

Presentation of Mary Academy October 2006 Newsletter

182 Lowell Road Hudson, NH 03051

Visit us on the website.

www.pmaschool.org

A Message from Sister Maria's Desk

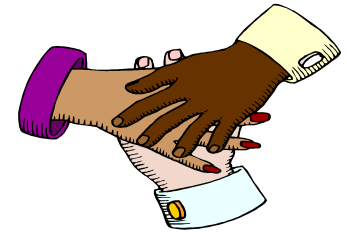
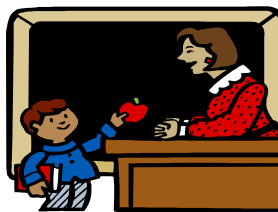
Dear Parents,

First and foremost, I want to thank all of you who took the time to attend the Parent/Teacher Open House on September 20th and 21st. Your attendance at school functions is always a confirmation of your deep commitment and dedication to your child's education. Thank you for yet another way of affirming our attempt at truly being partners with you in your child's education.

The month of October is full of activities, most notably the "Down on the Farm Day and Pumpkin Stroll on October 27, 2006. Please mark your calendars! The Pumpkin Stroll Night is a great way for new families in our school community to become acquainted with other Presentation of Mary Academy families.

Thank you for all you do for our school community!

Sister Maria Rosa, p.m.
Principal



PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE

Loving God, you are the foundation of peace among every race and people, among every city, village and tribe.

From the dawn of creation, we have been gathered as a family of nations whose gifts of culture and progress are born from the goodness of your love.

Greed and power have clouded the vision of your dignity that is our rightful heritage. Break the chains of prejudice and hatred among us. Teach us to put aside war and injustice. Draw us to live in peace and harmony. Jesus showed us how to hope and how to heal; may we learn from Him. We ask this through Christ our Lord, and the Holy Spirit, with you, One God forever and ever.

Cherish your visions and your dreams as they are the children of your soul, the blueprints of your ultimate achievements.

Napoleon Hill

Calendar of Events for October 2006—Mark Your Calendars!

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

School Pictures! Information was sent home in the White Envelopes. The students do not need to wear their uniforms for school pictures.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Family Fun Fest from 10:00-3:00 P.M. Mark your calendars, you don't want to miss this year's Family Fun Fest! We have new and exciting games, activities, etc. Get ready...it's "CARNIVAL FUN" on the PMA grounds. The Fun Fest is sponsored by the PMA Parent Group.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4

Faculty Meeting in the Library from 3:00 P.M. until 4:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4 SCHOOL LITURGY FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 1-3:

Parents, please join us for our first liturgy of the school year in our Chapel at 1:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4

Progress Reports: Students in grades K-8 will receive **PROGRESS REPORTS** in the White Envelopes. Please return your child's progress report to the teacher by Tuesday, October 10. The Progress Report is a mid-quarter report which reflects your child's academic and social progress at PMA. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions concerning your child's progress report card.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4

Parent Group Meeting in the Cafeteria at 7:00 P.M.! Come and share your ideas for the social development of our school! New members and new ideas welcomed!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6 SCHOOL LITURGY FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 4-8:

Parents, please join us as we celebrate our first school liturgy with students in grades 4-8 at 10:00 A.M.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

FEAST OF THE HOLY ROSARY: In honor of our Blessed Mother, the students will pray the Rosary on a daily basis during the month of October.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9

Columbus Day – No School

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11 INTERNET SAFETY PROGRAM

FOR PARENTS: Parents, please join us for this important Internet Safety information session sponsored by the Hudson Police Department. Parents will gain helpful tips and insights about Internet Safety for students of all ages. 7:00—9:00pm in the auditorium

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12 INTERNET SAFETY PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 5-8:

The Hudson Police Department will present a "child-safety" version of the Internet Safety Program to students in grades 5-8.


FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

Last day for "SUMMER UNIFORM". Parents, please refer to the Parent/Student Policy Handbook for a refresher on the uniform policy. All students are expected to arrive at school with the proper seasonal uniform on Monday, October 16.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

State of the School Meeting. Parents, please join us in the School Auditorium at 6:30 P.M. for an important information meeting about PMA, and its Financial Status. The purpose for this meeting is to inform parents of our present financial status and to begin a "conversation" for charting the future of PMA.

