

The St. Ursula Academy Parent Bulletin
Craig Maliborski, Principal
Week of October 31-November 6, 2011

Monday, October 31, 2011 BLUE/A

- 5th Bell: Halloween Party
- 3:00 Demerits Served
- 3:15 Make-up Test Day

Tuesday, November 1, 2011 GOLD/C

- 7:45am Faculty Meeting
- All Saints' Day Liturgy

Wednesday, November 2, 2011 BLUE/B

Thursday, November 3, 2011 BULLDOG/D

- Canned Food Drive Kick-Off Assembly
- 3:00 Demerits Served
- 3:15 Make-up Test Day

Friday, November 4, 2011 BLUE/A

- Bowling Try-outs

Saturday, November 5, 2011

Sunday, November 6, 2011

NOTES FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I am happy to announce that for the seventh consecutive year St. Ursula Academy has been awarded the Harold A. Meyer Award for sportsmanship and integrity by the Ohio High School Athletic Association. We are one of only three schools from Cincinnati to receive this distinction for promoting sportsmanship, ethics and integrity in our school and community. Congratulations to our students, coaches, parents and fans for modeling those characteristics on the field, sidelines and bleachers. A special thank-you goes to Mike Sipes and Coleen Vogelgesang for their work in the Athletic Department.

Over the last week, Ms. Meyer and I met with groups of 10-15 students from each grade level to discuss their experiences during the first quarter. While we could not meet with each individual student, the students who participated were representative of a wide range of student's interests and abilities. This was a great way for us to get some feedback directly from students, ask follow-up questions and provide context and explanation to some of the issues that the students have questions about. We are in the process of analyzing the student conversations and will take their feedback into consideration as we continue to look for ways to improve our programming.

Craig Maliborski

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

The second term is well under way. The final Quarter 1 grades are posted on Powerschool, and those parents who requested a printed report card should have received it by now. Since this was the first time I have been through this grading process it was very exciting for me to print the LONG list of students who earned first and second honors. The names of all of these girls are posted on the SUA homepage. **Congratulations to the 306 girls who made first honors this quarter and to the 184 girls who made second honors.**

FYI: The 1st term GPA 2011-2012 is the actual GPA from which the Honor Roll is determined. There may be some confusion because the GPA you see at the initial screen in PowerSchool ("Grades and Attendance") is the current simple GPA which does not weight grades with credit hours. We have checked the first quarter GPA's and they have been calculated correctly. The Cumulative GPA will change at the semester.

FYI: with the beginning of the 2nd quarter I reminded your daughters about what constitutes a uniform. Please help me with this reminder also:

- Nametag
- **Navy blue** uniform skort
- White or **yellow** SUA polo shirt (short or long sleeved)
- Solid color **navy blue** or white socks; or SUA leggings or plain leggings - black or **navy**
- SUA uniform sweatshirt (crew, hooded, quarter zip, full zip): **gold**, **navy**, or gray
- **NO sweatpants - yet**

AND Class sweatshirts may be worn on Fridays!

While I'm on the subject of clothing - Monday, October 31st, students and staff will be allowed to wear their Halloween costumes. We will have a costume contest during 5th bell with the finals at lunch! Parents, please remind your daughters: appropriate clothing and NO toy weapons.

Mary Ann Meyer

Additions...

CAMPUS MINISTRY

The Holy Spirit is keeping us busy in the Campus Ministry Program this quarter! We have celebrated mass with each of the classes so far. A special blessing was given by Fr. Eric Knapp, S.J., our chaplain, to all the new and future drivers at the Sophomore Class Mass. Deacon Mike Cassani, parent of Emma Cassani '15, helped celebrate the Freshman Class Mass as well as the Opening Liturgy. The theme of the Junior Class Mass was "Being like a child of God" with Maggie Kent '13 giving a meditation on Blessed Mother Teresa's thoughts on humility. The Senior Class Mass was organized by Ms. Curran's Christian Lifestyles class and their chosen theme was "Identity". Brittney Delev '12 read a Jewish prayer for the meditation and the whole class led a rousing sing-a-long to Selena Gomez' song, "Who Says". Class Masses give us a chance for intimate worship in the beautiful SUA Chapel.

