



Presentation of Mary Academy June 2007

182 Lowell Road Hudson, NH 03051

Visit us on the website www.pmaschool.org

Dear Presentation of Mary Class of 2007,

It is with honor and pride that the staff and I offer congratulations and best wishes to you, the Eighth Grade Class of 2007. This is an important transition in your life, one from a school where you have spent most of your educational life until now. This occasion also marks a special achievement in the journey of your education. With you and your parents, we celebrate this milestone.



At Presentation of Mary Academy you have learned some essential fundamentals that will help you throughout the rest of your life. Many of the decisions you will make in the years ahead will reflect the values and education you received during these important years of your life. It is my hope that Presentation of Mary Academy has prepared you spiritually and morally to live a good Christian life, a life centered on Gospel values, and reflective of the God who dwells within you.

It is my prayer that God will watch over you and grant you His blessings in abundance. May your life be a constant reflection of your love for Him. Continue to trust strongly in the person that you are, believe in your own potential, and accept each challenge with determination and joy. I challenge you to work for justice and pray for peace. I am confident that you will make a difference, and our world will be a better place because of you!

Blessings of peace and joy!

Sister Maria Rosa, pm

Thank You to all the Volunteers who helped make our school a better place to learn, live, and love in!!

- ◆ School Board Members
- ◆ Hot Lunch Volunteers
- ◆ White Envelope Stuffers
- ◆ Parent Group Leaders and Volunteers
- ◆ Classroom Helpers/Aides
- ◆ Cafeteria, Gym, Computer Helpers
- ◆ Library Volunteers
- ◆ Basketball Coaches
- ◆ Track and Cross Country Coaches
- ◆ Baseball Coaches
- ◆ Softball Coaches
- ◆ Office Helpers
- ◆ Dedicated Parents and Friends
- ◆ Benefactors
- ◆ Grandparents
- ◆ The Sisters at PMA
- ◆ Tutors
- ◆ Schoolyard Monitors

Thank you for going the extra mile for PMA!

Blessing for Our Eighth Grade Students 2007 Graduating Class

May you be strong in courage and confidence.
 May you be wise in choices and decisions.
 May you be caring and loving in all relationships and compassionate to those in need.
 May you meet life's adventures with a clear mind and a bold heart.
 May your integrity be a gift to the world, and may the Spirit of God be with you always. Amen!
WE WILL MISS YOU ALL!

Congratulations to PMA Eighth Grade Graduates who received Academic Achievement Scholarships to the following high schools. These students scored in the top 10 percentile on the high school entrance exams.

Central Catholic High School Deanna Marion

Deanna received the President Scholarship and the Brother Augustine Pinard Scholarship in the amount of \$20,000 for her four years at Central Catholic.

Notre Dame Academy Elaina Silveri

Academic Excellence Scholarship in the amount of \$6,000.

Amanda Creedon

Academic Excellence Scholarship in the amount of \$4,000.

Where will you find our PMA Eighth Grade Graduates?

<u>Schools</u>	<u>Number of PMA</u>
Bishop Guertin	10
Academy of Notre Dame	4
Trinity High School	3
Lowell Catholic	1
Central Catholic	2
Alvirne High School	4
Nashua, North	2
Nashua, South	1
Mansfield High	1
Tyngsboro High	1

A glimpse at the June Calendar of Events

JUNE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday and Saturday, June 1-2:

Faculty and Staff Retreat in Maine

Friday, June 1:

Eucharistic Celebration for second grade students who have made their first communion. The students will participate in the Eucharistic celebration at 8:30 AM in the PMA Chapel. Parents welcomed! Students are invited to dress in their First Communion outfits for this occasion.

CROWNING OF THE BLESSED

MOTHER: Following the Liturgy, the students will proceed outdoors to crown our Blessed Mother in the Mary Garden. Parents and students in grades 1-5 are invited to join us at that time.

Wednesday, June 6: (Last Day for K)

Kindergarten Graduation at 9:00 AM in the auditorium. Reception following the graduation ceremony in the student cafeteria.

Wednesday, June 6:

Faculty meeting at 3:00 PM

Thursday, June 7:

Eighth Grade Graduation and Awards Ceremony at 6:30 PM. at PMA in the Chapel. Reception following the graduation ceremony in the student cafeteria. (Last day for Gr. 8).

Friday, June 8:

Field Day for grades 2-7 (rain date June 12 or 13)

Monday, June 11:

Step-Up-Day: Students in grades 5, 6 and 7 will spend the morning experiencing classes in next year's grade level. They will have an opportunity to informally become acquainted with their new teachers.

Wednesday, June 13:

Cleaning Day: Get those buckets and rags ready for a BIG CLEANING DAY at school! No Uniforms—Dress Down Day!

