

Guardian Angels School
217 West Second Street
Chaska, MN 55318
May 6, 2010

www.gachaska.org
952-227-4010
952-227-4050 Fax

Items sent home the week of May 3, 2010:

- Dr. Kahn's featured article (attachment)
- Alternative Busing (attachment) **complete if you have Alternate/Daycare Address busing. Please return to School office by Friday, May 28th.**
- Alumni newsletter (flyer)

Dear Parents,

As I begin a new parent letter, I am sometimes overwhelmed at how much has occurred since the last letter – this is one of those weeks. Instead of using run-on sentences and a run-on paragraph, I will use bullet points.

- We held Kindergarten Round Up and welcomed 26 (and still counting, we are now at 27) new kindergartners to see what life is like for a GA kindergarten student.
- We finished our NWEA MAP testing for all students in grades 2-8 in the computer lab; those results will be back to teachers soon, and then passed on to you.
- We had Spring Fling 2010 and had a near perfect evening!! If you were there, you will agree with me, as that is all we have been hearing about since the event – in the office, in the halls, in the parish. Chairperson, Beth Melander, is providing you with the financial information gathered so far, and the success was two fold – community fun&fellowship and financial.
- Then we had 29 more children make their First Communion at the group celebration Sunday afternoon.
- Cinco de mayo held 3 more events – a Mass and crowning of Mary, our special lunch guests, and a donor reception to thank those who gave to our annual fund last year. We were thrilled with the many special guests who joined us for the morning.

Next week we will welcome Archbishop Nienstedt, who will be saying Mass on Tuesday, May 11th. Our usual Wednesday Mass will be moved to Tuesday, and Wednesday is a 2 hour late start. Buses will arrive 2 hours later than usual, and school will begin at 11:10. Please note those schedule changes.

Thank yous

- There are more people to thank than I could possibly do justice to them all, but I can certainly begin by thanking the committee who made that great Spring Fling happen and be the fun it was for all of us: Beth Melander – Chair, Jenny Richelsen – Co-Chair, Eric Crowell, Jennifer Dowling, Terri Farr, Melissa Horn, Kris Janey, Melissa Nault, David and Amy Pohlen, Martha Radick, Kris Westin. In the program they also listed the “Behind the Scenes help”, and if you have ever coordinated an event of any type, you know how helpful these folks are: Sarah Baker, Lisa Diminnie, Michelle Godzak, Heather Hessman, Lora Hicks, Tina Holmstadt, Corey and Tracy Huson, Peg Kaufhold, Cecilia and Jordan Laube, Kathe Matthews, April Nault (alumna), Brooke Richards, Terry Schepers, Allie Tufto (alumna), Kristen Vidmar, Ildiko Yuhas, and Kim Becker for spring Fling teacher liaison.
- To our own 2 Masters of Ceremony – Mr. Jones and Mr. Leach, along with Father Paul for “directing” us at Spring Fling

- To the Book Fair Co-Chairs, Kari Vettel, Debbie Knudson, and Lisa Aberle for doing an outstanding job with the book fair
- To those who helped out with the Half Price Book Fair for Set- Up and on Grandparents' Day - Lora Hicks, Michelle Godzak, Colleen Fraser, Janet Robling, Kris Zupan, & Sarah Baker. We couldn't have done it without you!
- To Mary Worm and Vicki Minoui in the Lunchroom for accommodating our guests for Grandparents' Day
- To Jackie Weber, Jenny Richelsen, Jessica Oberpriller, and Nancy Tufto for helping out extra in the lunchroom for Grandparents' Day
- To Terri Farr, Lora Hicks, Barb Winfield, Stacy Dunlap, Alisen Kendall, Sara Heitkamp, Candy Almquist and the Kindergarten & 4th grade parents who hosted and donated to the reception for the Grandparents yesterday
- To Brooke Richars and the PTO for the treats for kindergarten round up
- To the Richelsen family for edible arrangement for staff
- To the following who where in the contest picture for Fresh Seasons:
Martha Radick, Logan Radick (2), Mason Vogel (1) Jacob Knudson (6) Emily Knudson (8) Claire Melander (3) Nancy Ronhovde and Kim Becker

Congratulations

- To Anna Perrill, winner of the \$500 Tom Epperly Memorial Scholarship; she will be honored at the Athletic Reception on May 16
- To GA for winning \$1,000 from Fresh Seasons

Blessings,

Nancy Ronhovde

*On behalf of the Spring Fling Committee, I would like to extend a HUGE thank
you
to all of you that played a part in
making this year a success!*

