



Presentation of Mary Academy

November 2007 Newsletter

182 Lowell Road Hudson, NH 03051

Visit us on the website.

www.pmaschool.org

Our Thanksgiving wish for our families and friends

**Today, may our thanksgiving be to God,
for we have been deeply
and richly blessed...
Tomorrow, may our actions
reflect His peace,
for we have been filled with His spirit...
Always, may we follow close to Him,
for we have been promised
His lasting love. (Pat Mitchell)**



*Thanking God for all the Parents and Students who make up
Presentation of Mary School Community!
Wishing you a Thanksgiving blest with God's peace and joy!
Sr. Maria and the Faculty and Staff
of
Presentation of Mary Academy*

Don't believe in miracles; depend on them.

Lawrence J. Peter

A Thanksgiving Reflection

Thanksgiving is the holiday of peace, the celebration of work and the simple life... a true folk-festival that speaks the poetry of the turn of the seasons, the beauty of seed-time and harvest, the ripe product of the year - and the deep, deep connection of all these things with God.

Ray Stannard Baker

**Theme for Catholic Schools
Week 2008**



GOODBYE!

It is with sad hearts that we say goodbye to two very dear people to our PMA school community! Mrs. Diana Murphy, our teacher assistant in kindergarten and recently in pre-kindergarten was offered a fulltime teaching position in her hometown of Dunbarton, NH.

Mrs. Amy Kirshner, our Guidance Councilor has also resigned from PMA to take on a fulltime guidance position in the Milford Public School District. Our prayers and gratitude accompany these two dedicated women in their new journey.

**Please Mark Your Calendars!
Music Concerts
By PMA Students!**

November 20
Kindergarten

12:50PM in School Auditorium

December 12
Advent Concert
Choir and Flutes

All Students in Grades 1-3
6:30PM in the Chapel

April 3, 2008

All Students in Grades 4-8
6:30PM in the Chapel

Parents, please plan accordingly. Student participation in school sponsored concerts and programs is mandatory. The students spend a great deal of time during the school year preparing for school concerts. Each child's presence is necessary for the success of our concerts.

Calendar of Events for November 2007—Mark Your Calendars!

Thursday, November 1:

All Saints Day Mass
Grades 4-8 at 10:00 AM
Grades 1-3 at 1:00 PM
Parents and friends welcomed!

Wednesday, November 7:

Parent Group Meeting in the Cafeteria at 7:00 PM

Monday, November 12:

No School—Veteran's Day

Wednesday, November 14:

Faculty Meeting at 2:50 PM
Recognition Night for Cross Country Runners and their parents in the school cafeteria 6:30 PM. More information to come home in the shuttle envelope.

Wednesday, November 14:

Sr. Maria will distribute Report Cards to the students on Wednesday, November 14. Report Cards will be sent home in the white Envelopes. Please review the report card, sign it, and return it to school by Monday, Nov. 19. We encourage you to schedule a meeting with your child's teacher should you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's progress. A formal day for brief conferences will be held on November 29th.

November 15:

PMA Advisory Board Meeting in the Conference Room at 4:00PM.

November 16:

- ◆ Junior High Dance for PMA students in grades 6-8 at St. Kathryn's Church Hall from 7:00PM until 9:30PM.
- ◆ \$2.00 Dress Down for Technology Day!
- ◆ Last day for Session I Enrichment Courses for Junior High Students.

Tuesday, November 20:

Kindergarten Musical

Who? Parents and Kinder Students
When? Tuesday, November 20, 2007
Where? Auditorium
Time? 12:50-1:50PM

Wednesday, November 21:

Feast of the Presentation of Mary of Mary in the Temple! Please join all the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary in prayer as we celebrate our special Feast Day!

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday,

November 21-23: No School—Happy Thanksgiving!

November 26 through 30

PMA/SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR :

The Book Fair will be open for the students to do their shopping from Monday through Friday. On Wednesday, November 28 the Book Fair will be open to the parents who will be in the building for the Parent/Teacher Conferences. BOOKS make great Christmas gifts!

Wednesday, November 28:

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.—8:00 P.M.

Friday, November 30:

MOMS "NIGHT-OUT": That's right moms! The PMA Parent Group is planning a "MOMS NIGHT OUT! This will be an evening planned to give moms time out from their busy schedules to just "bond" with other PMA moms in a relaxing, fun environment. More information will be sent home!

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR PMA & NEW PROGRAM !!!!

*****NEW STOP & SHOP PROGRAM FOR PMA FAMILIES:**

Beginning this week, families will have the opportunity to purchase through PMA Stop & Shop Gift Cards. The program works the same as the Shaws Certificates.