Thursday, June 14: Last Day for Grades 1-7

- ◆ Dismissal at 11:00 A.M.
- ◆ Prayer Service at 9:30 A.M.
- ◆ Report Card Distribution at Dismissal
- ◆ **Dress-Up Day**—No Uniform Day, however, we ask that all students dress up for this day for attending the end of year prayer service.
- ◆ No After School Program on the last day of school!

IMPORTANT SUMMER DATES

July 1, 2007, or August 1, 2007:

Prepaid Tuitions Due!

Summer Office Hours:

The school office will be opened on Monday, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 8:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. during the summer months. The office will be **closed on Fridays** during the summer months and the week of **July 2-6, 2007.**

Lost Your Supply List or Calendar?

Oops—you lost or misplaced the Yearly Calendar or Supply List over the summer months! We'll be happy to mail you a new one. Simply send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to our attention!

Planning Ahead

September Parent Open House and Informational Evening

Mark your calendar now for this important night! **September 18, 19, 20, 2007 (6:30 PM-8:30 PM)**

September 18: Grades Pre-K, K, 1

September 19: Grades 2-5

September 20: Grades 6-8

Walkathon Results

Walkathon Results: \$11,914.00. Very special thanks to all the students and parents who helped to make the walkathon a successful event! Thank you! Thank you!

Walkathon Top Individual Winners

First Place: Thomas Cullerton (KCG)

Second Place: Christina Phaneuf (7AM)

Third Place: Ray d'Entremont (6MZ)

Our winners are going to be treated to a Limo-luncheon with Mrs. Phaneuf, our Walkathon Coordinator! Date TBA!

WALKATHON CLASSROOM WINNERS

First Place: Grade 5JD - will receive an Ice Cream and Pizza Luncheon Party on May 30, 2007

Second & Third Place: Grade 7AM and KCG will receive a make your own sundae party on May 30, 2007

All Classes Who Reached their goal:

May 30: Dress Down Day for students in grades 2-8.

May 31: Dress Down Day for Grade 1 students.

Science Fair

A special thanks to Sister Cecile, and Mrs. Zavalick for doing a great job coaching the students for a terrific Science Fair! Congratulations to all of our students, but in a special way to the following ribbon and trophy winners!

Ribbon Winners—Grade 6VB

First Place-Haley Peabody
Second Place-Rachael LeBel
Third Place-Amy Rufiange

Ribbon Winners—Grade 6MZ

First Place-Cameron Cormay
Second Place-Jeremy Dutil
Third Place-Melissa Fitzgerald

Ribbon Winners—Grade 7

First Place—Drew Fitzgibbon
Second Place-Meghan Duffy
Erin Wade
Third Place-Jessy Lamontagne
Honorable Mention-Brian Djoletto

Ribbon Winners—Grade 8

First Place-Jessica Rau
Second Place-Cori Roach
Third Place-Justin Benham
Honorable Mention-Ben Dutil

Trophy Winners for Students in Grades 7 and 8

First Place- Jessica Rau
Second Place-Cori Roach
Third Place-Justin Benham

More Important Reminders



A NOTE ABOUT THE UNIFORM POLICY!

Parents, we need your help to implement the school policy regarding uniforms. As the school year comes to a close, we have noticed that more and more students are not wearing the required uniform. Please make sure that your child is wearing the school uniform when he/she leaves for school in the morning.

Beginning in September, the uniform policy will be strictly enforced. Students wearing shirts, sweaters, blouses, polo shirts, or slacks that are not part of the uniform will be asked to call their parents for a change of clothing or will be given a uniform from the used uniform closet until parents are able to purchase the required uniform. Shirts, and blouses with frills or lace, are not part of the uniform, therefore are not allowed. Socks must be cover the entire ankle and fold over or knee high length.

A note about school shoes: Students will be expected to wear safe shoes on non-gym days. The shoes should not look like a sneaker or a boot shoe. They should fit securely and safely on the child's feet. Heels should not exceed .5 inches for grades K-5, and certainly not more than 1.5 inches for grades 6-8. The safety and comfort of our students should always be the first reason for choosing a pair of shoes. Please keep in mind that the students travel between four flights of stairs on any given day. High heeled, bulky and/or oversized shoes pose a major safety threat to your child.

We take great pride in our students and in the way they look! The uniforms ensure that all students look neat, studious, and presentable at all times. I am sure you will agree that you prefer that your child's teacher and/or Sister Maria spend their time assuring that your child is getting the best possible education and not on "uniform patrol". Please support what we are trying to instill at Presentation of Mary Academy—respect for rules and policies by abiding to the DRESS CODE. Thank you!

SUMMER SAVINGS

PLEASE save Box Tops, Campbell Soup Labels, cell phones, ink cartridges, and **Shaw's Market Grocery Receipts**, during the summer months. Thank you!

