



St. Mary Magdalen Catholic School

869 Maitland Avenue, Altamonte Springs, Florida 32701

Principal's Newsletter

January 2008

Welcome to the 2008 school year! We look forward to a busy and exciting semester. We are preparing for our Catholic Schools Week activities and hope you will join us for many of them. The Schedule of Events flyer will be coming home on Friday, January 18, 2008.



PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for all the members of our school and parish community who are ill. May our Gracious God bring them healing, peace and continued good health.

CONGRATULATIONS

THE ORLANDO SENTINEL ART CONTEST: Out of 2,437 entries from the Greater Orlando Area, St. Mary Magdalen Catholic School (Grades Kindergarten – 5) had 32 winners in *The Orlando Sentinel* Holiday Art Contest. Congratulations to all our “artists!”

VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL: The Varsity Boys Basketball team opened their season with an exciting victory over St. Margaret Mary 48 – 44. Trailing by as much as 9 points late into the third quarter, the Mustangs’ pressure defense, clutch scoring, and timely free-throw shooting helped them erase the deficit and grab the lead in the final minutes. Duncan Brennan scored 11 points, including three 3-pointers; Brett Aring, who hit a pair of free throws to seal the victory, scored 11 points; and Jonathan Anderson had a game-high of 17 points. Coach Fulford applauds the entire team for their hard work, and wants to thank the Mustangs who made it to the game for their support.

SPELLING BEE: Our school spelling bee was held on January 15 for grades 4 - 8. Congratulations to all our classroom “super spellers.” Special congratulations to Benjamin Manipadam, Grade 7, runner-up, and R. J. Gammon, Grade 5, Spelling Bee Champion. R.J. is invited to participate in *The Orlando Sentinel's* 49th District Spelling Bee on March 27, 2008.



WELCOME

We welcome **Autumn Carey (4R), Shayna Carey (1A), Christian Johnson (2R)** and their families to St. Mary Magdalen Catholic School.

FUNDRAISING

Thank you to **Mrs. Marian Dombroski**, our **Boxtops** coordinator, and all who have sent in their *Boxtops for Education*. St. Mary Magdalen Catholic School received a check in the amount of \$1,396.72 as a result of Marian and her committee’s hard work and parent support. Wow!





We feel very blessed to have experienced the true meaning of Christmas at St. Mary Magdalen Catholic School during the holiday season. Thank you for your good wishes and thoughtful acts, deeds and remembrances. They were very much appreciated!

REMINDERS

SAFETY FIRST: For the safety of our children, please be sure that you are following the pick-up and drop-off procedures in the Handbook. Please park in the appropriate places. Please remain in your car and/or turn your car off if you leave it. Please do not leave toddlers or any child in the car while it is running. Please consider turning your cell phone off until you leave the parking area. Our children are our most valued possession.

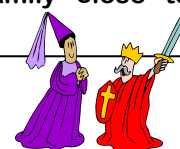
REGISTRATION FOR 2008 – 2009: St. Mary Magdalen Administration and Faculty enthusiastically look forward to the opportunity to continue to join with you in the education of your children during the 2008 – 2009 school year. The St. Mary Magdalen School Board Finance Committee has been diligently working towards keeping tuition rates for St. Mary Magdalen Catholic School affordable for all of our families. Registration packages will be coming home in the next few weeks. All financial accounts must be current to re-register for the new school year. We appreciate your continued support of St. Mary Magdalen Catholic School.

ALERT, ALERT, ALERT. This year we are encouraging our current parents to attend Open House on Tuesday, January 29 between 8:30 – 11:00 am. Please come and view your children's work at the curriculum fair, visit your child's classroom and speak with our potential new families. If you attend Open House, your child(ren) are eligible for a free dress day on Monday, February 4, 2008. Please see Mrs. Brenda East at Open House in the cafeteria to receive your family free dress day pass.

COMMITTEE HELP: If you would like to participate as a committee member to prepare for Open House on January 29, and/or our New Family Information Night on February 12, please contact Kelley Friloux (407/696-5168). If you would like to give testimony about our school at New Family Information Night, please contact Brenda East (407/339-7301). We enjoy spreading the good news about St. Mary Magdalen Catholic School with potential new families.

OUTREACH and SERVICE: One of the focuses of Catholic Schools Week is service and outreach. There will be a collection for the powder puff football game sponsored by the National Junior Honor Society. The proceeds will go towards the "Central Florida Women of the Year." You may have read in *The Orlando Sentinel* or in *The Florida Catholic* about the Sisters in Apopka who have been serving the poor of Apopka for many years. We are happy to be able to make a contribution towards this work of mercy. The National Junior Honor Society students will visit your child's homeroom the week before Catholic Schools Week. All contributions are very much appreciated no matter how big or small.

Students will also be asked to contribute towards our Mustang Stampede Walkathon. Each homeroom teacher will have available in the classroom a safe place for the children to drop in their change. The proceeds from the Mustang Stampede Walkathon will benefit a family close to home.



Remember to come out and support our *Middle School Players* this weekend, Saturday, January 19 at 7:00 pm & Sunday, January 20 at 2:00 pm in the Family Life Center for a "magical journey Into the Woods."

Don't forget, to mark your calendar to attend our **Annual Auction on Saturday, April 12, 2008.** Exciting details are forthcoming! You don't want to be left out of the fun!

Mary M. McKiernan, Principal
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2006 Blue Ribbon School
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