

# Presentation of Mary Academy

## August 2010 Newsletter

182 Lowell Road Hudson, NH 03051

Visit us on the web.

www.pmaschool.org

### A Message from Sister Maria's Desk

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that the start of a new year is just around the corner! I welcome each of you, and, in a very special way, all students and families joining our school community for the first time.

The 2010-11 school year promises to be filled with many opportunities for your child to continue growing in a Christian environment that fosters self-discipline, academic achievement, and a life style modeled on the Gospel message that we must love and respect each other as Christ loves and respects each one of us!

The faculty and staff encourage you to become involved in your child's education in whatever way you can. Your presence at PMA is important to us! It not only helps us to grow as a vibrant school community but also promotes your child's success at school.

Be assured of our prayer-filled support and commitment to your child's education! Continue to enjoy this wonderful weather and before you know it, we'll be back in school.

In His Peace,

Sr. Maria Rosa, PM  
Principal

**PMA FUN FEST 2010**  
**Saturday,**  
**September 25, 2010**

### **SAVE THE DATE!** **SUNDAY,** **AUGUST 29, 2010**

PMA FAMILY PICNIC and  
Blessing Ceremony for the  
**ZACHARY TOMPKINS**  
**PLAYGROUND OF HOPE**

**(12:00-3:00 PM)**

**Blessing Ceremony at  
1:00 PM.**

We invite all of our new and not-so-new families and friends to join us for an afternoon of fellowship! Come and meet new friends while the children enjoy an afternoon of play time on the new playground.

**Please bring your own  
picnic lunch, drinks,  
blankets and chairs.**

**YOUR PENNY SALE, CLASS  
THEME BASKETS and  
WATER AND SODA  
DONATIONS will be collected  
at the family picnic!**

### *Presentation of Mary Academy*

#### *Mission Statement*

Presentation of Mary Academy, a private Catholic school, recognizes that every student is a child of God, deserving of the best education in pursuit of his/her own vocation, according to God's will. We are committed to helping all children develop academically, spiritually, socially, and emotionally by nurturing their unique gifts and talents. In the footsteps of Anne-Marie Rivier, the foundress of the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary, we strive to develop our students as Catholic leaders, ethical individuals, and lifelong learners.

**MARK THOSE  
CALENDARS!  
PMA'S Second  
Annual Dinner  
Auction on  
March 26, 2011  
at the**

**Nashua Country Club!**

If you would like to be a key sponsor of this great event, please contact Cheryl Lucas as soon as possible! We hope to raise \$58,000 at this event! Our next goal is to build a state of the art soccer/lacrosse and softball fields on our property.

Needed: Volunteer parents to help solicit auction items! Call Cheryl at 603-889-6054 x205

### **Planning Ahead**

#### **September Parent Open House and Information Evening**

Mark your calendar now for these important nights! The Open House will begin at 6:30PM in the home-rooms. PreK & K please note change of date from what was on school calendar.

**August 31: Grades Pre-K, K**  
**September 22: Grades 1-4**  
**September 23: Grades 5-8**

**The Open House is for Parents Only!**

**DEADLINE: August 1, 2010:**  
Prepaid Tuitions Due!

### **SCHOOL HOURS:**

The school hours vary according to grade levels. All students must be in the school yard by the following times:

| <b><u>Drop-Off Time</u></b>      | <b><u>Pick-Up Time</u></b> |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Gr. 6,7,8: 7:35 am</b>        | <b>2:30 pm</b>             |
| <b>Gr. 3,4,5: 7:45 am</b>        | <b>2:20 pm</b>             |
| <b>Gr. 1,2: 7:55 am</b>          | <b>Gr. 2 2:15 pm</b>       |
|                                  | <b>Gr. 1 2:10 pm</b>       |
| <b>Kindergarten: 8:10 am</b>     | <b>1:55 pm</b>             |
| <b>Pre-Kindergarten: 8:20 am</b> | <b>1:50 pm</b>             |

Students who need to be at school before 7:30am will be placed in the Before-School Program, and the parents will be billed accordingly. The safety of your child is of utmost importance to us.