The Campus Ministry Council is 40 women strong with good representation from each grade. Members are busy planning for the upcoming All Saints Day Mass, the Feast of the Immaculate

Conception Mass, and the Class Reconciliation Services which take place on the Mondays in November. All parents are always welcome to liturgies, especially the All School Masses in the Marge Schott Convocation Center! Many students have received Eucharistic Minister training and have been commissioned to begin their service to their sisters at the masses.

Last weekend 37 seniors made their Kairos retreat at the beautiful Marydale Retreat Center and joined the Kairos sisterhood of their senior class. Over half of the senior class has now made their Kairos retreat and the next group will begin preparations for the January 6-8, 2012 K76 retreat. This is a wonderful tradition to be a part of and brings much bonding and spiritual growth as the seniors prepare for the next major step in their lives.

Finally, as the Catholic Church prepares for the first changes in the mass in nearly forty years with the Third Edition of the Roman Missal being introduced at mass on the First Sunday of Advent, November 27, 2011, the religion department staff will be preparing students in their advisory sessions. We have purchased the Revised Order of the Mass booklets for use in liturgies to help make a smooth transition to a new way of praying the mass.

My door is always open and I am accessible by email, as well! Please contact me with any questions.

Mary Ragland, Campus Minister
mragland@saintursula.org

THEATER

Tickets on sale for Radium Girls!! St. Ursula Ensemble Theatre's Fall Production

In 1926, radium was a miracle cure, Madame Curie an international celebrity, and luminous watches the latest rage, until the girls who painted them began to fall ill with a mysterious disease. Inspired by a true story, *Radium Girls* traces the efforts of Grace Fryer, a dial painter, as she fights for her day in court. Her chief adversary is her former employer, Arthur Roeder, an idealistic man who cannot bring himself to believe that the same element that shrinks tumors could have anything to do with the terrifying rash of illnesses among his employees. As the case goes on, however, Grace finds herself battling not just with the U.S. Radium Corporation, but with her own family and friends, who fear that her campaign for justice will backfire. Written with warmth and humor by D.W. Gregory, *Radium Girls* is a fast-moving, highly theatrical ensemble piece for 16 actors who play more than 30 parts; friends, co-workers, lovers, relatives, attorneys, scientists, consumer advocates, and myriad interested bystanders. Called a "powerful" and "engrossing" drama by critics, *Radium Girls* offers a wry, unflinching look at the peculiarly American obsessions with health, wealth, and the commercialization of science. This show is directed by Dee Anne Bryll. The cast includes McKenna Brinkman, Kieran Conway, Madison Girten, Jenna Kalthoff, Sarah Kelley, Alli Lamping, Grace Liesch, Hannah Myers, Dawn Thomas, Maria Sawma, Haley Sherman, and Aimee Ward. The cast also includes St. Xavier students Christian Conway, Keegan Doyle, and Max Stepaniak, and Villa Madonna Academy student Tyler Blincoe. Performances are November 10 at 7:00 pm, November 11 at 7:00pm, November 12 at 2:00pm & 7:00pm and November 13 at 2:00pm. Tickets can be purchased at the SET box office during lunch. Don't miss this powerful show!

Overture Auditions on Friday, November 4 at 3:15

Overture Auditions are Friday, November 4 at 3:15pm. Students can audition to represent St. Ursula Academy at the Overture competition on Saturday, January 7. The Overture Awards is a program that recognizes, encourages and rewards excellence in the arts among Tri-State students in grades 9-12. The Overture Awards Scholarship Competition is the area's largest solo arts competition and offers scholarships in six artistic disciplines: creative writing, dance, instrumental music, vocal music, theatre, and visual art. Students may win a \$2,500 scholarship (one awarded in each discipline) or a \$500 finalist scholarship (a total of 18 awarded). More information is available on the Theatre bulletin board. Please contact Ms. Backherms, Ms. Bryll, or Ms. Hinkel if you need more information.

THE HEALTH CORNER

Along with the autumn season we start to see more issues with students becoming infected with viruses that affect the respiratory system: nasal passages, throat, vocal cords and lungs. Symptoms of illness include stuffy nose, coughing, laryngitis, sore throat, muscle aches, headaches, and fever up to 100.6 F.

