



Presentation of Mary Academy

May 2007

182 Lowell Road Hudson, NH 03051

Visit us on the website www.pmaschool.org

Dear Parents,

As we come to the close of another school year, we realize once again how quickly time passes and yet how much we have grown and accomplished. Throughout the mystery of this past year's events, we've been called to share and work together.

During this year, we have sought ways not only to grow academically and socially, but even more importantly, to prepare our students to proclaim the Good News and to translate this proclamation into action.

The PMA family is indeed a community of hope-filled people seeking to love and serve God, the world, and the church, especially in these times of crisis. We must keep our eyes and hearts fixed on Jesus—the true source of peace, healing, and freedom.

This year, every effort has been made to raise the

consciousness of our students to a greater awareness of how we are the Body of Christ and that, in some form or fashion, we are all responsible for bringing about healing, hope, and peace to the world. It always amazes me how little children can grasp that reality so much more readily than we can as adults.

As we come to the close of the school year, I ask God to look upon each of you with love and compassion. I also thank Him in a special way for the many hours of dedication, service, and commitment each of you has given to our school community this year. Your volunteerism has been tireless! You are what makes Presentation of Mary a special community of faith.

Sincerely,

Sister Maria Rosa, p.m.
Principal

Mother's Day

Mother's Day Prayer

"We only have One Mom,
One Mommy,
One Mother in this World,
One life.

Don't wait for the
Tomorrows to tell Mom
you love her."

"To the world you might just
be one person,
but to one person you might
just be the world."

~Author Unknown~

PRINCIPAL FOR AN HOUR

Congratulations to our **New Principal for an Hour!** The winner is **Mr. Ryan Duffy in the First Grade!** Mr. Duffy cracked the Easter egg with the "Principal for An Hour Pass". He will assume his new position on Wednesday, May 9th!

Junior High Students: You have one shot at being Principal of PMA for two hours! The student who collects the most money for the walkathon in Grades 6,7 and 8 will be the lucky winner!

**Last Day of School
June 14, 2007, with
dismissal at 11:00 A.M.
for students in
Grades 1-7.**

Giving from the Heart!

Congratulations to Cody Casey who was baptized into the Catholic Church on March 4, 2007. Cody, a seventh grader at PMA, donated the gift money he received at his baptism to the orphanage in Nairobi.

Sister Cecile received a check from Cody for \$125.00 to be sent to the orphanage. Thank you Cody, for sharing from your heart.

Lending a Helping Hand...

We are very proud of our third graders in Mrs. Savoie's room. Through their Lenten sacrifices, they raised \$301.68 for a wounded soldier, Joel Gomez, and his family. Joel was wounded in the war in Iraq. Kayla Caires raised the most funds, which means Sister Maria has to match her donation of \$95.15! Thank you, boys and girls, for a great job sharing and sacrificing for a wounded soldier and his family!

Calendar of Events for May — Mark Your Calendars!



Our Blessed Mother Mary
In our Catholic tradition, the month of May is traditionally set

apart as a special time of devotion to our Blessed Mother. During May, we invite you to setup a Marian Shrine in your home and to pray the Rosary each night with your family. The students will pray the rosary daily in the classroom.

Tuesday, May 1:

Roller Kingdom Night for PMA students and their families at Roller Kingdom from 6:30-8:30 PM. Parents must accompany their child/ren.

Wednesday, May 2:

- ◆ Faculty Meeting in the Library at 3:00 PM
- ◆ Parent Group Meeting in the Cafeteria at 7:00 PM

Wednesday, May 2:

Science Fair for Grade 6

Thursday, May 3:

Science Fair for Grade 7 and 8

Friday, May 4:

Science Fair Awards Assembly for Grades 6-8 at 10:30 AM in the Auditorium.

Saturday, May 5:

NH Middle School Music Festival. Congratulations to our wonderful music teacher, Mrs. Jaquinta and our PMA students who were selected to perform in this event. Choir participants include, Carol Lee Cummings, Francesca McKay, Haley Peabody, Christina Phaneuf and James Katsoulis. Band participants are Farrah Ekbatani and Maureen Prestia.

Saturday, May 5:

PMA YARD SALE 2007: Reserve your table now for the PMA Yard Sale. Help us spread the word about the LARGEST YARD SALE IN SOUTHERN NH! Vendors, Sisters' Boutique, White Elephant, Concession Stands, Barn sale with antique furniture, School desks and chairs, you name it, we will be selling it! Volunteers need to help us set up on Saturday morning.

Monday May 7 through May 11:

Scholastic Buy One-Get One Free Book Fair! Look in this week's white envelope for more information about the book fair.

Thursday, May 10:

Grades 4 and 5 Musical at 7:00 PM in the school auditorium. Parents, please plan accordingly. Your child should make every effort to be part of the concert. The children have been practicing for months for this concert, and all students are expected to attend the concert. Please plan accordingly with your child's sports coach, etc.

Friday, May 11:

- ◆ Class Picture for Grades K-8
 - ◆ Graduation Picture for Grade 8
- All students are expected to wear their school uniform for the class pictures. Grade 8 students will have their class picture taken with their caps and gowns.**

Friday, May 11:

2007-08 FACTS forms due in the office!

