



## SCHOOL BELLS WILL RING ON AUGUST 26<sup>th</sup> FOR ST. GABRIEL SCHOOL STUDENTS!

On **Thursday, August 26<sup>th</sup>**, our 2010-2011 school year will begin with **half-day sessions** both Thursday and Friday, **August 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>** for students in **Grades 1-8**. Full day sessions for **Grades 1-8** begin on **Monday, August 30<sup>th</sup>**. **Kindergarten** students will begin their new school year on **Wednesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>** with all-day sessions. That will give them **three full days before Labor Day**, and **four full days after Labor Day**, with the **full five-day week** beginning **Monday, September 13<sup>th</sup>**, and a more gradual introduction to their first formal academic routine.

Students' homeroom assignments will be posted as usual on the windows of the school lobby, as soon as last minute changes of new and departing students have been finalized. Both the teachers and administrative staff are eager to begin a new and exciting academic year highlighted by our Middle States Re-evaluation Process, which will begin November 30<sup>th</sup> with the arrival of our assigned visiting team. Much preparation will be in order so that, as always, St. Gabriel makes our "tradition of excellence" apparent to our visitors.

**All students are expected to begin school in their school uniforms, either the relaxed shorts/polo shirt uniform if purchased, or the traditional jumper/skirt and blouse for girls, and uniform slacks/dress shirt and tie for boys. No ties are required for K level students and ties are never worn with the shorts/polo shirt relaxed uniform purchased at Schoolbelles** (our uniform provider).

**\*\*A note of warning to parents of girls, especially in Grades 4-8: PLEASE ABIDE BY A MODEST LENGTH OF SKIRT/SHORTS FOR GIRLS. Fr. Haney and I feel that NO MORE THAN THREE INCHES ABOVE THE KNEE is the only acceptable skirt length for a Catholic School female student. Otherwise, girls will need to investigate the uniform slacks from Schoolbelles as an acceptable alternative. More about this later!\*\***

**Bus passes for Baldwin/Whitehall residents are sent through the mail directly to school families. Residents of Bethel Park and Keystone Oaks School Districts must pick up their bus passes on Monday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> or Tuesday, August 24<sup>th</sup> between 9 am and 3 pm at our school office since they are sent directly to us.**

We welcome to our permanent staff a new Grade 4 teacher, **Miss Laura Galiardi**, who will be teaching the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math, as well as regular 4<sup>th</sup> Grade subjects. Miss Galiardi was the substitute last year for Mr. Nowicki, who has returned home from his recent tour of duty in Iraq, and will be assuming his Language Arts Department role as 6<sup>th</sup> Grade teacher. **Mrs. Cindy Phillifent** has graciously agreed to replace a legend in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, **Mrs. Suzanne Kuntz**, who retired in June after 25 years of service. We wish Mrs. Kuntz well in her future years of retirement.

This year promises to be a full and exciting one. The staff and I look forward to a great academic year for your children, and to seeing their smiling, sweet faces beginning on August 26<sup>th</sup> for Grades 1-8, and September 1<sup>st</sup> for the Kindergarten. Until then, enjoy these last few precious days of summer vacation.

...Ms. Barbara Sawyer

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### LUNCHROOM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please consider volunteering your time to help in the lunchroom during the 2010-2011 school year. Volunteers are needed every day; however, there is a greater need on Mondays and Fridays.

Whether it's one day a week, every other week, or once a month, your help will be greatly appreciated. What a great way to have fun, serve our students, and tithe your time and talents!

Interested? Please call Kim Covelli at 412-882-2320.

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