

# Presentation of Mary Academy January 2008 Newsletter

182 Lowell Road Hudson, NH 03051

Visit us on the website.

www.pmaschool.org

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that we're already preparing for a New Year! As I reflect on this past year, I can't help but be filled with gratitude for the many wonderful blessings that God has bestowed on our school community.

Presentation of Mary Academy is blest with a dedicated group of teachers and staff whose commitment to Catholic education goes far beyond the call of duty. In addition to a wonderful staff, we've also been blest with great parents whose many sacrifices contribute to the quality of education that we are able to offer our students. Our list of generous benefactors has also increased this past year.

Last but not least, I am grateful for the gift of your children to Presentation of Mary Academy. It is a privilege for me to be a partner with you in their spiritual and academic development.

Our God continues to bless our school community! We have many reasons to be grateful! My wishes to you and your families for a blessed Christmas and a New Year filled with God's love, peace and joy!

Christmas Peace and Joy!

Sr. Maria Rosa, p.m.



### Word of Thanks

**Congratulations to Mrs. Joy Iaquinta, the Select Choir, Flutists, and Students in Grades 1-3** for doing such a great job at the beautiful Advent/Christmas Concert! We're very fortunate to have such a talented and gifted music teacher and students!

### Wednesday, January 2, 2008

Classes Resume at  
Presentation of Mary Academy

### REGISTRATION FORMS

Registration Forms Due on  
January 4, 2008

### Please Save

- ◆ Box Tops for Education
- ◆ Campbell Soup Labels
- ◆ Used Printer Cartridges
- ◆ Old/Used Cell Phones
- ◆ Caps from Aluminum Cans
- ◆ Used Gift Bags—any occasion
- ◆ Precious items for our SPRING YARD SALE
- ◆ We are **NO LONGER** saving milk caps

**Junior High**  
**Enrichment Courses**  
January 11, 18, 25,  
February 1, 8, 15  
1:30-2:20 PM

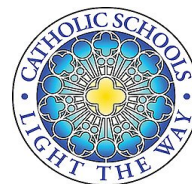
## A Prayer for the New Year

**Come, Holy Spirit,**  
Spirit of the Risen Christ,  
Be with us today and always.  
Be our Light, our Guide, and our Comforter.  
Be our Strength, our Courage, and our Sanctifier.  
May this new year be a time of deep spiritual growth for us,  
A time of welcoming your graces and gifts,  
A time for forgiving freely and unconditionally,  
A time for growing in virtue and goodness.  
**Come, Holy Spirit,**  
Be with us today and always. Amen.



## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Is JANUARY 27-  
FEBRUARY 2!



**Theme: PMA Lights the Way!**

*We have many wonderful spirit building activities scheduled for Catholic Schools Week! Mark your calendars, and join us for a fun-filled week!*

# Calendar of Events for January 2008 and Catholic Schools Week!

## **Ballroom Dancing at PMA:** **Are you interested in learning to dance? Come and join "Dancing with the PMA Stars" on Friday nights in January!**

Come join other couples and singles on Friday nights on January 4, 11, 18, 25, Feb 1, and Feb 8 for a beginners session on Ballroom Dancing! Cost \$40 per adult. The lessons will take place in the Alumni Hall from 7:00-8:00 PM.

The intermediate lessons will begin on Thursday, February 7. For a registration form, please contact June Nolet.

## **Wednesday, January 2:**

- ◆ Classes resume at PMA

## **Friday, January 4:**

- ◆ Registration forms and fees due in the office

## **Wednesday, January 9:**

- ◆ Faculty meeting in the Library from 3:00 - 4:00 P.M.

## **Friday, January 11:**

Open House and information session in the Auditorium for new incoming students and parents entering grades Pre-K - 8 from 11:30 to 12:30 P.M.

## **Monday, January 14-18:**

**Nature's Classroom Experience** for Students in Grades 5 and 6: The students will be spending a week at a Nature's Classroom site in Charlton, MA with Mrs. DeCosta, Mrs. Zavalick, Ms. Babcock, and Mrs. Boire.