Lost and Found Articles

We ask all students and parents to **check the Lost and Found Box/Rack** located in the Cafeteria for missing shoes, boots, clothing, etc. Items not picked up by **June 1 will be sent to the Salvation Army.**

NEW FOR OUR JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS—COMING IN SEPTEMBER!

"In My Father's House" - A PMA House System for 6th, 7th and 8th Graders

We are taking this opportunity to alert you to some exciting changes in the structure of our middle school. Next year, homerooms will be reorganized into multi-grade "houses." Academic classes will still be taught by grade, as they are now.

The house system originated in British Commonwealth countries, related to established homes for boarding school students. Due to the strength and success of house systems, they have continued to exist worldwide, at the middle, high and college level. A house system at PMA will serve to distinguish the middle school from the elementary school, increase student participation in school and community/church events, and provide additional opportunities for student leadership.

Research has indicated that the house system can result in positive changes regarding issues that middle schools grapple with, such as negative behaviors and declining school involvement. The benefits can include more opportunities for students to meet peers with whom they might not otherwise interact, and the sixth graders may feel more relaxed when moving up. Faculty and student relationships improve as a result of interaction outside of the classroom. Positive peer pressure gets students involved in activities to support their house and students gain a sense of pride from being able to contribute. When all students feel they can make a difference, it creates a climate where students and teachers want to be, making the house system a win-win situation.

Each house will have a mentor (homeroom teacher), and will be named after a saint or "hero" in our Church. Each house will have a motto, banner, color and student leaders. Houses will hold meetings and will work together on projects. Students will remain in the same house for all of their middle school years. Students will earn points for their houses and for themselves as individual point earners, resulting in recognition and prizes. Points can be earned for community and church service, sports, special events, etc. There will be a monthly tally form available, which will require signatures from adults who sponsor events.

The middle school team is working to finalize plans for the house system. We are all excited about this opportunity and hope that you will be as well.

Please feel free to ask middle school teachers, the guidance counselor or myself about this program. More information will be forthcoming as the current year ends and the new

A Summer Make-Over Is Coming to PMA

When you return to PMA in the fall, you will find Mrs. Nolet and Mrs. Phaneuf joyfully welcoming you into PMA in their new office space on the first floor. You got it! No more climbing to the third floor for late passes, picking-up or dropping-off students. The new secretarial offices will be located in the present first grade classroom (Mrs. Polombo's room). Parents will no longer need to go to the third floor to sign in or out, and our school will definitely be safer with all incoming visitors checking in at the office on the first floor. The new office will have a doorway from the stairwell directly into the offices.

And where is everybody else going????

The business office (Mrs. DesRuisseaux) will move to the first floor in a room directly across from the nurse's office on the right wing of the building.

Sister Maria's office will remain on the third floor where most of the classrooms and students will be housed (grades 2-8.)

Our new pre-kindergarten program will be housed in Mr. D's room on the first floor, the classroom by the porches, across from the gymnasium, next door the new office space.

Mr. D's class, Mrs. Craven's class, and Mrs. Psoinos's class will be relocated to the third floor on the left wing, where the present music room, after-school study hall, and Lego League room exist.

The Lego League Room will move to the teachers lounge on the second floor. The teachers' lounge will move to the third floor, the present Business Office.

The study hall will be relocated to the first floor in the present first grade (Mrs. Lamontagne's room)

Mrs. Polombo (grade 1), Mrs. Lamontagne (grade 1), and the music room will be relocated to the second floor. The two first grades will take the present second and third grade classrooms, and the music room will be moved into the beautiful large parlor, presently part of the sisters' residence. The parlor will be converted into a music, sewing, and art room for the school.

Parents, please be assured that we are very sensitive to the younger students who will be transitioning into either the second or third floor. Extra care will be given to assure that the children do not carry heavy book bags, etc. between the locker room and the third floor.

Needless to say, there are many changes in the horizon. All this will necessitate much hard work and patience from our staff and parents. In June, we will solicit extra helping hands to paint rooms, and help us move furniture, etc.

Please Save: Used Gift

Bags: Any size or shape! Theme, style, color, or holiday! Send bags to school to the attention of Sister Maria Rosa! We need these bags for our Fall Fest!

Yard Sale Results

A special thanks to all the members of the Parent Group and parent volunteers for sponsoring our first annual yard sale! We received many wonderful items, and were able to raise \$550 for our pre-kindergarten program, in addition to many wonderful books, toys, and supplies donated for our pre-kinder program.!

Planning Ahead: Save

your treasures! Please save items for the PMA yard sale in the Spring of 2008!

A Poet in Our Midst **SUN**

By Dominick Mandeville Grade 3JC

Sun, sun in the sky
Sun, sun up so high.

You touch the ocean
and the sea,
Forest, mountains
and even me.