Friday, May 18:

All outstanding tuitions, before and after school fees and other monies owed to the school are due in the school office on **Friday, May 18**. All outstanding fees must be paid in order for your child to receive his/her report card on the last day of school

Monday, May 14:

Field Trip - Grade 4 State House & NH Museums. Parents, please make sure your child returns the field trip permission form to his/her teacher in a timely manner.

Thursday, May 17:

Ascension Thursday Liturgy!
Mass Grades 4-8 at 10:00 AM.
Mass Grades 1-3 at 1:00 PM.
Parents are invited to join us for the celebration of the Eucharist!

Thursday and Friday, May 17 and 18: **HARVEY UNIFORM AT PMA FOR STUDENT MEASUREMENTS:**

A uniform fitting date has been scheduled on May 17 from 6:00-7:00 PM and on May 18 from 1:30 - 2:30 PM.

Ecco Shoes Sales will also take place on Thursday and Friday during school uniform measurements.

Friday, May 18:

PMA Annual Golf Tournament:
It's not too late to sign up for the golf tournament. Please contact Nancy in the school office for forms and information. Proceeds from the Golf Tournament support our physical education and athletic programs, as well as help us to improve and maintain our playground.

Friday, May 18:

Open House for new students in grades K-8! Kindergarten students will be dismissed at 11:30 AM due to the open house scheduled in the afternoon for new kindergarten students entering our school in the fall. The after-school program will not be available for the kindergarten students on May 18, 2007.

Tuesday, May 22:

Field Trip for first grade students to Roger Williams Park Zoo in RI!

Wednesday, May 23:

Field Trip for third grade students to Industrial History Center in Lowell, MA.

Thursday, May 24:

Field Trip seventh grade students to Boston, MA—Historic Tour of Boston

Thursday, May 24:

School Board Meeting at 4:00 PM

Friday, May 25:

Field Trip for Kindergarten students to Butterfly Place in Tyngsboro, MA

Friday, May 25:

Eighth Grade Graduation Dinner/Dance from 5:30 until 10:00 PM at St. Kathryn's Church Hall.

Friday, May 25:

\$2.00 Dress Down Day for Computers!

Monday, May 28:

No School -Memorial Day!

Wednesday, May 30:

Field Day for students in Kindergarten and first grade!

A Glimpse at the June Calendar of Events

JUNE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday and Saturday, June 1-2:

Faculty and Staff Retreat

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.

Wednesday, June 6:

Kindergarten Graduation at 9:00 AM in the Auditorium. Reception following the graduation ceremony in the student cafeteria. (Last Day for K)

Wednesday, June 6:

Faculty meeting at 3:00 PM

Wednesday, June 6:

Parent Group Meeting: Planning stages for the **Family Fun Fest on September 22, 2007**

Thursday, June 7:

Eighth Grade Graduation and Awards Ceremony at 6:30 P.M. 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 1-7 (rain date June 11 or 12)

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:

Tentative Last Day for Grades 1-7

- ◆ Dismissal at 11:00 A.M.
- ◆ Prayer Service at 9:30 A.M.
- ◆ Report Cards Distribution at Dismissal
- ◆ **Dress-Up Day**—No Uniforms
- ◆ 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 Mondays, 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 us 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

Box Tops for Education and Campbell Soup Label:

PLEASE save Box Tops, Campbell Soup Labels, cell phones, and ink cartridges 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 **Friday, May 11th, will be sent to Salvation Army.**



First
Communion
Blessing
for Our
Students!

May your First
Communion celebrate your friend-
ship with Jesus. As you grow in
this Friendship, may your words
be gentle and your touch be kind.

May you hear the whispers
of love in your heart each day.
May you have fun in discovering
God hidden everywhere!

And may you remember to thank
God often for the gift of life.

New Pre-Kindergarten Program

in the fall. Help us to market our program by telling your neighbors and friends about our new program for four-year olds opening in the fall.

We need "educational materials"

for our preschool program

Age-appropriate books, Legos and Blocks, Furniture (book shelves) Educational Toys, Manipulatives, etc....
No Stuffed Animals,

*Donations can be tax-deductible
Please drop off materials in the school cafeteria, label materials with "PRE-SCHOOL". Please leave you name, so we can send you a tax-deductible acknowledgement!*

Easter Candy Drive!

Congratulations to the following winners

Top Seller \$50 gift card-Sherri Bennett
Second Place \$25 gift card-Miah Gedziun
Third Place: Lunch with Sister Maria Jessica and Dylan Lortie

Thank you to all the parents who participated in the candy sale. We raised \$750!

Patriotic Contest Winners!

First Place: Kate Mosca (Grade 7)

Second Place: Kellecey Lesmerises (Grade 7)



Congratulations to our two winners of the Patriotic Flag Contest that took place this past spring. The winners were Kate Mosca, first place winner in the State of NH and Kellecey Lesmerises, second place winner in the State of NH. The contest is sponsored by the Lions Club of NH. We proudly share with you the winning essays.