## **Monday, January 21: No School!**

Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

## **Catholic Schools Week**

**January 27 - February 2, 2008**

**Theme: PMA - Lights the Way**

Please don't forget to mark your calendars for Catholic Schools Week activities. The students, faculty and staff at Presentation of Mary Academy invite parents and friends to celebrate Catholic Schools Week at our school by participating in the activities scheduled for the week of January 27th through February 2nd.

## **Sunday, January 27: Parish Talks (Snow Day: Sunday, February 3)**

On Sunday, January 27, we will have students and parents promoting the school at St. Kathryn's and St. John's Parishes in Hudson during the regularly scheduled Sunday liturgies.

Parents, we need your help to promote our wonderful school to possible new parents and students. Spread the word, invite people you know to visit our school.

## **Monday, January 28:**

- ◆ **Grades 4-8: Opening of the Catholic Schools Week Prayer Service** at 8:10 A.M. in the chapel for students and parents.

- ◆ **Grades 1-3: Opening of the Catholic Schools Week Prayer Service** at 8:30 A.M. in the chapel for students and parents.

- ◆ **Catholic Schools Button Check**

Classroom teachers will be doing a routine "**Button Check**". Students who wear their Catholic Schools Button during Catholic Schools Week will get a **Dress Down Day** on Friday, February 22, 2008!

Be sure to purchase a **Catholic School Button** (\$1.00) before January 25, 2008.

You must wear your BUTTON during Catholic Schools Week in order to qualify for the DRESS DOWN DAY in February!

## **Tuesday, January 29:**

### **Mass for Students in Grades 4-8 at 10:00 A.M.**

Parents, please join us for the celebration of the Catholic School Week Liturgy.

## **Student and Staff Appreciation**

**Breakfast** sponsored by the PMA Parent Group!

## **Wednesday, January 30:**

### **Moms and Muffins, Breakfast with Your Daughters:**

It's MOM and Daughter Appreciation Breakfast! All moms and daughters are invited to come and have a muffin, coffee, and juice at school. Muffins will be served from 7:00 until 7:30 A.M.!

Come and join other PMA families for breakfast! The Breakfast is sponsored by the PMA Faculty and Staff!

Please feel free to have your child accompanied by a special friend or relative if mom cannot make it for breakfast!

**PMA Spelling Bee:** Students in grades 4-8 will participate in the annual Spelling Bee. The bee will take place in the Auditorium at 9:00 A.M. Parents welcome! The top student will represent PMA in the Regional Spelling Bee in March.

## **Thursday, January 31: Dads and Donuts, Breakfast with Your Sons:**

It's Dad and Son Appreciation Breakfast! All dads and sons are invited to come and have a donut, coffee, and juice at school. Breakfast will be served from 7:00 until 7:30 A.M.! Come and join other PMA families for breakfast! The Breakfast is sponsored by the PMA Faculty and Staff!

Please feel free to have your child accompanied by a special friend or relative if dad cannot make it for breakfast!

## **PMA Student Enrichment Program:**

**Laser Show:** The PMA Parent Group will be hosting this enrichment program for all PMA students.

## **PMA Roller Kingdom Night 6:30-8:30 P.M.:**

The Parent Group is sponsoring a fun night of roller skating at Roller Kingdom for all PMA students and parents. You don't want to miss this fun evening at Roller Kingdom. The arena has been reserved exclusively for PMA families and students. Admission is \$3.00 in advance or \$4.00 at the door.

F.Y.I to parents: Roller Kingdom now offers free wireless internet access.

## **Friday, February 1:**

### **PMA Health Awareness Day:**

Only healthy foods allowed into the building today! No junk food! Salad on the House for all students at lunch time. All students must wear their PMA gym outfits today! All the students will participate in a mini-aerobics class at various times throughout the school day!

## **Friday Evening Fun: It's Bingo Night At PMA!**

Another fun event sponsored by the PMA Parent Group! Come and play Bingo with other families at PMA (6:30-8:00 P.M.) in the school cafeteria! Prizes will be homemade treats supplied by the PMA Faculty. More information to come home in January!