If you have not used *SHAWS CERTIFICATES* in the past, or would like to participate in the Stop & Shop Gift Card program, here's how the programs works. *Send your request along with payment in an envelope labeled Shaw's Certificates or Stop & Shop Gift Card through the weekly white envelope system. Your certificate(s) will be sent home on Thursday via your child/ren. Please explain to your child the importance of protecting the envelope -PMA is not responsible for money or certificates lost through the white envelope system. Please AVOID sending cash with your child/ren. Checks should be written payable to PMA.*

Certificates from Shaw's and Stop & Shop make great Thanksgiving gifts for employees, family and friends.

Shaw's Certificates

The *SHAW CERTIFICATES* program is an easy way for parents to participate in fund-raising without having to go door to door.

Stop & Shop A+ BonusBucks Program - October through April:

Don't forget to register your Stop & Shop card for the A+ Bonus Bucks program. You can register in the school office, online, www.stopandshop.com/aplus or at any customer service counter. Be sure to give use the PMA ID# 04707

Hannaford Helps Schools Program September through December

When shopping at your local Hannaford stores, be sure to look for those products that are participating in the "Hannaford Helps Schools program". At the check out you will receive a certificate worth \$3, \$6 or \$9 depending on the number of participating products purchased. You can send your Hannaford dollar certificates in with your child in an envelope marked Hannaford Dollars.

OTHER PMA NEWS

CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

Congratulations to the students who participated in the cross country team. You did a great job! We're all very proud of you! You are great SPORTS! A special word of thanks to Coach Mrs. Judy Boire and all of her Assistant Coaches. Thank You! Way to go team!

Honors and High Honors Recognition for Student in Grades 4-8:

Students will receive **High Honors** if they receive a Report Card with a grade average of "A-" or better in each subject area and "S" or "O" in the Specialty Subjects including Effort and Conduct.

Students receiving **Honors** must obtain an average grade of "B-" or better in each subject area and "S" or O" in Special Subjects, including Conduct and Effort.

Why Thursday for Thanksgiving?

Thanksgiving Day falls on Thursday as the result of a long chain of circumstances. As an annual festival, Thanksgiving is a legacy left to us by the New England colonists who brought the idea with them from England, where it was customary to observe special thanksgiving days after events of national importance.

The custom of celebrating Thanksgiving on Thursday arose with the Pilgrims. As Puritans, they selected Wednesday or Thursday for festive occasions because they wanted them to take place as far as possible from the Sabbath.

In the autumn of 1621, William Bradford, governor of the Plymouth Colony, called for a day of thanksgiving after the first harvest. Indian Chief Massasoit and 90 of his people joined the three-day feast, contributing deer to the menu. Four of the colonists also hunted wild turkeys for the feast, which were common in the woods of Massachusetts. As a result, the Thanksgiving feast was associated with turkey.

It is not known whether a day of thanksgiving was declared the following year in 1622, but, if the harvest was good, it seems likely. According to *Encyclopedia Britannica*, a day of thanksgiving was declared in 1623 to celebrate rainfall after a drought.

After 1630, Thanksgiving Day came to be observed every year after the harvest, and other colonies gradually adopted the practice. In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed Thanksgiving Day a national holiday and chose Thursday for the celebration, in recognition of the pilgrim tradition.

Heartfelt prayers from the hearts of our seventh graders ...

Dear Jesus, you help me when I need your help. Your works are all awesome. I praise you for all the great things you've done for me. Thank you, Jesus.

Jesus, please forgive me for all of my sins. Also, help me to be like you.

Jesus, please help me to show love and kindness towards others. I want to live like you. I will fulfill your will for me. Whatever you want me to do, I shall do it for you. Everything I do is in your name. Amen

Dear God, please help all those with diseases that don't have a cure, yet. Also, help the scientists come up with a cure to help those people.

Lord Jesus, I pray for all people who suffer from addictions that control their lives such as alcoholism or drugs because I know someone who I love very much who is suffering from addiction so pray for him and everyone else.

God, my prayer is for patience. I wish to have more patience so I won't get as frustrated and irritated. Amen

My God, I'm lost. My God, I need you. My God, where are you? Thank you, my God, for guiding me back to you. My God, you have saved me, but how can I save myself?