First Place Winner—Flag Essay Kate Mosca

To me, the American flag means one word: freedom. It shows that we may be people of different cultures, backgrounds, and religions, but no matter how many contrasts there are, we are all still proud Americans. We are strong and faithful people and we are not about to give up, even in the midst of tragedy, September 11, 2001 is proof of our strength. I will forever have the image in my mind of a certain picture that was in a number of papers the week of the 11th.

The picture was of several firefighters, standing in the middle of Ground Zero, raising our flag above the ruins and destruction, showing that even a major attack such as this was not enough to bring down America. Even then, knowing that there were people out there that wanted to get rid of us, they raised the flag with hope and unity, for this nightmare had brought us all even closer together. The patriotism that these firefighters, along with all of the other men and women who risked their lives to save so many people that day, is as pure and true as can be.

Whenever I have a bad day, or think my life is rough, the first thing I do is picture the flag waving in high air. It reminds me of my freedom, and I realize that I have a wonderful life. I remember that someone, somewhere else in this world, has a much worse life than mine. There is someone who has no freedom. There is someone who is hungry. There are children with no education. There are parents with no job and no way to keep their children alive.

It sometimes bothers me when I hear someone complain about our country. I want everyone to realize that we are lucky to be free, even though we many have issues and problems that we may not agree with. When people criticize America like that, it is like saying that they would rather be in another country without any rights or freedoms.

The American flag is the most momentous sign of our freedom. We are a beautiful nation. As Lee Greenwood put in his song God Bless The USA, "The flag still stands for freedom, and you can't take that away."

Second Place—Flag Essay by Kellecey Lesmerises

The reason the American flag is so important to me is because when I see that flag with the wind blowing threw, it is as though it was waving at me and it puts a smile on my face. I feel as though the flag is a soldier, or a body-guard guarding our amazing country. This country also has bodyguards, the soldiers that sacrifice their lives for us. They truly show their patriotism of being a true, pure and independent American.

Whenever there is a major disaster or an important day we raise that flag with pride, and I think it means that everything will be ok and we will get through it no matter what the outcome. We are a symbol to other countries and continents. We are known as the free and independent country. Although some countries want to bomb us we stand tall, our flag stands tall.

On television when I saw the Iraqis burn our flag and cheer, I got this feeling in my stomach that I didn't like. I felt insulted and as though I was burning. My heart started to pound and I couldn't move. That was when I realized how much our country and our flag means to me. We are the people that care about world peace and that everyman is created equal.

I would give anything to keep our flag safe, I would give anything to hold it to my heart. I would give anything to have the honor of raising it on a flag pole, I would give anything to have the rights that we have today, I would give anything to be an American.

Books That Encourage Good Habits

Summer is a great time to encourage your children to join a reading club. Not only will they make new friends, they will enhance their reading skills and be prepared for school in the fall.

Here are a few suggestions:

Hygiene:

*Keep Clean: A Look at Hygiene by Katie S. Bagley
Brush Well: A Look at Dental Care by Katie S. Bagley*

Sleep:

Sleep Well: Why You Need to Rest by Kathy Feeney

Physical Fitness:

Physical Fitness; Get Moving by Kathy Feeney

Nutrition:

Eat Right: Tips for Good Nutrition by Katie S. Bagley

Safety:

*I'm Safe on My Bike by Wendy Gordon
I'm Safe in the Water by Wendy Gordon*

Sibling Politics:

Zelda and Ivy by Laura McGee

Homework:

Bruno, You're Late for School by Kevin O'Malley

Planning the Summer with Your Children

With summer coming soon, we are beginning to focus our attention on ways to make the months ahead a happy and beneficial time for our children. That period of time when school is not in formal session is an ideal time for children to catch up with their peers, to get ahead with some special learning, or to explore new areas and experiences. There are many opportunities for your child during the summer, and it is possible to design some activities that are especially suited to his or her needs and interests. Here at school we would like to suggest that you approach the summer by doing the following things to help the child that we share with you:

1. Talk to your child's teachers. Find out if your child needs extra help so that he or she can catch up with his or her peers. Is a tutor needed?
2. Plan the summer with your child. If your child needs remedial instruction in order to catch up, then that should take priority. But, along with academics, there should be some high-interest activities that provide a balance. Be prepared to negotiate, to set realistic goals, and to offer wise counsel about choices that move your child toward his or her goals.
3. Build some activities that are designed for the personal growth of your child into the summer plan. Sports teams, day camps, youth groups, and clubs promote personal and social growth. This part of your plan needs specific guidelines and a built-in system for monitoring and rewarding success.
4. The summer period is a good time to include some new activities and projects. It is a time when children can sample those things for which there has been no time during the school year. Learning to play a musical instrument, creating art projects, making a collection, working at a part-time job, learning to cook or sew--all of these kinds of activities hold possibilities for your child and could be part of a plan for summer growth. Any and all of them mean getting ahead for your child.

Conference with your child's teacher, gather information, and make a plan with your child for a summer of growth. Then monitor, encourage, and participate with your child in the program of activities you have chosen. Make it a summer of catching up, getting ahead, and taking pride in what you and your child have been able to achieve.