough to fit in a shoe or a stocking.

One gift that could fit in a... shoe, or in a stocking hanging on the fireplace, is a note that speaks of one of our most precious gifts, the gift of time. Such a St. Nicholas note might read: 'The gift I give to you is half an hour of quality conversation each night right after the dishes are done.' Or, 'The gift I give to you is one Saturday a month to be with you and do whatever you want to do.' We can appreciate the value of such a gift if we keep in mind that according to a recent survey, the average married couple in America has only 30 minutes a week of communication outside of exchanges that take place at the dinner table, and between parent and child is only 14 minutes. As you can see, the possibilities are almost unlimited for these St. Nicholas shoe gifts.

Come, St. Nicholas, patron of shoppers and gift-seekers, and make Christmas this year fun, creative and love.

Edward Hays,  
*A Pilgrim's Almanac* (adapted)

### Tuesday, January 2, 2007

Classes Resume at Presentation of Mary Academy

### REGISTRATION FORMS

Registration Forms Due on January 2, 2007

### Catholic School Week 2007

January 29 - February 2

### Please Save

- ◆ Box Tops for Education
- ◆ Campbell Soup Labels
- ◆ Used Printer Cartridges (see pg. 4 for more details)
- ◆ Old/Used Cell Phones

### NEW

- ◆ CAPS FROM ALUMINUM CANS



## Calendar of Events for December 2006—Mark Your Calendars!

### November 27– December 1st.

#### **BOOK FAIR:**

For your shopping convenience, the Scholastic Book Fair will be open during Parent/Teacher Conference Day from 9am to 6pm! Do your Christmas shopping early—books make great Christmas gifts! Family Night is on Tuesday, November 28th from 2:00pm to 6:00pm.

### **Wednesday, November 29:**

No School—Parent Teacher Conferences during the day and evening hours. More information to come home through your child's teacher. Conference Hours: 9:00 A.M.—12:00 P.M.  
1:00 P.M.—4:00 P.M.  
6:00 P.M.—7:30 P.M.

### **Wednesday, December 6:**

PMA Faculty Meeting -  
3:00 - 4:30 P.M.

### **Wednesday, December 6:**

Parent Group meeting in the cafeteria at 7:00 P.M. All welcome to attend.

**Feast of Saint Nicholas:** In honor of this great Saint, the Parent Group will be treating all the students to a FREE PIZZA LUNCH on Wednesday, December 6. All students will receive one slice of pizza. For those with a bigger appetite, please pack some extra snacks.

### **Friday, December 8:**

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception—we will celebrate Mass at 10:00 A.M. for students in grades 4-8, and at 1:00 P.M. for students in grades 1-3. All parents welcomed.

### **Wednesday, December 13**

#### **Progress Reports :**

All the students will receive their progress reports on December 13th. Please remember that this is a progress report and is not THE QUARTERLY REPORT CARD. The progress report reflects 5 weeks of school work since the last quarter ended. It serves to alert parents of a child's steady progress or the need for improvement while there is time.

A special request regarding report cards and progress reports: Parents, please refrain from filing complaints and concerns about your child's report card with the Principal before addressing the concerns with the classroom teacher. Your child's teacher is the best resource person for addressing questions or issues regarding your child's academic progress. A conference with the Principal is most appropriate when after meeting with the teacher you still have concerns regarding your child's progress.

### **Thursday, December 14**

#### **7:00 – 8:00 P.M. -Advent Concert**

The Select Choir and members of the Flute Ensemble will perform a series of Advent and Christmas songs for all parents and students in the PMA Chapel at 7:00 P.M. Choir and flute participants should report directly to the music room at 6:45 P.M. on December 14.

### **Friday, December 15:**

Induction Ceremony for Student Council and Class Representatives

### **Friday, December 15:**

All Lottery calendar ticket stubs and money are due in the school office. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you need more calendars! Help us to reach our goal of \$10,000. The money raised through this fundraiser will help us to purchase laptops for our teachers.

Remember:

Top seller wins \$100 in cash!  
Second place winner \$50 in cash!  
Third place winner \$25 in cash!



at 8:15 A.M. in the Chapel. We invite all parents and students in grades 5-8 to a special ceremony to honor and acknowledge our new Student Council and Class Representatives.

### **A Reflection on the Meanings of Christmas ...**

*By Fr. Andrew Greeley*

"It might be easy to run away to a monastery, away from the commercialization, the hectic hustle, the demanding family responsibilities of Christmas-time. Then we would have a holy Christmas. But we would forget the lesson of the Incarnation, of the enfleshing of God—the lesson that we who are followers of Jesus do not run from the secular; rather we try to transform it. It is our mission to make holy the secular aspects of Christmas just as the early

# CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW MEMBERS OF THE PMA STUDENT COUNCIL

## Student Council

Student Council is open to students in grades 6 - 8. The Student Council provides an opportunity for students to develop leadership skills and promote school spirit. Students must maintain a C average academically and conduct and effort grades of 1 or 2 to be eligible to serve. Student Council Positions include:

### President: Cori Roach, Gr. 8

The president of the student body has the responsibility of overseeing all Student Council activities. The president conducts the meeting of the council and plans the agendas for the meetings with the Student Council Moderator. At assemblies, the president is in charge of leading the pledge.

### Vice President: Debora Pimentel, Gr. 7

The vice president serves in the absence of the president. Duties include being in charge of the representatives from each class and running elections.

### Secretary: Bethany Fitzgerald, Gr. 8

The secretary is to take roll call and record the minutes of the meeting. The minutes will be typed and passed out at the beginning of the next meeting to be reviewed and, if needed, amended.

