

# From the Desk of Mrs. Kathy Leahy, Principal

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## *Special Points of Interest:*

- **Full Winter Uniform** began on Tuesday, November 1
- **Feast of Saint Martin**—Celebration of the Eucharist 9:00am /Ice Cream Social in the afternoon
- **PSA Meeting**—Nov. 3 at 7:00pm in the parish lounge
- **Meet & Greet**—Nov. 4 – 8:00am in the parish lounge
- **No School**—Conference Day - Tuesday, November 8
- **Picture Make-up Day**—Nov. 9
- **Veteran's Day Celebration**— November 10 at 10:00am
- **Story Teller** visits Saint Martin's—Thursday, November 10—come spend an evening of fun and stories for what is sure to be a great event
- **Parent Teacher Conferences**—Nov. 16 & 17
- **Faculty Meeting**—Early Dismissal— Nov. 18
- **Celebration of the Eucharist**—9:00 am Nov. 18
- **Father/Son Bowling**—Nov.18
- **Holiday Tea Party**—Nov. 20

## A “Spook-tacular” Evening

On the brisk Friday evening of October 28, many of our families joined together for an enjoyable night of fun, games, crafts, food, and good spirited company at Saint Martin de Porres School's annual Family Fun Night. This is always a fun evening for our students as well as their parents and this year was no exception. While the children played games, talked and “hung-out” with their friends, ate fun foods, made crafts and danced, our parents were free to also enjoy the festivities of the evening and the company of many friends that they do not see daily.

This year we were blessed to have four new families coordinate this event for us. Special thanks goes out to the

Fredericks, Jean, Kirton, and Ogundimu families, for making this evening a wonderful, fun night for all who attended. The time, energy, and creativity put into this evening was evident as soon as you entered our school lobby and made your way into the spirited gymnasium, through the creative craft hall and then into the cafeteria for some delicious treats including baked good, freshly popped popcorn, and refreshing Italian ice. The decorations were festive and were displayed throughout the lobby, halls, and gymnasium. The haunted house, prepared by our eighth grade students, was a frightful experience for all to enjoy.

A very big thank you to all of our families who participated in our Family Fun Night held on

Friday night. I'm sure everyone agrees that this was a thrilling and enjoyable evening for all who attended. Again, special thanks to our co-chairs and to all who helped make this evening so special. Thank you also so goes to all of the bakers, the set up and clean up crews, greeters, cooks, and those who donated items to help make this such a “boo-tiful” evening.

Please feel free to view the pictures posted on my web site of this “spook”-tacular event!



## A Delicious Family Breakfast

With Peter Kelly leading the wonderful crew of hardworking and dedicated school parents, our first family breakfast of the 2011/2012 school year was sure to be a success. On Sunday, October 16, the warm, welcoming manner, smiling faces, and hard-work of greeters, cooks,

servers, hosts and set-up and clean-up crews helped to make the family breakfast an enjoyable experience for all who attended. Many positive comments came from those who attended and all loved the “new extended” menu as the food was delicious and the company was delight-

ful. Special thanks to Peter Kelly and the many parents that gave of their time and energy to make this event a success. A huge thank also goes out to all families who attended this breakfast. This is just another example of how awesome Saint Martin de Porres School parents are!

# Having A Successful Parent-Teacher Conference

With parent-teacher conferences coming November 16 and 17, it does not matter if you are the student, the teacher, or the parent, parent-teacher conferences are bound to cause some anxiety. Yet, these meetings are priceless opportunities for families to get a better understanding of their child's progress in school. By preparing well for your conference with your child's teacher and following up with both your child and the teacher afterward, you can strengthen your child's school success. Below are a few items to help you to have a successful parent-teacher conference.

**Before arriving for your conference** write down questions

you want to address with the teacher. Gather and bring copies of any assignments you have questions about. Make sure that you show up at least a few minutes early so you know you will be set to begin your conference when it is your turn.

**While in your conference**, make sure that you take notes about what the teacher is telling you about your child. Be sure to address these important areas: strengths, weaknesses, and social skills. Remember to always keep your cool and bear in mind that the teacher is offering constructive criticism.

**After the conference**, sit

down with your child and tell him or her what you and the teacher discussed. Emphasize the positive things the teacher said. If there were important issues that need to be dealt with, make sure to follow up with the teacher soon after the conference. Once you know what you can do at home to help your child succeed in school, make sure you actually do it. It is understandable that finding the time might be difficult, but remember...your child needs you.



## Grandparents Visit Saint Martin de Porres School

On Friday, October 14 pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students had the opportunity to spend part of their day with very special people. It is only right and fitting that every October our students in pre-kindergarten and kindergarten honor their grandparents and thank them for what they have done to support their grandchildren in their education.

This day was a time to

celebrate those special people who are always there with a hug, a kiss, a smile and kind and loving words. All four classes joined with their grandparents in the school gymnasium for a performance done by our students, a little reception with juice and baked goods and good conversations with those who mean so much to our children. Grandparents' Day is one of our favorite activities all year, because you can really see



the pride, and the excitement in the eyes of our younger students. How blessed we were to have more than 200 grandparents fill our gymnasium and cafeteria to celebrate their special day, Grandparents' Day.

## Just Few More Items of Interest...

Congratulations to **Mrs. Papineau** our second grade teacher who was honored as **92.1 October teacher of the month**. This was a wonderful surprise for Mrs. Papineau and her special "love bugs" (students). Mrs. Papineau was nominated by Jack Anderson grade 3 and Emily Anderson grade 2. Please feel free to view the photos on my web site of this event.

Preschool **story time** will be held on Thursday, November 17 at 10:00 AM in our school library for young children not in our pre-kindergarten program. Stories, songs, dancing, finger-plays, snacks, crafts, and meeting new friends are all part of this fun and exciting hour. For reservations kindly call 452-4428. Feel free to join us and bring a friend.

**Veterans' Day Celebration** will be held on Thursday, November 10th at 10:00 AM in the school gymnasium. All Veterans are welcomed to attend and may register by calling the school office at 452-4428.