Your warmth feels
Good upon my face.
I feel it follow place to place.

You cheer me up
when I am down,
By spreading warmth
without a sound.

Your rays help all
things to grow,
Will there be a day
when you cease to glow.



Goodbye!
Have a safe,
fun
summer!

Painting Party

When? May 30 and 31

Time? Whatever you can give between 6:30AM-7:00 PM

Who? Parents, friends, volunteers, ANY WILLING VOLUNTEER

What? Classrooms
Supplies and Paint will be provided by the school.
Please wear painting attire.

Curriculum Updates **Lots of New Happenings** **in this Department!**

Social Studies Curriculum for Grades K-8: This current year we adopted a state-of the art social studies curriculum for our school. Both students and teachers have been academically challenged by the new curriculum!

2007-08 -New English and Writing Curriculum

This fall we will be adopting a new English/writing Curriculum for students in grades 3-8, as well as a **New Religion series for grades 7-8.**

Piano Lessons and Flute Lessons

Sister Lorraine will return to PMA in the fall and will be offering piano lessons to students in grades 2-8! Mrs. Iaquinta will be offering private flute lessons through PMA. Registration forms will be sent home in the fall.

Lap Top Computers for Teachers! WE DID IT...YOU DID IT...WE

MADE IT! We raised \$26,000 for our new lap tops for the staff. In June the teachers will receive their new computers and laser printers!

News from our PMA Parent Group!

Hello and Thank you from the Parent Group!!!!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your generous donation(s), your time and monies to help us achieve our goals for this school year. A few of you have asked where the money goes that we raise through the Parent Group. Our big fundraiser is our Fun Fest in the fall. We raised approximately \$12,000 this year. A majority of this money goes directly towards field trips and in-house enrichments for all students. The Parent Group spends approximately \$4000-\$5000 a year for field trips. In-house enrichments such as Rob Surette, Hampstead Players and the Tiger program cost \$1000-\$1200 per performance at PMA.

Other events that we have hosted have gone directly to specific needs of the school such as technology, preschool and for before/after school programs. For instance, last year we purchased a computer for the science lab, media cart for school use in the classrooms, a digital camera for school events, tables and a foosball table for the before/after school programs.

In addition we host community building events such as Open House, Thanksgiving Tea, St Nick celebration, Time to Clay, game nights, and both Kindergarten and 8th grade graduations. Our annual Catholic School/Teacher Appreciation Week brings a lot of enthusiasm and excitement for both faculty and students!

Finances are discussed at every monthly Parent Group meeting. We are done meeting for this school year, but welcome all of you to join us next year, the first Wednesday of each month. Any further questions/concerns please feel free to contact Lisa Garand (603) 886-1174 or Chris Thompson (603) 432-3792.

In closing, we are looking forward to the graduations this year for our Kindergarten and 8th grade students. Kindergarten graduation is on Wednesday, June 6th at 9:00 AM in the school café. The 8th Grade Graduation is on Thursday, June 7th at 6pm in our school chapel. Reception to follow in the school café. If you are interested in lending a hand or baking for either or both of these events, please contact Patty Sherburne (603) 886-7168 or by emailing: psherburne@adelphia.net. Thanks

Math Competition

Congratulations to the 8th grade students, all of whom participated earlier this year in the American Mathematics Competition. The AMC consists of a written exam at each grade level given to students throughout the country.

Winners for our two 8th grade classes are:

1st Place Gold: Jessica Rau and John Cummings

2nd Place Silver: Ryan Cardinal, Ryan Christian, Sherri Bennett and Kaitlin Quigley.

3rd Place Bronze: Abigail Crance and Christopher McKay

In addition, Jessica Rau also received a certificate of distinction for her score in the exam.

Better still, a first for our academy, Jessica placed "Top Student" in the state from among all 8th grade NH students participating in the competition.

Congratulations Jessica!

COMING IN SEPTEMBER!

The PMA School Store

The new PMA school store will open for business starting in September. Students will have the opportunity to visit the school store at specified times to purchase any school supply needs that they may have during the school year. The store will be located in the back of the cafeteria. A list of available items will be distributed to our families in September.

Don't miss the Fisher Cat's Celebration on June 14th!

Come and join other PMA families as we celebrate the end of the school year and the beginning of summer vacation with the Fisher Cats in Manchester NH. Game time starts at 7:05 and will end with a fireworks display. PMA has reserved seats on the first base line in section 114. Tickets must be purchased in advance from PMA. We also have available to purchase ahead of time a Hot Diggity Dog ticket (hot dog, chips & drink) for only \$4.00, you save \$1.50. To reserve your tickets or for more information please contact Chris at 603-432-3792 or CSLThompson@aol.com.

Tickets are \$12.00 each. Please respond on or before June 1st.

This activity is being hosted by the Parent Group.