**Children are not permitted** to be on the campus without **supervision before 7:30 am.**

# Important Information - Please Mark Your Calendars

## MONDAY, AUGUST 23:

Southern Region Catholic School Teachers Workshop at PMA 9:00-3:00PM.

## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25

Staff Retreat: 9:00am-3:00pm in the school cafeteria.

## MONDAY, AUGUST 30

**Staff Meeting in the Cafeteria at 8:30AM**

## MONDAY, AUGUST 30

**Meet and Greet for GRADES Pre-K through 8 from 11:00am -1:00pm** The first day of school will be an informal **meet and greet day!** This will give you and your child an opportunity to visit the school, meet the teachers, and become acquainted with the school environment in a very informal setting. We encourage all parents and students to attend the "meet and greet". Visiting hours are between 11:00am and 1:00pm. The teachers will be available to answer questions or concerns you may have. The WHITE ENVELOPES will be distributed at the Open House. Students do not need to wear school uniforms for this event. School supplies should be brought in on this day.

## **School Uniforms:**

All students are expected to wear their school uniforms BEGINNING Tuesday, August 31st.

## **TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, HALF DAY SESSION FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 1-8.**

Students and parents are invited to gather in the chapel on Tuesday at 8:15am, for the opening of the school year prayer service. The teachers will meet the students in the regular carline drop-off area.

Please note that **dismissal will begin at 11:10 am on Tuesday.** Grades 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 will be dropped-off and dismissed at the carline area in the BACK OF THE SCHOOL at the following times:

- Grade 1 at 11:10
- Grade 2 at 11:15
- Grade 3 at 11:20
- Grade 4 and 5 at 11:25

**Grade 6, 7, 8** will be dismissed at 11:30 AM The students in these grades will be dismissed in the FRONT OF THE SCHOOL. Please use the middle Avenue for **drop-off and pick-up.**

## **TUESDAY, AUGUST 31:**

**OPEN HOUSE NIGHT FOR PRE-K AND K PARENTS AT 6:30 PM**

The teachers will meet with the parents in the

homeroom for 45 minutes to review the following procedures:

- 1) Car line drop off and pick up
- 2) Extra clothing for accidents
- 3) Hot lunch and milk procedures
- 4) Snacks - what to pack and not to pack
- 5) Volunteering in the classroom

## **Wednesday, September 1:**

- ◆ Half day for PRE-K and Kinder Students with dismissal at 11:30am.
- ◆ Drop-off Kinder in the front avenue
- ◆ Drop-off for Pre-Kinder in the back car line circle.
- ◆ Full day for students in grade 1-8

## **The Before and After School Program**

will begin on **Wednesday, September 1** for students in grades 1-8 and on Thursday for students in Pre-K and K.

## **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2:**

Full day for all students Pre-K - 8.

## **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, and MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6: NO SCHOOL!**

**Bus Transportation** will begin for Hudson residents on Tuesday, September 7.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

### **ABSENT/TARDY POLICY:**

Parents are encouraged to exercise good judgment in keeping children home from school. Youngsters who are ill will have a difficult time attending to work and will expose other children to illness.

Absences must be explained in **WRITING** to the classroom teacher. For the personal safety of your child, we ask that on the day your child is absent, you call the school office (Absentee Line Ext. 455) before 8:30am to inform us that your child will not be in school.

Students will be required to make up work resulting from absences or tardiness. At the teacher's discretion, a reasonable time-line will be determined for the completion of missed school work.

**TARDINESS:** All students are expected to be in school on time. Students entering the building after the official start of the school day (varies according to grade levels) will be recorded tardy. If your child is late for school, he/she must report to the office with a **WRITTEN NOTE** explaining the reason for the tardiness before proceeding to class. Please remember that a late student will interrupt instruction and will miss important directions given at the beginning of the

school day. Tardy arrivals after 8:30am should be called into the office as well.

## **AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM:**

The program begins immediately after school and ends at 6:00pm. Registration forms can be obtained from our school website under **Administration.**

## **BEFORE-SCHOOL PROGRAM:**

The school building will be open at 6:30am, for parents of students in grades 1-8 who wish to bring their child to school before 7:30am, and Pre-K and Kinder students who arrive before 8:10am. Please use the cafeteria door located at the back of the building. The program is available on an as-needed basis. This service will begin on Wednesday, September 1, 2010.