**Catholic Schools Week  
Buttons Go on Sale  
Beginning January 14th!  
Don't Forget to Purchase  
Your BUTTON!  
Prayer for Vocations**



**National  
Vocation  
Awareness**

**Week January 7-11**

Jesus, Good Shepherd, show me what You want me to do with my life. I do not see the road ahead of me and cannot know for certain where it will lead. Yet right now the thoughts of my life are turning on a path that would be of service to Your Church. Grant that I may be open to Your inspirations, Your concern for our broken world and recognize the touch of Your hand whenever and wherever it may guide me. Amen

**JOIN THE PMA CHORUS!**

The PMA Chorus is looking for new membership for the winter and spring Term! Costs \$50 to join. Rehearsals take place every Wednesday from 2:30 until 3:30 PM. The chorus is open to students in grades 2-8! Come and share your gift of music with other PMA students. For more information, please contact Mrs. Joy Iaquinta.

**Chorus Practice Dates**

**January 2, 16, 23, 30  
February 13, 20  
March 12, 19, 26  
April 2, 16, 23  
May 14, 21 28**

**Educational Websites  
for the Whole Family**

These days, kids and computers go together like peanut butter and jelly, so what better way to supplement your children's schooling than to use the medium they find most comfortable? Multitudes of free Websites exist where kids of all ages can learn painlessly through play. These are some of the best:

- \* **National Geographic.** For over 30 years, this magazine has made it easy to learn about the world through engaging topics and photography. That same level of quality is also available on the Internet at [www.nationalgeographic.com/kids/index.html](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/kids/index.html) (upper elementary school and up) and [www.nationalgeographic.com](http://www.nationalgeographic.com) (upper middle school to adult). The focus is social studies, but there are science activities too.
- \* **Animal Planet.** Kids who love animals can pick up all kinds of interesting facts on Animal Planet's "A to Zoo" page. [www.animal.discovery.com/guides/atoz/atoz.html](http://www.animal.discovery.com/guides/atoz/atoz.html) (upper middle school and up).
- \* **Discovery Channel.** At Discovery Kids, [www.kids.discovery.com](http://www.kids.discovery.com), upper elementary and middle school kids can learn about dinosaurs, space, history, technology, and the Earth.
- \* **Scholastic.** This Website has a "kid zone" with links to the most popular Scholastic book series, such as *The Magic School Bus*, *Animorphs*, and *I Spy*, as well as book reviews and an entire "Play Scholastic!" section with educational games. [www.scholastic.com/kids/home\\_flash.asp](http://www.scholastic.com/kids/home_flash.asp) (elementary and middle school).
- \* **Funbrain.** This site has arcade-style games in all subject areas, for all grade levels. It's not as flashy as some, but its comprehensive content makes up for its lack of style. [www.funbrain.com](http://www.funbrain.com).
- \* **Kidsreads.** Getting kids interested in reading is a piece of cake when they log into this site at



[www.kidsreads.com](http://www.kidsreads.com). It's full of information on the latest books, series, and authors.

**Being  
Positive  
Takes  
Effort**

For successful people, a positive approach to life is as essential as breathing. But unlike the involuntary act of breathing, being positive is a trained behavioral pattern that must be practiced daily to be perfected. Being positive is more than just an attitude toward living: it's a way of life.

Remember, teaching is sharing. Teaching is adjusting. Teaching is adapting to the needs of others. This makes it unique among the professions.

As expert as he or she is, the doctor doesn't really adjust—the patient does. Law doesn't adjust to the individual case, and neither does the lawyer—the client adapts to the law.

Only in education does the professional, if he or she is effective, ~~adapt, adjust, and share himself~~



or herself with each individual being taught. This is one of the primary reasons teachers must maintain and develop a positive attitude if they expect to find rewards both for those they intend to teach and for themselves.