Lord God, Please help the people who are at war to realize their mistakes and compromise with their enemies. So that nobody else will have any more heartbreaks, because of the deaths of their loved ones. Amen

Dear God, please let Jacob get better so he doesn't have to leave and live somewhere else, or let my aunt and uncle make the right choice for him. Thank you God, thank you for the love you give us and may we give that to others. Amen

Dear God, Thank you for all you have given me, a wonderful family, education, and Jesus. I can always remember that I've been here with Jesus and you next to me, thank you again. Amen

Dear God, Thank you for all that I have and especially for my family and friends who love and support me. Thank you for the wonderful education I receive here at PMA and for the great teachers. Thank you for everything, God. Amen

God, I stumble, I fall, I lose my way at times, but with your love and mercy, bring me back home. Amen

Dear God, please forgive the patriots for their mistake. Please let them play to the best of their abilities this season! Amen.

Lord, I love you with all of my heart, soul, and mind. Lord, you know what is best. Guide me and help me choose what is right. Amen

Please God give strength to me so I can use it for good. Help the poor, feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty, love your enemies and forgive my enemies. Amen

Help me to see the truth because my soul is lost in confusion, and I want to do what is best for myself, my friends, my family, my nation, and my world. With your help, I can shed the light of truth and truly make a difference.

Dear God, thank you for reaching out to me with mercy and forgiveness. Please forgive my sins for I have not deliberately done them. Give me the courage to love you always. Amen.

Dear God, please forgive me, but not just me, forgive everyone else too. Please guide me in the path of good. Amen

Please God give strength to me so I can use it for good. Help the poor, feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty, love your enemies and forgive my enemies. Amen

PMA HOLIDAY LOTTERY CARDS

The PMA Holiday Lottery Calendar cards will go on sale in November. Each family will be receiving them through their youngest child. The cards depict a beautifully decorated PMA chapel during the blessed holiday season. Calendars can be purchased for \$5.00 each and offers the card holder a chance to win daily cash drawings from December 24 through January 31. For families making purchases towards their yearly fundraising fee, 30% of total sales will be applied to your fundraising account.

2 PIANO'S FOR SALE:

If you are interested in purchasing a piano or would like more information, please contact Sr. Lorraine, PMA Community, 603-883-8192 ext. 100



Help Your Children Improve Their Study Skills

If your children need to improve their study skills, they need to develop the habit of studying in advance of the time papers are due or tests are given. Don't allow them to get locked into pulling all-nighters or cram sessions.

To get into a good study routine, young people need to decide exactly what they need to study and how much. Suggest they look at the class schedule, check class deadlines, and then enter those dates in their planner so that tests and papers don't sneak up on them.

If your children struggle with procrastination, help them learn to study whatever they dread most, first. This is a great principle to live by. It helps free you to enjoy the other things in life. Whatever you are putting off, just do it and get it out of the way.

Suggest children study in small chunks of time, interspersed with short breaks. If they've been working and find themselves not being productive, it's probably time for a break. Just remind them not to procrastinate. Also suggest that if they need to memorize a long list of facts, it is often advantageous to do that just before falling asleep. If your child needs help in a subject, perhaps he or she can study with a friend. Help the child choose a friend who is serious about studying so that the friend won't just be a distraction.

Prayer to Anne Marie Rivier

*Foundress of the Sisters of the
Presentation of Mary Academy*

* * * * *

God, our Father,

*You fashioned in Marie Rivier
a heart impassioned for your glory
and for the salvation of the world.*

We bless you.

Place in us

*her ardent love for Jesus Christ,
her faith in the power of prayer,
her apostolic boldness,
her compassion for all suffering.*

*Through the intercession of Mary,
Our Mother and Guardian,
grant us the favor of her canonization.*

We beseech you.

Presentation of Mary Academy Pledge of Nonviolence

SCHOOL PLEDGE OF PEACE Grades 4-8

*Making peace must start within us and in our school.
Each of us, members of Presentation of Mary Academy commit
ourselves as best we can to become peaceable people.*

I will show respect for myself and others.
I will be honest, kind, caring and loving towards all.
I will listen carefully to others, especially those who disagree with me.
I will consider the feelings of others rather than insisting on having it always my way.
I will learn to say I'm sorry for when I have hurt another.
I will be willing to accept the differences of others and learn to appreciate that we are all God's children.
I will make right decisions about my behavior that represent good Christian morals.
I will be a peace maker.
This is my pledge. These are my goals. I will check myself on what I have pledged throughout the year.
I, _____, a student in grade _____
make this pledge for peace. I want to make a difference.

Peace Pledge for Students in Grades 1-3

"Eliminating violence, one school at a time,
starting with our own."

I pledge to be a peaceful person.
I pledge to be peaceful in my school, with my family, my neighborhood, and my community.
I pledge not to fight with others.
I pledge not to start fights with others.
I pledge to make my world a more peaceful place for children to be safe and happy.
I pledge to set a peaceful example for others to follow.
I pledge to be peaceful in my heart.