*Many of you made donations- we had well over 200!
So many people offered to help out prior to the event,
the day of and even now, while we are recapping.
Attendance at Spring Fling this year was a recording breaking 185!*

Here are some of the awesome results so far:

- *Steal of the Night: \$500*
- *Flower Pots & Trellis Treasures: \$785*
- *Heads & Tails: \$1,155*
- *Class Baskets: \$1,795*
- *Class Parties: \$2,850*
- *Buy-In's: \$5,220*
- *Silent Auction Items: \$9,180*
- *Live Auction Items: \$12,850*
- *Fund A Need: \$22,000 and counting*

*A special thank you to our fabulous M.C.s,
Nick Leach and Jeremiah Jones!*

As well as, Jennifer Salwei for all her assistance, Lynette Wheelock & John Zattoni for donating the Indian Headress to the live auction, Angela Leach & Megan Jones for donating their husbands as babysitters! And all those that unexpectedly became the late night clean up crew!

*Stayed tuned for more updates and a chance to still get involved-
May 1st may be behind us, but the party goes on...Beth Melander*

Attention All Students – Book Fair

Book Fair casual day passes are available for \$1.00 through the school office. If you missed out on Grandparents'/Special Person Day, you still have a chance. Remember, only one casual day pass, per student. Thanks!!! The **last day** to purchase any items will be this **Friday, May 7th** during scheduled classroom purchase times.

Remember, all change will be donated to the One for Books jug, that money is used to fund AR and buy new library books. We need only \$175.00 to fund AR for next year! Help us reach our goal.

Summer Tutoring

Do you want to keep your child/children kept up in reading or math over the summer? Does your child need a little extra help? Mrs. Gallus and Mrs. Scott are offering summer tutoring. You can pick the teacher, the subject, and the amount of time necessary for your child. (The cost for tutoring is \$30.00 an hour.) We are starting to firm up our schedules. Please let us know if you are interested.

All you need to do is call or e-mail that teacher directly to work out the particulars. Whatever works best for you. We will then get in contact with you to see what days, weeks, or month/s work best for you.

Mrs. Gallus 227-4032 agallus@gachaska.org

Mrs. Scott 227-4012 pscott@gachaska.org

Thanks for your interest.

Still room in some of our summer offerings!!! Please don't miss the fun!! 😊

Prayer Corner

- For the Vannett's grandma (Rita's mom) for a successful surgery
- For the Perrill's grandma (Johnny's mom) who had surgery on Wednesday
- For Jean Rief's mother-in-law Ardis who passed away

May 7

Super Taco Meat Nachos

Cheese Sauce

Fixings

Fruit

Churro

Share the Spirit

A huge THANK YOU from Guardian Angels' staff and students on your participation in the Fresh Seasons Market's Share the Spirit promotion. Thanks to your generosity, Guardian Angels came in third place and won \$1,000 for our school! Thank you!

Calendar of Events:

May 7 – 6:00 PM MS dance
May 11 – **9:20 MASS – ARCHBISHOP Nienstedt**
May 12 – **11:10 AM LATE START DAY!! NO MASS**
May 16 – 6:30 Athletic Banquet
May 18 – 6:30 SAC
May 19 – Mass 7th grade
May 20 – 4 & 5th Grade Fieldtrip-all day
May 24 – 8th Grade – Science Museum
May 26 – Mass 6th grade
May 27 – Pre Celebration
May 28 – Prek Graduation
May 31 – No School

Lunchroom & Playground Helpers

Lunchroom Playground Playground

Mon	May	10	Heather Hessman	Kristen Vidmar	Sarah Baker
Tues	May	11	Jen Dowling	Tracy Huson	Kris Janey
Wed	May	12	Nancy Tufto	Brenda Red Wing	Maureen Tesch
Thurs	May	13	Lisa Thompson	Jen Dowling	Tami Hed
Fri	May	14	Jane Miller	Teresa or Chris Gess	Janice Dahl

SPORTS CORNER

Softball Game Monday, 5/10 at SACS 4:30 p.m.

Recognition and Awards Reception All athletes that participated in the 2009-'10 season should have received an evite about the event. Please respond as soon as possible so we can get an accurate count. If your family did not receive the invitation please email Mrs. Tesch for information mtesch@gachaska.org

Fall Sports Forms will follow soon. We offer soccer for 5-8th grades and volleyball for 4-8th grades. The deadline to turn forms in will be **Friday, May 28th**.