## **REQUIRED FORMS:**

All new students must have BIRTH, BAPTISM (if the child is Catholic) and MEDICAL HEALTH FORMS (immunization records) in the school office before the first day of school. In accordance with NH Health Department, we will not accept students in the school without proper immunization records.

## **FOOD & DRINKS:**

For safety reasons, glass containers with food or drinks are not allowed at school. If your child does not order milk or water, please make sure his/her drink is secured in a thermos bottle or plastic container.

**Please note:** Students may purchase drinks from the milk cooler or water from the snack table during lunch or after school before 2:30pm.

## **CUB SCOUTS**

Starting this fall, a PMA Dad and fellow St. Kathryn parishioners are bringing Cub Pack 252 to St. K's. If you have fond memories of scouting from your youth, we encourage you to share them with your 1<sup>st</sup> thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade sons. If you would like to know more about how the Cub Scouts will contribute in building a boy's character while having lots of fun in the process, I invite you to contact Cub Master Nicholas Leary at 603-886-0140 or c.m.nick@myfairpoint.net.

## **NEED A SUPPLY LIST OR SCHOOL 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, or you can visit our school website, [www.pmaschool.org](http://www.pmaschool.org).

## PARENT/TEACHER

**CONFERENCES:** Parent/teacher conferences are encouraged anytime you have a question concerning your child's educational, spiritual, or social development. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher for an appointment. We discourage parents from initiating conferences with the teachers in the car line at the beginning or end of the school day. It is difficult and often stressful for teachers to properly supervise students while being attentive to a parent. If you need to speak with your child's teacher, we ask that you send a note to the teacher requesting a conference. We thank you in advance for your cooperation in this sensitive matter.

## WHITE ENVELOPES HOME/SCHOOL COMMUNICATION:

On the first day of school your child will receive a "WHITE ENVELOPE" to be used as the means of communication between home and school. The envelope will contain weekly communications from your child's teacher and the school office. We ask that you sign the envelope and return it to school the following day. We have designated the youngest child in the family as the "SCHOOL MESSENGER" for any communications. This will help us economize on the number of copies being duplicated at school as well as postage. The WHITE ENVELOPE will be sent home every WEDNESDAY. Please return it to school on Thursdays. Please **DO NOT SEAL THE ENVELOPE**. Your child will be using the same envelope throughout the year.

## SHOES, SHOES, SHOES

### ATTENTION JUNIOR HIGH GIRLS!

Effective this year, and for no other reason than YOUR safety and fire code regulations, please do not purchase shoes with heels that exceed a **one inch height**. Keep in mind that during fire drills, you must exit the building through the fire escape stairs, creating a real safety issue for shoes that are not secure on feet or have narrow, long heels. These shoes will not be allowed at school this year!

## HAIR:

Hair is to be neat and clean and away from students' eyes (both boys and girls). Boys' hair length should be cut short, above the collar and trimmed above the ear lobes and above the eyebrows. No "unusual" hairstyles, including hair dying or streaking for boys or girls, will be accepted at school. If students come to school with their hair dyed, they will be asked to leave school and not return until their hair is back to its natural color. Hair may not be spiked or gelled beyond the immediate front hairline.

Spiked hair must not exceed one inch in length.

## 2010-11 PMA Advisory Board

**Chairperson:** Mr. Bill Hassey  
**Vice Chairperson:** Sr. Marie Henault, PM  
**Secretary:** Sr. Claire Provost, PM  
**Finance Committee:** Mr. Kevin Bannon  
**Strategic Planning:** Mr. David Boisvert  
Mr. Jerry Dolan  
**Alumni Committee:** Ms. Rita Deschenes  
**Pastor:** Fr. Gary Belliveau  
**Public Relations:** Mr. Len Lathrop  
**Principal:** Sr. Maria Rosa, PM