OCTOBER 16-OCTOBER 20

MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOOD DRIVE -
 Each classroom will be collecting non-perishable food items to be donated to the Corpus Christi

Food Pantry in Nashua. Please support our efforts to make this year's food drive the most successful one ever. Food items may be sent to school with your child or dropped off in your child's classroom.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20
NO SCHOOL-TEACHERS WORKSHOP. The staff will be participating in a professional development workshop at Nashua Junior High.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

Clay and Play Day at PMA: Parents, you and your child are invited to enjoy a couple of hours putting your creative talents to work with pottery, clay and paint. This afternoon is designed to engage your child in an afternoon of fun with family and friends. More information will be coming home through the Parent Group Organization.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

\$2.00 Dress Down Day! Theme: **Down on the Farm!** Let's celebrate Fall Harvest Days by **DRESSING DOWN or UP** in your favorite "Down on the Farm" outfit! For safety reasons, please no "Lee Pipes, Kinkos, Baggy Dragging Pants or tank tops, mini-skirts, mini-shorts, or shirts with offensive cartoons or slogans.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

Pumpkin Stroll and Down on the Farm

Day: Don't make plans for Friday, October 27. The parent Group is planning our Annual Pumpkin Stroll in the evening. Get ready to vote on the most creative pumpkin, and plan on a fun evening on the PMA grounds. More information to come home in the White Envelope.

PARENTS OF **JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS**

Please be on the alert for Open House sessions scheduled by the area Catholic high schools during October. Representatives from the schools will be available to answer many of your questions, while also making presentations about the culture and climate of each school. These sessions will provide parents and students with valuable information about area Catholic high schools.

LOOKING AHEAD **IMPORTANT DATES**

Kindergarten Tea

Please Mark Your Calendars! We'll be sending you more details in the November Newsletter!

What? Kindergarten Thanksgiving Tea

Who? Parents and Kinder Students

When? Tuesday, November 21, 2006




Where? Cafeteria

Time? 9:00-10:00 A.M.

OCTOBER 2006

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>We dedicate the Month of October to Our Blessed Mother! Pray the Rosary Daily!</p>	<p>2</p> <p>High school Entrance Exam Course for Eighth Graders from 2:45-4:15 pm.</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Liturgy, Gr. 1-3 1:00 pm</p> <p>Faculty Meeting 2:00-4:00 pm</p> <p><u>Progress Reports Sent Home!</u></p>	<p>5</p> <p>Don't forget to raise money for our computers by purchasing Shaw's Certificates through the School.!</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Liturgy Grades 4-8 10:00 am</p> <p>Volunteer Training Session at 9:00 am</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Cheerleading Practice in the school gym.</p> <p>Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Join us in spirit by praying the Rosary daily during the month of October!</p>	<p>9</p> <p><u>NO SCHOOL</u></p> <p>Columbus Day</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Internet Safety Parent Meeting sponsored by the Hudson, Police Depart. 7:00-9:00 pm in the Auditorium.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>PMA School Board Meeting at 4:00 pm</p> <p>No Cross Country Practice Today! Shaw's Certificates Distributed!</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Junior High Dance sponsored by the Student Council for Students in Grades 6,7,8 at St. Kathryn's Parish Hall 7:00 to 9:30 P.M. End of Summer Uniform!</p>	<p>14</p> 
<p>15</p> <p>PMA Alumni Reunion and Meeting 9:00 am.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Grades 7 and 8 Science Field Trip to Mines Falls</p> <p>Make A Difference Food Drive!</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Field Trip KBS to Parlee Farms 9:45-12:15 pm</p> <p>PMA Night at Roller Kingdom Tyngsboro MA 6:00—8:00pm</p>	<p>18</p> <p>State of the School Meeting 6:30-8:00 pm.</p> <p>Make a Difference Food Drive!</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Ms. Mary Moran, new superintendent of Catholic Schools visits PMA at 9:30 am.</p> <p>Shaw's Certificates Distributed!</p>	<p>20</p> <p><u>No School</u> Professional Development Day!</p> <p>Play w/Clay Day at PMA.</p> <p>Make A Difference Food Drive Deadline!</p>	<p>21</p> <p>State Cross Country Meet Londonderry High School 12:00-3:30 pm! Come Support Our Team!</p>
<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Cross Country Catholic Invitational Meet 3:00-4:30 pm at PMA. (rain date 10/26)</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Shaw's Certificates Distributed!</p>	<p>27</p> <p>\$2.00 Dress down Day! Theme: Down on the Farm Day! Dress in your "Farmer's Gear".</p> <p>Pumpkin Stroll at Night!</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Adjust your Clocks! Day Light Savings Time!</p> 
<p>29</p> <p>Day Light Savings Time Ends!</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Happy Halloween!</p> 	<p>Nov. 1</p>	<p>Nov. 2</p> <p>Shaw's Certificates Distributed!</p>		

