



August 31, 2017

Dear Parents,

We could not have asked for more perfect weather for the Parish Fish Fry and Picnic! It was a marvelous weekend! Many thanks to the Picnic Committee and each person who worked planning, working, and cleaning up. It was truly a wonderful weekend and brought the parish, school and Mascoutah community to Holy Childhood for a fun event!

If you plan to volunteer in any way at school, you must complete each component of the Safe Environment program before you begin. If you are in doubt of your compliance, please call the school office.

It has been a custom at Holy Childhood School that any parent/family who wishes to do so donates money that is given to our Pastor and Associate Pastor for birthday and Christmas gifts. If you would like to donate money to this gift, would you please send it to school with your child in an envelope marked "Priests' gifts"? I know both Father Paul and Father Jerry do not expect anything, but are grateful for the gifts they receive.

If you have not returned forms for your child/children, please do so next week. Please be sure to read the parent/student handbook with your child/children and return the acknowledgement form. Also, concussion forms need to be signed and returned.

School pictures will be taken on Sept. 18 and 19. Preschool 4 year olds and group/class pictures will be on Monday, September 18. Preschool 3 year olds and grades Kindergarten thru 8 are on Tuesday, September 19. All ordering will be available on-line. Information will be emailed next week. Students may dress out of uniform for their individual picture (4 year olds on Mon. Sept 18 and 3 year olds, kdg thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade on Tues. Sept. 19).

The Catholic Conference of Illinois has been diligently working to help families of students in Catholic Schools. The Conference reached their 3 legislative goals which were: 1) a teacher tax credit of \$250.00 for personal purchase of classroom supplies, 2) increase in parent/guardian tuition credit from \$500.00 to up to \$750.00 (This credit is for tuition, book and lab fees and can be claimed for 25% of expenses over \$250.00. One would have to spend \$3,250.00 in a calendar year on tuition books and lab fees to get the \$750.00 deduction.) and 3) Scholarship tax credit to Illinois companies donating to a scholarship fund for children attending Catholic Schools. Thank you to all who sent emails to the legislators.

Next Thursday is the first HOPE meeting of the year. All parents are invited to attend the meetings, beginning at 6:30 on the first Thursday of the month. Babysitting is available. Skating Party at Fun Spot is next Friday!

New families, would you please return your yard sign to the office? Thank you!

If you wish to donate to help those affected by hurricane Harvey, Tom's Supermarket has a truck for your donations. Tom's is also packing boxes of food and cleaning supplies that you may purchase for \$25.00. Please keep all affected by Harvey in your prayers.

Blessings,

Claudia J. Dougherty, M.A., Ed.S.  
Principal

## **Calendar:**

Monday, Sept. 4	Labor Day – no school
Tuesday, Sept. 5	Magazine Drive kick off assembly
Thursday, Sept. 7	HOPE meeting 6:30 in cafeteria – babysitting available
Friday, Sept. 8	Skating Party at Fun Spot – 5:30-7:30
Saturday, Sept. 9	HCS boys baseball vs. St. Teresa at Grizzlies Stadium – 7:00 (Tickets \$5.00 each)
Thursday, Sept. 14	Progress Reports available
Friday, Sept. 15	Kindergarten and 1 <sup>st</sup> grade – field trip

## **SCRIPS**

Gift cards may be purchased in the school office Monday thru Friday. Cards will also be sold in the Gathering Space after all weekend Masses. Purchasing gift cards is a great way to support Holy Childhood School! Thank you!