### Treasurer: Jessica Rau, Gr. 8

The treasurer is to count and roll the money that Student Council earns. A financial record will also need to be kept and reports made at the student council meetings every other week on the balance of the account and/or how much money was made from each event.

### Recreation Chairperson: Kellcey Lesmerises, Gr. 7

This Chairperson is responsible for organizing student related activities, dances, out-reach programs.

### Publicity Chairperson: Catherine Sullivan, Gr. 8

This Chairperson is responsible for publicizing all events sponsored by Student Council including making Posters. The Chairperson of Publicity is also responsible for the tracking, charting and announcement of the school birthdays.

## Class Representatives

|     |              |     |                 |     |                |
|-----|--------------|-----|-----------------|-----|----------------|
| 6VB | Rachel LeBel | 7AM | Maureen Prestia | 8MD | Deanna Marion  |
| 6MZ | Olivia Crane | 7MD | Katelyn Guill   | 8TC | Ryan Christian |

Class Representatives represent their designated classrooms at the student council meetings by bringing any ideas, comments or questions to the meeting. Class representatives are also in charge of making announcements to their classes on information from the student council meetings. They also are responsible for notifying grade K - 5 classes about school-wide information.

## Student Council Coordinators:

Ms. Amy Kirschner , PMA Guidance Counselor and Mrs. Joan Metropolis, PMA Technology Director.

Please join us as we honor our student council representatives on Friday, December 15, at 8:15 A.M. in the Chapel.

## SHAW GIFT CARDS/ CERTIFICATES

Don't forget to PRE-PURCHASE your Shaw Dollars for the holidays and vacation week! Shaw Gift Cards make great gifts for family and friends during the holiday season.

## RESULTS OF COMPUTERS FOR TEACHERS DRESS DOWN DAY

|            |          |
|------------|----------|
| September: | \$652.00 |
| October:   | \$625.00 |
| November:  | \$626.00 |

## EIGHTH GRADE -

### HALLOWEEN BAKE SALE



RAISES \$400 for the poor children in Nairobi. Sister Cecile hand delivered the money to an orphanage during her visit to Nairobi.

## NEWS FROM THE PMA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION:

We recently received a donation from the PMA Alumni for \$2000 for our chair fund, and \$2000 for the financial assistance fund.

## AUDITORIUM CHAIR FUND:

To date we have raised \$5025.00 towards our chair fund. We still have many chairs available for sale.

Thank you for your support!

\* \* \* \* \*

THANK YOU! Girl Scout  
Troop 708 for the  
beautiful dogwood tree

***Lego League News:***

***Congratulations to our Lego League Teams for their performances at their recent competition. Mr. D's team placed first in the field of teamwork and moves onto the State level on December 2nd.***

***Mr. & Mrs. Skaluba's team was recognized as the Best Rookie team at their competition.***

***A very special thanks to our coaches .....***

***Mr. Desaulniers and Mr. & Mrs. Skaluba***

PMA receives cash for your used ink cartridges and old cell phones.

We can accept the following:

- ◆ Inkjet Cartridges
- ◆ Laser Cartridges
- ◆ Old / Used Cell phones

We **cannot** accept any ribbon cartridges or toner cartridges from copy machines.

For a complete listing of qualifying cartridges and cell phones visit the Funding Factory website at [www.fundingfactory.com](http://www.fundingfactory.com) and click on qualifying list

This holiday shopping season, another way you can help earn cash for PMA is to do your shopping online through [schoolpop.com](http://schoolpop.com). Schoolpop.com has over 500 merchants to choose from. Some of those merchants include Wal-Mart, Land's End, Barnes & Noble, Apple Ipods, Toys R Us, Discovery Store, Target and L.L. Bean. Each merchant has posted a certain percentage of your purchase which will be credited to PMA through Schoolpop.com.

You can also make your travel plans through [schoolpop.com](http://schoolpop.com). You can access Expedia, Priceline and Travelocity.

Remember to shop [Schoolpop.com](http://Schoolpop.com) all year long.



**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR  
INCLEMENT WEATHER  
SCHOOL CLOSINGS & DELAYS**



In the event we experience inclement weather and it is necessary to either delay the opening of school or cancel the school day, the information will be posted on WMUR - NH channel 9, or WZID - FM 95.7. Please remember to look and listen for the Presentation of Mary Academy. PMA is listed separately from the Hudson school system. You can also call the school holiday/closing line at (603) 889-6054 ext. 456.

\*\*\* New this year: School opening delays will be implemented when deemed appropriate. In the event that there is a delay, the **Before School Program will automatically be cancelled that morning.** The After school program will still be offered in the afternoon.

The following is the expected arrival times for students for the various delay opening times:

| <u>Delay</u> | <u>Gr. 6,7,8</u> | <u>Gr. 1-5</u> | <u>Kinder</u> |
|--------------|------------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1 hour       | 8:30am           | 8:50am         | 9:15am        |
| 90 Minute    | 9:00am           | 9:20am         | 9:45am        |
| 2 hour       | 9:30am           | 9:50am         | 10:15am       |

PLEASE SAVE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.

**REMINDERS**  
**Local Grocery**  
**Store Programs**

**HANNAFORD SCHOOL**  
**DOLLARS:**

Program ends December 2nd. Please be sure to send in your school dollar receipts by December 8th.

**STOP & SHOP**  
**BONUS BUCKS PROGRAM**

This program runs through April 5, 2007. If you have not registered your Stop & Shop Card yet, you can stop by the customer service counter or go on line at [www.stopandshop.com/aplus](http://www.stopandshop.com/aplus). PMA id number 04707.

**SHAWS CERTIFICATES**

May be purchased through the business office all year long. PMA receives 5% on all certificates purchased