## IN CASE YOU DIDN'T KNOW!

**Teacher Certifications:** All of our teachers (Pre-K through Grade 8) must be NH state certified to teach at PMA. I was surprised to learn that some of our parents were not aware that our teachers had to be certified in order to be hired at PMA. Even our specialist teachers are required to maintain a Diocesan Teaching Certificate in order to maintain their teaching positions at the school. Teachers (and paraprofessional personnel) are required to meet State of NH and diocesan credentials to maintain positions at PMA. **ADDITIONALLY, 90% OF OUR TEACHING STAFF HAVE THEIR MASTER'S DEGREE IN EDUCATION!**

## VOLUNTEERS

In the first week of school you will receive a **VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP FORM**. The form will list numerous opportunities for you to become involved in the school. Your service is a helpful way for us to continue providing your child with a quality education at an affordable price.

## MANDATORY VOLUNTEER TRAINING SESSION

for all Volunteers who work with the students of PMA. This includes chaperones for field trips, coaches, girl scout leaders, cafeteria, library aides, and classroom helpers. There are two volunteer training sessions that all volunteers must attend along with completing a criminal background check prior to volunteering at PMA.

- ◆ The in-house volunteer training session is held at PMA in the fall.
- ◆ The Protecting God's Children session is conducted by the Manchester Diocesan Office and is held at various parishes.
- ◆ Criminal Background checks are done through the school office, as well as the distribution of volunteer badges which must be worn while volunteering at PMA.

## TITLE ONE SERVICES:

Due to federal regulations and cutbacks, PMA will no longer be able to offer Title One Tutorial Services to its students. The funds allotted to PMA can only be used to purchase educational materials and not for staffing needs.

## FACULTY AND STAFF 2010-11

PK-102 MRS. DONNA DEMERS  
PK-105 MRS. TERI PILON  
K - 111 MRS. CAROL GUARINO  
K - 101 MRS. CYNTHIA SIROIS  
K - 104 MRS. JENNIFER MASSEY  
1 - 204 MRS. KIM POLOMBO  
1 - 205 MRS. JULIE LAMONTAGNE  
2 - 301 MRS. SHARON SCHMIDT  
2 - 304 MRS. JANICE PSOINOS  
2 - 304 MRS. KELLY TOTH  
3 - 303 MRS. JEANNE CRAVEN  
3 - 302 MRS. MICHELLE ASHWORTH  
4 - 305 MRS. SANDRA DEREN  
4 - 310 MR. KEVIN DESAULNIERS  
5 - 308 MRS. CAROL WAGNER  
5 - 306 MRS. JUNE DECOSTA  
6 - 322 MRS. MERINA DOLAN  
6 - 320 MRS. MISSY ZAVALICK  
7 - 318 MRS. ANA GODBOUT  
8 - 313 MS. JANE BERGERON  
8 - 324 MRS. JANE CARVER  
Science 7 / 8 / Religion 8  
SR. CECILE LECLERC, PM  
Religion 7 / 8 MS. MARY MCMANUS  
Physical Education TBA  
Athletic Director  
MR. MICHAEL LEDOUX  
Music MRS. JOY IAQUINTA  
Library MS. DENISE BABCOCK  
Computers MRS. JOAN METROPOLIS  
Development Director:  
MRS. CHERYL LUCAS  
Nurses: MRS. BERNADETTE DEE  
MRS. MARGARET SULLIVAN  
Extended Care Program Director  
MS. MARY MCMANUS  
Kinder Aides  
MRS. SAM HANDY  
MRS. KAREN SIMUNJAK  
MRS. KATHLEEN MEEHAN  
MRS. JOANNA CLARKE-  
POUNDER  
Pre-Kindergarten Aide  
MRS. DEBRA HEITMILLER  
MRS. AILEEN URBACH  
MRS. SHERRY CARBONNEAU  
Maintenance  
MRS. KAREN SIMUNJAK  
MR. KENNETH BROZA  
Cafeteria:  
MRS. SIDNEY SENA  
MRS. TERRI BIELBY  
MR. MATTHEW RICHARD  
Enrichment and Tutorial Services  
SR. FERN PERREAULT  
SR. IDA MARIE  
SR. LILLIAN ST. SAUVEUR  
SR. RITA MARTINELLI  
SR. CECILE MORRISSETTE  
Administrative Assistants:  
MRS. JUNE NOLET  
MRS. NANCY PHANEUF  
Business Manager  
MRS. DONNA DESRUISSEAUX  
Assistant Principal  
SR. CLAUDETTE BRUNELLE, PM  
Principal:  
SR. MARIA ROSA, PM

**A NOTE ABOUT THE UNIFORM POLICY!**

Parents, we need your help in implementing the school uniform policy. As the school year came to a close, we noticed that more and more students were 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 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 PreK-5, and certainly not more than 1 inch 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!