There are over 100 viruses that cause these respiratory symptoms and antibiotics do not kill virus. Symptoms usually last 5 to 7 days and cause students to miss class or be unable to concentrate due to sneezing, coughing and aching. Additionally, the viruses are transmitted by air (coughing and sneezing), as well as by contact (touching contaminated surfaces, then touching your nose, mouth and or eyes).

The key to upper respiratory illness is prevention. The single most important thing you can do is wash your hands before and after eating and using the bathroom; and even washing your hands at the beginning of each class. Washing your hands thoroughly for 15 seconds removes most or all of the virus germs. Hand sanitizers can be used instead of soap and water. I recommend that each student, teacher and staff member purchase a bottle of hand sanitizer that can be used between classes, in the cafeteria, and after blowing your nose or coughing. Hand washing may save you from a week of aches, pains, and taking medication, which just helps alleviate symptoms, but cannot cure you.

Be healthy and stay healthy! Wash your hands!!

Roberta Russo RN, BSN, CSN
School Nurse

BUSINESS OFFICE

- FINANCIAL AID APPLICATIONS are now available for the 2012-2013 school year and must be postmarked by December 1, 2011. You must reapply for financial aid each year.

The application is available in the Student Services Office or on our website at <http://www.saintursula.org/admissions/tuition/1821%20St.%20Ursula%20Academy%20of%20Cincinnati.pdf>

Thank you,

Lucy Morgan, lmorgan@saintursula.org, or 961-3410 x 170.

ATHLETICS

Bowling

Warm-up Sessions will begin the week of October 31 (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 3:30-5:30pm) and will be free to all bowlers in preparation for try-outs.

Try-outs – begin on Friday, November 4 at 4:00pm and will continue on Monday and Tuesday, November 7 and 8. Try-out sessions will last approximately 2 hours each. Interested bowlers must attend try-outs both days to be considered for one of the two teams.

Swimming and Diving Program

In-water Conditioning/Try-outs will begin on Friday, November 4.

Lacrosse

Lacrosse Informational Meeting is scheduled for November 8 right after school in the Keller Center old Faculty Lounge.

Weightlifting starts on Tuesday November 1st, and will be every Tuesday & Thursday at 3:30pm in the weight room at SUA.

Swimming

Weightlifting starts on Tuesday, November 1st and will be every Tuesday and Thursday at 3:30pm.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICE

St. Ursula Canned Food Drive

This is the largest all-school community service activity of the year. In two short weeks, the girls are asked to collect 26,000 pounds of food that benefits three local neighborhood organizations and hundreds of needy families in Appalachia. The kick-off assembly for the Canned Food Drive is Thursday, November 3rd. We will collect donations until November 17th. We will collect all non-perishable foods, new blankets, and monetary donations. Food can be brought to the **weigh-stations in the rear entrance of the Keller Student Center on November 8th, 10th, 15th, and 17th from 7:30-8:00am**. The SCHOOL GOAL: 26,000 pounds – 40 pounds of donations per student (3 full brown bags of food).

Every person needs to bring in food donations in order to meet our goal! We CAN do this! We need parent volunteers to help out with our weigh-in days from 7:15-9:00am. We also need assistance with food and set-up for the CFD Reward Breakfast. The Reward Breakfast is awarded to the class collecting the most food and is scheduled for Monday, November 21st at 7:45 to 8:20am in the Keller Center. We will serve about 170 girls.

If you are new to St. Ursula or have never worked the "weigh-in", this is an easy yet fun way to volunteer. The time jumps with excitement, and you will meet girls from your daughter's Advisory bell and class.

The parent coordinator for CFD volunteers is Ms. Jacki Dillon Lyon, Class of '82 (mom of Grace'13 and Margo'15 Costello). You will hear from Jacki or Rachel Kemper, the Community Service Director, if you have expressed interest and are available to help. Thanks! rkemper@saintursula.org

UPCOMING ADMISSIONS EVENTS

Parents, share the news about what you love about SUA with families who are looking at high school choices for their daughters. Do you have a friend or family member who is considering St. Ursula for high school? If so, please invite them to visit. Here are some opportunities to visit SUA this fall:

SHOWCASE NIGHTS

November 16, December 8
6:30 - 8:30pm

SHADOW DAYS

For 8th grade girls
Runs now through December 12
RSVP: mvonderhaar@saintursula.org or (513) 961-3410 ext. 183

HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TEST (HSPT)

8th grade girls can take the test at SUA or have their scores sent from another test site.
To register: www.saintursula.org , Click on the Admissions tab.

