



Together, We Are Family February 1st, 2019

From the desk of Principal Gannon



WHAT'S BUZZING AT SCHOOL

At school this week, we have been here for three days and had two cold days. We hope our students enjoyed their student appreciation day at home. We started our week Sunday with a great family Mass and open house. Monday, we gathered our students from preschool through Eighth Grade in the gym to watch Wall-E. The students were wrapped in their blankets and resting their heads on pillows as we enjoyed the movie together. Tuesday, our students worked with their prayer partners and made valentines for the shut-ins of our parish and wrote a class note to our bus drivers, Geauga Sheriffs, and our local fire and police departments in gratitude for all they do for us. Thank you to our school staff for making this week so special for our students. Please continue to keep our students and staff in your prayers as we continue our school year.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

I would like to thank you for supporting our school during Catholic Schools Week. Even though our week was shortened due to the cold, I think our school still had a great week. As I said in the email last night, we will work on rescheduling our bingo, no homework night, unicycle performance, and guest speakers in the coming weeks. I want to thank you again for your great attendance at our Catholic Schools Week opening Mass on Sunday. It was so incredible seeing all our families gathered together for Mass and to see our school.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT AT ALPINE VALLEY TONIGHT

Tonight, is our Family Fun Night at Alpine Valley from 5:00 to 8:00 pm. Even if you are not a ski club member, you are still welcome to attend. There will be pizza and soft drinks available. Please bring a snack or side to share in the lodge.

SKATING PARTY TOMORROW

Tomorrow, February 2nd, St. Helen School is hosting another skating party for all our families at the Chagrin Valley Roller Rink from 5:00-7:00 pm. You can bring your own skates (as long as they are clean) or rent a pair for \$4. What better way to wrap up Catholic Schools Week then with a skating party? Please consider attending this event.

UPCOMING BOOSTERS MEETING

The Boosters Club will be holding a meeting on Tuesday, February 5th, 2019 at 7:00 pm in the school cafeteria. All parents are welcome to attend this meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Megan Zaumeyer at meganz1976@aol.com.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY DRESS DOWN

Students and faculty who have February birthdays may dress down on Wednesday, February 6th to celebrate. Happy birthday.

CYO TRACK AND FIELD SIGN-UPS

St. Helen School students in Third through Eighth Grade will be running track with Notre Dame Elementary School (NDES) this Spring. Sign-up deadline is Tuesday, February 12th. Please contact Mrs. Melanie Kilmer for more information at 440-856-3135 or at melaniekilmer@sbcglobal.net. The direct link for registration is <https://fs3.formsite.com/ndcl/v9vhhbrumo/indexhtml> or through NDES Spring Sports Link at www.ndes.org/SpringSports.aspx.

CHRISTMAS PLAY DVD AVAILABLE

The DVDs for "Crazy, Busy, Peaceful, Holy Night" are now on sale. Order forms will be going home next week.

CANDY GRAMS SALE CONTINUES

A note from our Spirit and Service Squad. "The Spirit and Service Squad will continue selling and distributing Candy Grams next week through Valentine's Day. Candy Grams are 25 cents each or 5 for \$1. They include a small piece of candy and can be sent to anyone in the school building. Spread love and friendship by sending Candy Grams! They will be sold each day before school in the school office."

A NOTE FROM THE WHOLE U

Keep your body active to prepare your mind for greatness. You are only one workout away from a good mood!

BREAKFAST BAGS RESUMING NEXT WEEK

A note from our Spirit and Service Squad. "The Spirit and Service Squad will be collecting donations for breakfast bags beginning next week and continuing throughout the month. A flyer was sent home last week with a list of the items we are collecting. If you need another copy, please contact the school office. As with the hygiene bags, breakfast bags will be distributed to area homeless through St. Paschal Baylon's Helping Hands Ministry." Thank you for your help and support.

EXTRAVAGANZA NEWS - LIGHTS, CAMERA, AUCTION

The St. Helen School Extravaganza is Saturday, February 23rd at LaMalfa Centre in Mentor. The theme for our Extravaganza this year is Lights, Camera, Auction. If you are in need of another ticket or sponsorship form, please contact the school office or visit the information desk in the church gathering space. We are continuing to collect items for our event. If you can support our event by donating an item, contributing a monetary donation, attending the event, and even helping our event we would be most appreciative. We appreciate any and all contributions you can make to help our Extravaganza. Donations can be brought to the school office or you can contact Mrs. Kate Bores (boresfamily4@gmail.com) or Mrs. Alison Lee (ali3975@yahoo.com).

RECESS UPDATE

As our weather begins to get colder and snowier, we ask that our students dress for the weather. Please send your child(ren) in with hats, gloves, and boots so they can stay warm at recess. If there is snow and the students wear snow pants along with boots, hats, and gloves they can play on the playground with the snow. If a student does not have snow pants, they can still go to recess, but cannot play in the snow. Before each recess period, we check the playground for ice and look at the windchill. Then we decide, based on those conditions, if recess will be outside or inside that day.

SCHOOL CLOSING ALERTS

When we need to close school, we will send out both a text and email alert to the numbers and emails we have in our system. Please make sure you keep the office updated with any changes in your cell phone number or email address. Additionally, you can watch the local news stations to watch for our school name on the scrolling list. The local news stations also have options for you to sign up for text alerts when our school closes. Please check your local news stations' website to sign up for the text alerts of your choice. Below are two links that we have found on the websites <https://www.wkyc.com/textalerts> and <https://fox8.com/closings/closing-text-alerts/>.

MERCHANT CERTIFICATES

Updated merchant certificate order forms are available in the school office. These merchant certificates help support our school. Please contact Mary Beth Lyons at 440-487-6360 if you have any questions. As always thank you for your support.

EARN MONEY FOR THE SCHOOL

There are many ways you as a parent can help raise money for St. Helen School by:

1. **BOX TOPS** send in Box Tops to the school office or put them in the container at the church entrance.
2. **GIANT EAGLE** - [Sign in](#) to gianteagle.com or [create an account](#). Next Register your Giant Eagle Advantage Card® online. Visit the [My School Programs](#) page and enter the St. Helen School Code 1076. You're done! Be sure to encourage your family and friends to register, too.
3. **HEINEN'S** - register your Heinen's card online at www.heinensrewards.com/register.aspx, and select St. Helen. Heinen's will donate up to 1% on your qualified purchases to our school. You must register your card every year in order for us to receive the donation.
4. **OFFICE DEPOT** - When ordering online, simply make a purchase of qualifying school supplies, provide our school name at checkout and we will receive 5% back in credits for FREE supplies! It's a small act that can make a huge difference.
5. **AMAZON SMILE** - Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way for you to support St. Helen School/Church every time you shop, at no cost extra cost to you. When you shop at <https://smile.amazon.com/>, you will find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon (smile.amazon.com) will donate to our school. You need to select St. Helen Catholic Church United States Catholic Conference before you begin shopping. Amazon Smile will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

STILL HAVE A QUESTION OR A CONCERN

If you have any questions or concerns about our school, your child's progress, or if you would like to talk to me about something, please contact Mr. Gannon to schedule a meeting. You can reach me through my email, pgannon@sthelen.com, the school office phone, 440-564-7125, or my cell phone, 440-785-5608. I will do my best to get back to you as soon as I can.