**We couldn't have done it without you!**

**Again, a special thank you to all the parents and PMA staff and friends who worked countless hours to make the playground a reality. It is a dream! Thank you, thank you!**

**Please forgive us if we unintentionally omitted your name! We relied on the volunteer sign-in sheets for accuracy!**

- Alukonis, David and Michelle
- Babcock, Denise
- Beauchemin, Vic
- Bellavia, Robert & Laura
- Bentley, Charlie & Gabriela
- Bielby, Tim
- Brisebois, Collette
- Campagna, Matt
- Carbonneau, Mike
- Carter, Brian
- Carver, Jane
- Connerty, Patrick
- Corcoran, William & Rebecca
- Cote, Deb & Steve
- Crivac, Eric
- Curren, Tim
- D'Amico, Cheryl
- DeCosta, June
- Demers, Donna
- Desaulniers, Kevin
- Dionne, John
- Dolan, Merina
- Doucet, Al
- Douglas, Hakim
- Duffy, Cathy & Mike
- Ellcott, Sarah
- Eppolito, Jim
- Flaherty, Colleen & Tom
- Flint, Kimberly
- Fontaine, Dan
- Fortin, Christine & Dave
- Franco, Gerardo
- Gallant, Kelly
- Gallucci, Debra & David
- Gill, Jason
- Guarino, Carol
- Heitmiller, Jamie
- Hellwig, Steve
- Hemenway, Tricia
- Julianello, Joseph

- Kandru, Babu
- Kidawolsk, Edward
- Kordish, Susan & Chris
- LaMothe, Diana
- Leatherman, John
- Ledoux, Tricia & Mike
- Legg, Steve
- Lehto, Nancy
- LoChiatto, Phillip
- Lokere, Kris
- Machavarapu, Gopal
- McAroy, Sheena
- McManus, Mary
- McPhee, Allan
- Meehan, Kathy
- Mendes, Joe
- Modadugu, Nagendra
- Munson, Matt
- Mutty, Lou
- O'Keefe Kathy
- Paradisco, Giancarlo
- Pilon Family
- Polombo, Kim
- Puffer, Dan & Lisa
- Ribeck, Victor
- Riley, Dan
- Roome, Ted
- Shattuck, Jay
- Sherburne, Patty
- Sirois, Cindy
- Speenburgh, Sheila
- Sr. Maria Rosa, pm
- Stalker, Caroline
- Sullivan, Kevin
- Tardif, Deanna
- Thivaharajaa, Anthony
- Thompson, Chris
- Waden, Michael
- Wagner, Carol & David
- Wheeler, Bev
- Young, Joe & Joanne
- Zavalick, Missy

**SUMMER SAVINGS**

PLEASE save Box Tops, Campbell Soup Labels, capri drink pouches, cell phones, ink cartridges, and used or new GIFT BAGS during the summer months. Don't forget! You can drop off paper for recycling in our Abitibi Paper Retriever container located in the corner of our parking lot all summer long!

**A note from the school nurse! Nut Allergy Alert**

**Sensitivity to students with nut allergies including but not limited to peanuts.**

While we cannot realistically designate PMA as a PEANUT/NUT FREE SCHOOL, we can, however, sensitize all of our parents and students to the reality that we do have students in our school community with potentially life threatening allergies to nuts. Ingested peanuts/nuts, residue on objects and on skin, as well as airborne peanut protein may be dangerous for students with these allergies. To ensure the safety of our students, we ask that you do not send snack items containing peanuts or peanut/nut products to be shared with the entire class. Your child may bring lunch items containing peanuts, however, provided they are packed separately from your child's snack, because special accommodations at lunch provide a sanitized area for nut allergic students.