Check out this link about Convocation at HFCHS and see alumnus, Alex Richelsen

http://www.kare11.com/life/community/schools/cool-school/cool-school_article.a

**DISTRICT 112
ANNUAL
ALTERNATE/DAYCARE ADDRESS BUSING REQUEST**

Also used for shared custody
Please fill out one form for each student
(This form must be completed annually or if any changes occur)

Date _____ School Year _____ Student ID _____

Student Name _____
(School use only) Grade _____

Home Address _____
Last First City _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Home Phone (____) _____ Work Phone (____) _____

Name of School: _____ Start Date: _____

ALTERNATE INFORMATION: *Alternate address must be in student's school boundary*

TO SCHOOL TRIP: ADDRESS FROM WHICH I REQUEST MY CHILD BE TRANSPORTED.
(Child walks to closest established bus stop). Circle days that apply: **M T W Th F EVERYDAY**

Address: _____ City _____

Daycare Name/Contact Person: _____ Phone(____) _____

Comments: _____

FROM SCHOOL TRIP: ADDRESS TO WHICH I REQUEST MY CHILD BE TRANSPORTED.
(Child walks to closest established bus stop). Circle days that apply: **M T W Th F EVERYDAY**

Address: _____ City _____

Daycare Name/Contact Person: _____ Phone(____) _____

Comments: _____

Bus Stop: (For Office Use Only) **To:** _____

From: _____

Return this form to your school office

Schools please fax this form to:
Transportation Fax (952) 556-6169

Maybe This Time?

There is a light-hearted saying that insanity is doing the same thing over and over again, each time expecting different results. This came to mind last week when a mother was describing the way she was handling a specific challenging situation, how she handles that specific situation whenever it arises and how, no matter how often she handles it that way, it keeps happening. Why do we continue to use strategies that have not worked and show no sign of working any time soon?

Think about a challenge one of your children is presenting and how you are responding and ask yourself: “Is my strategy working?” If a 12-year-old speaks disrespectfully and the parent scolds harshly and the problem continues, does the parent think: “Maybe this time when I scold harshly my child will stop it once and for all?” If a child is unmotivated and falling behind in school and the parent nags and nags, does the parent think that suddenly the nagging will start helping? Why would parents expect different results from the same failed strategy?

This does not only happen in our lives as parents. There are times when we continue to use the same failed strategy in our lives outside the family. For example, many people describe themselves as perfectionists. They have unrealistic expectations even though there is no evidence that this is working for them. Could it be that they wonder if maybe this time, when they compare how they are doing with an impossible benchmark, they will suddenly achieve their desired goal and also feel relaxed, confident and have their lives in healthy balance? Even though this never worked before do they think maybe this time it will?

It is better to choose strategies based on data, both at work and at home. Twelve-year-olds should not speak disrespectfully, children should be motivated to work hard on their schoolwork, and we should all push ourselves to be successful in our careers. But often people need to be

reminded *to do no harm* while they are trying to accomplish their career objectives and while they are trying to help their children with behavioral and academic goals. Many of us have a hard time with this in our own lives and in our lives as parents. I think this may be due to confusion about *high standards, high expectations, and the difference between the two*.

It makes sense to have high standards for ourselves and for our children. But having high expectations is not the same thing. The difference is that the nature of the workplace does not always permit us to do our best work and the nature of childhood does not always permit children to do their best work, behave appropriately, use their potential in school, remember their manners, etc.

We serve ourselves best at work and our children best at home when we keep the standards high and the expectations realistic. There will be times when we do not do our best at work and times when our children are not able to do their best at home.

And at those times we are supposed to do no harm to ourselves and no harm to our children. While we are pursuing our career and while we are raising our children it is a better strategy to be kind to ourselves and to our children no matter what. At work when we do the best we can (given available resources and competing deadlines) we are supposed to be able to pat ourselves on our back. At home, when our children do the best they can (given the developmental realities of childhood and the limits of their age) we are supposed to be patient and forgiving and also take care of the important discipline work. We give a consequence, take away a privilege, and teach a value. And we do it all using our calm adult voice, the same voice we use with our neighbors and friends, coworkers and relatives. It just might be that how we handle our children at their weakest moments teaches us more about us than it teaches us about our children. Chances are good that the mistake they make today will not be the mistake they are still making a few years from now. We have to be kind, forgiving and patient with our children (and with ourselves), especially when they (and we) are not able to meet the high standards we set.

Dr. Steve Kahn is the author of *Insightful Parenting: Making Moments Count*. It is on sale for 40% off until Mother's Day, \$13.00 including sales tax. Free shipping.