

Back to School 2008



Special points of interest:

- August 18th: School offices reopen
- August 27th: Class lists posted by 8 a.m.
- August 27th: Family Orientation and Ice Cream Social 6:30-8 p.m.
- Sept. 2nd: The first day of classes for 1st and 2nd graders. (Kindergartners visit classrooms). Please note that this is a half-day of school with dismissal at 11:00. Busing is provided by TCAPS both ways on this day.
- Sept. 3rd: Parent Coffee

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Holy Angels Elementary

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From the Desk of the Principal, Mrs. Lori Phillips

Dear Holy Angels Families,

Welcome to the 2008-09 school year at Holy Angels! I pray that each of you have had a relaxing and enjoyable summer with your families. As always, we begin our new school year with a fresh perspective but continual high expectations and a mission to develop each child to his or her fullest spiritual and academic potential. Our teaching staff is committed to nurture and challenge your child, and we will certainly count on your collaboration and partnership in this regard. Our students perform best in an atmosphere that promotes and expects respect for one's self, respect for others, and respect for the environment we all share. We will do our best to ensure that each child finds him/herself comfortable, welcomed, respected, challenged appropriately, and most of all, loved.

New Staff Additions

Our wonderful secretary, Trish Zamarron has been called to teach religion to our high school students. Anyone that knows Trish, knows that she is one of the most abiding and loyal servants God has here on Earth. Her discipline, knowledge, understanding, articulation and love for our Lord and our Catholic faith make her the perfect teacher for our St. Francis students. She will be sorely missed in the office as our lives were always brighter just being around her loving spirit. Thankfully, God was preparing

We will continue to carry the FROG theme into another school year. FROG stands for "Fully Rely On God" and we will meet as a student body each Monday morning to begin our week. During this special time together we will sing liturgical and praise music, learn about the Saints, discuss one of the Beatitudes each month, talk about what Jesus would do in different situations and emphasize how God wants us to trust, love and have faith in Him. The word FROG will also continue to be present in each of our classrooms, as it stands for the four virtues we expect our students to focus upon: **F**-Friendship, **R**-Respect, **O**-Open heart, and **G**-God-like. Along with our FROG theme, we continue to focus on our 3 C's: Character (Do what is right), Commitment (Do your best) and Compassion (Treat others the way you want to be treated). Having a common

theme/language provides our students with consistent expectations in all areas of our school and within GTACS.

The school office will be open Monday, August 18th. Please feel free to stop in or call us with any questions you may have. On behalf of our entire Holy Angels staff, we look forward to a wonderful year building the foundation of Catholic, Christ-centered education for all of our children. May God bless you and your little "angels" these last few weeks of summer. Thank you in advance for your partnership and dedication to our school.

Humbly Yours in Christ,

Lori J. Phillips

Principal

another wonderful woman all year to step in her place. Nikki Kleinrichert will ease into our school secretary position and I couldn't have asked for a better replacement. Nikki's thoroughness, eye for details, organization, and warm/loving personality will serve her well in this position.

It is with much happiness and gratitude to announce our most recent hire at Holy Angels and new Kindergarten teacher: Mrs. Teresa Passinault. Teresa brings with her 9+ years of kindergarten

experience and stated, "This is where I was called to be . . . as an educator and as a parent!" Teresa and her husband, Tom, moved their three children (Noah-4th grade, Daniel-2nd grade, and Gwyneth-preschool) to the Traverse City area last summer when Tom accepted a new position at Traverse City Central High School and head football coach. For the past year, she has been a weekly volunteer and guest teacher. We are truly blessed to have Teresa on staff!

Mass Date Change

will be on **Thursdays**
this year at 8:30 a.m.

This begins

September 11th.

These Masses will be
held at St. Francis
Church. Please join
us when you can!

Please remember to
check for your name
on our lunchroom/
playground calen-
dar. We rely on
your help during this
time of the school
day. Thank you for
your help!