For more information about each of these events, please visit www.saintursula.org.

TECHNOLOGY

The **7th Annual Women in Information Technology Conference** is coming up on **November 18th**. It is intended for high school girls who may be considering Technology as their field of study for the future.

This is a one-day **FREE** event at the **King's Island Resort & Conference Center** from **8:00am to 1:30pm**, and it is a chance for students to meet local women IT professionals from Citibank, GE, Great American Insurance, and P&G. Participants will hear about how to get involved in technology careers and university programs at Miami, UC, and Xavier. They will also begin the process of networking to help them establish their careers.

This event gets rave reviews every year from the students and teachers who attend!
For details, click here <http://cbatest.uc.edu/WiT/Default.aspx>

Students arrive at King's Island by 8:00am. **Breakfast and lunch** are included. Support for travel may be included. Click here for transportation information <http://cbatest.uc.edu/WiT/travelStipendFormUpdated.doc>

To register, click here <http://cbatest.uc.edu/WiT/Registration.aspx> **Registration deadline is November 1, 2011.**

Don't miss this great one-day technology event which is a great addition to college applications and resumes!

SUA contact: Margie Matthews, Tech Support
mmatthews@saintursula.org

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Rooted in the mission of Saint Ursula Academy, the Guidance Dept. specifically addresses personal and academic growth, career and college awareness, and the development of the whole person and her individual gifts. In doing so, the Guidance Dept. assists the school community in preparing women of faith, integrity and courage. It is the goal of the Guidance Dept. that the women of SUA will realize their gifts and use their potential as they move, empowered, toward maturity.

Students are assigned to a counselor by alpha split. If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact your daughter's assigned counselor. Remember, we're here to help!

Freshmen and Sophomores

A - K Caroline Renneker, ext. 212 – crenneker@saintursula.org
L - Z Sara Utecht, ext. 127 – sutecht@saintursula.org

Juniors and Seniors

A - Ha Molly Roebker, ext. 188 – mroebker@saintursula.org
He - R Cathy Sherrick, ext. 189 – csherrick@saintursula.org
S - Z Lauren Williams, ext. 126 – lwilliams@saintursula.org

Karen Noe, ext. 192, Department Coordinator – knoe@saintursula.org

Depression Awareness Week

This week, the Student Council Wellness Committee observed Depression Awareness Week. Helpful information was shared throughout the week about recognizing the signs of Depression as well as resources students can access if they have concerns about themselves or others. As always, the Guidance Department is an excellent resource available to your daughters. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact your daughter's assigned counselor.

SENIORS

College Application Deadline - Please remind your daughters that guidance requires **2 weeks to process "blue sheets."** The deadline for all "blue sheets" to be turned into guidance is **November 1st**. Seniors do not have to click "submit" on their online applications by Nov. 1st, but they do have to submit a "blue sheet" to Guidance by Nov. 1st for **every college to which they are applying.**

Some colleges/universities have separate applications for scholarships. Remind your daughter to check the financial aid/scholarship part of each college's website.

Save Copies of All College Scholarship Award Letters

As students begin to hear decisions from colleges and receive scholarship offers please encourage your daughters to **keep copies of all college correspondence!!!!** **To have scholarship offers included in the AWARDS CEREMONY PROGRAM** a copy of the offer, including the name of the scholarship and the dollar amount, must be turned in to Mrs. Noe in the guidance department. Please save those letters!

Scholarship Information

Scholarship opportunities are posted regularly on Naviance. Your daughter should be checking to see if she meets qualifications. **Applications and further information about these scholarships is available from Mrs. Noe in Guidance.** In addition to these scholarships there are many websites that are helpful. One that is widely used is www.fastweb.com

FAFSA (Free Application For Federal Student Aid)

The FAFSA form enables colleges to determine the amount of “need based” aid a student should receive. We recommend that every student complete this form as soon after January 1, 2012 as possible (even if you believe you will not qualify for need-based assistance). It is impossible to even get a student loan if this form is not completed.

The most efficient method of completing the FAFSA is online at: www.fafsa.ed.gov

Even though you can't file the FAFSA before Jan. 1, 2012, you can begin the need-based financial aid process by establishing your PIN. Check out: www.pin.ed.gov