### *Hello from the Parent Group*

Upcoming events for the entire family:

- ◆ Skiing at Pats Peak on Friday nights! More information will be sent home after the holidays. Please call Lisa Garand if you have any questions.
- ◆ Faculty & Student Appreciation Breakfast during Catholic Schools Week. This will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 29th. Anyone interested in volunteering or baking for this event, please call Lisa Garand or Patty Sherburne.
- ◆ Family Bingo Night to conclude Catholic School Week on Friday, February 1st. Prizes are yummy homemade treats made by the PMA Faculty. More details to follow soon.
- ◆ Father/Daughter Dance on Friday, Feb. 9th, 7:00 - 9:00 PM at St. Kathryn Parish. Tickets will go on sale shortly after the holidays.

The Parent Group would like to extend the very best wishes for a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season.

Our January meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 9th, 7pm. ALL WELCOME!!!

#### **Parent Group Contact Information:**

**Lisa Garand (603) 886-1174 or  
momof2girls@comcast.net  
Chris Thompson (603) 505-0031  
Patty Sherburne (603) 886-7168**

### **PMA TARDINESS ALERT**

**Parents, please make sure your child/ren arrive at school on TIME! We have had as many as 30 to 60 children arrive late at school on a regular basis. Not only is your child adversely affected by arriving at school late but so is the teacher and the students in his/her classroom. The focus and thrust of the school day is the first item of "business" covered by the teacher when the students walk into the building in the morning. Whenever your child arrives late, it takes them a good portion of the morning to catch up on what he/she has missed. In addition to the disruption that tardiness causes your child and the class, the tardiness is also reflected on your child's permanent record card, impacting his potential acceptance into private high schools in the future.**

**Parents, we need your help to remedy this situation. Please help us to give your child the best education possible by assuring that he/she arrives at school on time everyday. Your attention to this matter is deeply appreciated.**

### **FREQUENTLY USED PMA PHONE EXTENSIONS**

**(603) 889-6054**

#### Extension

- 200 - School Secretary - Mrs. Phaneuf
- 201 - Principal - Sr. Maria Rosa
- 202 - Vice Principal - Sr. Claudette
- 203 - Admissions - Mrs. Nolet
- 204 - Business Office—Mrs. DesRuisseaux
- 206 - Nurse - tba
- 207 - After School Program - Ms. McManus
- 455 - Absentee or Tardy Arrival Reporting
- 456 - School Holiday & Closing

### **AFTER SCHOOL PICK UP & CAR LINE REMINDERS**

- ◆ Any student left at PMA after the 2:45 designated end of car line time will be sent to the after school program. Parents who arrive late to pick up their child/ren will need to sign their child out with after school program personnel and will be charged the appropriate fee.
- ◆ When picking up students from programs that are conducted after school, (ie. Drama, Art, Martial Arts, etc.) we ask that parents **do not** park in the circle to wait for their dismissal. **The circle is reserved for the after school program only** after 2:45pm. Parents can either wait in the parking lot and walk over to get their child or park in a line going down the driveway and proceed into the circle when the children come out for pickup.
- ◆ We ask that parents do not leave their vehicle unattended at any time when they are located in the line of flow for carline. If for any reason you need to leave your vehicle to come into the school, please park your car in a parking space.
- ◆ Parents should not wait outside the locker room entrance to pick up their child. All students are sent to the carline pickup area and parents should drive into the circle to pick up their child.
- ◆ Please remember when driving up the school driveway that it is a school zone, and speeds should be kept to a maximum of 20mph.

If you have any questions about carline and pickup procedures, please call Mrs. Phaneuf in the school office (603) 889-6054 ext. 200.

### **INCLEMENT WEATHER SCHOOL CLOSING & DELAY REMINDERS**



School closing or delays will be displayed on WMUR - NH Channel 9 and will be announced on WZID, FM - 95.7. A message will also be left on the PMA school holiday/school closing line (603) 889-6054 ext. 456. When looking at the listing on WMUR or listening to WZID, please be sure to look or listen for the Presentation of Mary Academy. PMA is listed separately from the Hudson School system.

In the event that there is a delayed opening, the Before School Program will be cancelled. Please check the December newsletter for arrival times if there should be a school delay. Thank you.