Kindergarten Information

Our Kindergarten teachers are
as follows:

- Mrs. Sheila LaPan
(Room 104)
- Mrs. Teresa Passinault
(Room 105)
- Mrs. Heather Quick
(Room 106)
- Mrs. Pat Talbott
(Room 102)

Kindergartners will visit their
classrooms with their parents
on Tuesday, September 2nd
between 9:00-11:30 a.m. and
12:00-2:00 p.m. This will
further prepare them for their
first half day of school on
Wednesday, September 3rd.
Kindergartners will have half
days of school Wednesday-
Friday (September 3-5) with
an 11:00 dismissal each day.

Our full day students will be-

gin their regular schedule on
Monday, Sept. 8th and our
transition students will remain
half days.

We look forward to seeing our
little kindergarten angels in
their school uniforms on
Wednesday, Sept. 3rd. Bring
your cameras, and we will
provide the Kleenex for the
tears of the parents! It is truly
a milestone and an exciting
time for your children!

1st Grade Information

Our first grade teachers are:

- Mrs. Karen Alpers (Room
201)
- Miss Jean Maslowski
(Room 204)
- Mrs. Sue Maxbauer
(Room 203)

- Mrs. Lori Meddaugh
(Room 202)

First grade is such an exciting
time in the eyes of our stu-
dents as they move upstairs
and get a locker!

This is also the year that stu-
dents begin using a daily plan-
ner to learn organization and

also have nightly homework.
Our wonderful first grade
team will lovingly guide your
children through this year of
academic learning and added
responsibility.

These teachers will greet their
students outside the Cass
Street doors on the first day of
school, September 2nd.

2nd Grade Information

Our second grade teachers
are:

- Mrs. Stacey Alpers
(Room 205)
- Mrs. Rose Gallagher
(Room 210)
- Mrs. Deborah Pahssen
(Room 206)

- Mrs. Colleen Peters
(Room 212)

Second grade is truly a special
year as we prepare our stu-
dents for upper elementary at
Immaculate Conception. This
is the year that reading and
math skills are enhanced to
make them more independent
learners. I think you will be
amazed at their writing skills

during the year. We also work
to reinforce the fact that they
are the "leaders" of the
school.

These teachers will be ready
to greet their new students on
the playground, Tuesday, Sep-
tember 2nd. Students line-up
outside the 10th Street door
every morning.

Additional Holy Angels Team Members

- Mrs. Mary Brady-Library (once/week for 30 min.)
- Miss Patty Brady-St. Thomas Aquinas Program (works with 1st and 2nd grade students who may need additional academic challenges)
- Mrs. Donna Brakel-Art (once/week for 45 min.: 1st and 2nd grades)
- Mrs. Nancy Brown-Social Worker (works individually with students and in small groups, as well as families, on a variety of topics)
- Mrs. Kathy Koski-Spanish (twice a week for 30 min.)
- Mrs. Annette Plamondon-Reading Room (works with students who may need extra academic support)
- Miss Mary Radecki-P.E. (twice/week for 30 min.)
- Mr. Todd Vipond-Music (twice/week for 1st and 2nd grade, once a week for kindergarten)

We are very blessed to have these outstanding staff members working with our students.



Bussing Information:

Bussing information will be available in a special insert in the Record Eagle on Wednesday, August 27th. You can also access the information at www.TCAPS.org. If your child is riding the bus to or from school, please attach a tag or label to his/her backpack with the shuttle and route numbers. Any questions regarding bus routes should be referred to the TCAPS Bus Route Information "Hotline" at 933-1956. We will also be providing a shuttle bus from our site to SEAS for 6th - 8th graders. It will leave each morning by the gym on 11th Street at 7:30 a.m. and drop off at the end of the day on 10th Street.