Parents' Page

Parent Tips for Helping Your Children with the Writing

Process: Effective Writers Employ a Five-Step Process

Effective writing, whether in a science report, an essay on the Incan road system, a biography of a famous mathematician, or a creative short story comes out of an identifiable process.

1. **Prewriting:** playing with ideas through brainstorm lists, graphic organizers, or free writing.
2. **Drafting:** capturing ideas in paragraph form.
3. **Organization:** experimenting with the order in which information is presented.
4. **Revising:** making global changes that include shifting focus, expanding or discarding ideas, and adding details and support.
5. **Editing:** addressing issues of sentence structure, grammar, spelling, and word choice.

Experienced writers are aware of and employ all of the steps of the writing process in some fashion. However, depending on the writing task and the writer's unique learning style, the steps are not always approached in the above order. Some writers move back and forth between the steps by organizing, revising, and editing within one draft. Other writers prefer to focus on each step separately. One writer might experiment with organization before writing a draft, while another might write a draft and then organize.

Although writing process pedagogy has been around for some time, many students remain unaware of the writing process and believe that good writing magically happens after pounding out one draft. When the results are disappointing, these students internalize that they can't write well. In reality, effective writers *discover* focus, voice, connections between ideas, and strong organization through the *process* of writing. Thus, to cultivate confident writers and high-quality writing across the curriculum, teachers in all subjects can coach students to experiment with the steps of the writing process to identify the process that works best for them.

Student Tardiness and Absenteeism; A Cause for Concern

Students who are late to class not only lose valuable instruction for themselves, they also disrupt class, interfere with lessons in progress, and disrupt other students' concentration. Educators agree that prompt and regular school attendance is an important key to student success. Students should be taught to demonstrate respect for staff and for peers, and one way to do this is to practice prompt and regular school attendance.

There may, on occasion, be an illness or emergency that causes your child to be late or absent from school. As a parent, you should call the school office to alert staff that your child will be late or absent. Your child is required to make up any missed assignments.

Punctuality is a trait parents should instill in their children. Not only will this be valuable during the elementary and secondary school years, but it will also serve your children well in college and beyond, when punctuality is up to them alone.

COMPUTER SAFETY: Cyberabuse A Threat to Our Children!

In years past, a child left alone in his or her room was deemed by parents to be safe. Today, however, parents do not have that assurance. A child at home on the computer can fall victim to a predator. The Internet can be an asset for information gathering, but it can also be a source of danger.

A popular pastime for young people is to create personal profiles and post them on social-networking and blog sites. Your child may claim this is an innocent hobby, but some young people may be providing too much information in their profiles. Just as you safeguard your own personal information, you should teach your children to protect theirs. Instruct them to never give out personal data that would allow an online predator to track them down. If your child wants to take part in these online sites, agree to it only if the child will let you monitor what is being listed in the profile.

If the cyber world is confusing for you, there is an organization you can turn to for information and advice. ***Wired Kids*** and the ***Wired Safety Group*** (www.wiredsafety.org) are experts in Internet and digital safety, privacy, and security wired, wireless, and mobile. Run by thousands of unpaid volunteers from all walks of life, the ***Wired Safety Group*** can respond to inquiries about actual cases of cyber crime, Internet sexual predators, cyber security, Internet privacy, and all aspects of cyber law. They cover adults, children, teens, college students, and senior citizens, and actually work one-to-one cases of cyber stalking, cyber bullying, child sexual exploitation, and security attacks.

Founded by author and cyberspace attorney Ms. Parry Aftab, a leader in Internet safety, ***Wired Safety Group*** is the largest and most experienced organization of its kind in the world. Schools are the most important link in teaching students to use the digital technologies safely and responsibly. We have never needed their help in educating parents and students more than we do now. ***Wired Safety*** is committed to sharing our expertise and our help with any school that needs it. Together we can build a safer cyber world for all our kids, says Ms. Aftab.