Uniform Information

We continue to use Bay Supply, Lands' End, Sears, and JCPenney's as approved vendors for our school uniform. All of these vendors are part of our TRIP program for additional savings. **Please note that the navy jumper and skort are ONLY available through Bay Supply or Lands' End. Please do not purchase the skort or jumper at Sears or JCPenney or any other department store as the style is different from the approved**

one. Shirts, shorts, and pants may be purchased through any vendor as long as it corresponds with our uniform code. Please adhere to the navy bottom/white top rule and NEUTRAL colored (navy, black, tan, or brown) closed toe (and heel) shoes. Tennis shoes are also acceptable and are also encouraged to be neutral in color. The school logo is available for monogramming through Bay Supply, and Lands' End. **Our logo number through Lands'**

End is 1046194K. Also, be sure to mention our preferred school code (**900065509**) as Lands' End donates an additional 3% back to our school. **I cannot stress to you enough the importance of staying within the uniform guidelines, as this emphasizes the uniformity within our school family.** Thank you for your commitment to this detail. Please click on the uniform link in the email for additional information.

After School Childcare Program

Munson Childcare Services coordinates our after school child care program at Holy Angels. Parents who are intending on using this program need to register their children by contacting Brigid Wilson at Munson (935.7990). Registration packets are also

available in the Business Office or in our elementary office. The program runs daily from 2:35-6:00 p.m. on our school site. Jackie Jorgensen will return this year as our site coordinator with Megan Keys as her assistant. Munson also provides early morning care

on our site for those who need this service. You may drop off your child as early as 7:00 a.m. Again, please contact Brigid Wilson for registration sign up.

Point of interest:

School handbooks will be sent home the first week of school. It is important that you read the handbook and return the acknowledgment form in the back of the handbook.

There will be an **All Systems Mass** on

Friday, Sept. 5th at 8:30

in the St. Francis Gym.

This is a wonderful time to gather all of our K-12 students together to celebrate God's word and receive Him in the Holy Eucharist. Please join us if you can!

Train up a child the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not depart from it.

-Proverbs 22:6

Family Orientation and Ice Cream Social

Family Orientation and Ice Cream Social is scheduled for **Wednesday, August 27th**. Kindergarten parents/children and new families to the school system should report to the Kohler Auditorium of the High School at 6:30 p.m. We will be discussing general information about our school day, introducing our staff members, learning about the varied programs our school offers and answering any questions you

may have. Following this meeting, all parents and children are invited to join us for our annual Ice Cream Social. **Current 1st and 2nd grade parents and children are invited to the Ice Cream Social in the Cafeteria from 6:30-8:00 p.m.** During this time students can reconnect with friends and look over class placement lists, which will be posted on the Cass Street doors by 8:00

a.m. on Wednesday. Our hope is that by meeting teachers and seeing friends before the first day of school, it will reduce the natural anxiety created by this exciting day. **Please know that all are welcome to attend the informational meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Kohler.**

Student Drop-off Procedures in the Morning

We will begin the school day at 7:50 a.m. and end at 2:35 p.m. Students may arrive on the playground as early as 7:30 a.m., as supervision begins at that time. Our staff will greet you in the parking lot every morning between 7:30 and 7:45 a.m. to help children out of vehicles. Please do not drop off children before 7:30 a.m., as our staff is in morning prayer and there is no supervision

until this time. (If you need child-care services before 7:30 a.m., please see page 3 regarding early morning care that begins at 7:00 a.m.) Kindergarten and 1st grade students are encouraged to be dropped off (in a single file car line) in the parking lot off 11th Street. 2nd grade students may be dropped off by the fence on 10th Street. Please do not park on the residential side of 10th Street dur-

ing drop off or dismissal as the busses cannot make it easily down the street. We truly appreciate your cooperation in making our morning routine safe and smooth. Please be reminded that the morning bell rings at 7:45 a.m. Students are considered tardy after 7:50 a.m. If you arrive after students have gone inside, please walk your child into the office to receive a tardy slip.

Student Pick-up Procedures in the Afternoon

Full day Kindergarten and 1st grade will be picked up in the 11th Street parking lot. Please enter the parking lot from 11th Street and exit right onto Cass. This traffic flow pattern should be followed at all times for the safety of our students. Half-day kindergarten and 2nd grade will be picked up on 10th Street in a car pool line by the

fence. **If you have two students in our school, please pick up at the designated area of the oldest student.** Please do not park on 10th Street and walk across the street to pick your child up, as this creates an unsafe environment.

Please place a bold print sign in your car window with your child's name on it to help the line move efficiently.