

## Here Comes Santa Clause, Here Comes Santa Clause, Right to GSA!

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, Santa, Rudolph, and the families and friends of GSA will gather in the gymnasium to try their best to win the latest greatest toys at our annual TOY BINGO! Tickets will be available from one of Santa's helpers at the door for \$7.00 or in advance for \$5.00.

Parents and children alike will be sure to have fun as they try to win one of our wonderful prizes! This year the stage will be full of wonderful prizes for all ages. Adults will be amazed at the Christmas Feast of groceries as well as the numerous baskets available to be won. The girls in the building have been heard mentioning, "we would love to have Marie Grace, the new American Girl doll or the Monster High Dolls!" All of the boys



have been heard talking about the Lionel train set in the display case and the trucks they saw being donated.

In addition, to the wonderful prizes for the bingo games and the basket auction, there will be door prizes, a wide variety of food, as well as a wonderful bake sale. All are welcomed to attend this great kick off to Christmas!

### A NOTE FROM THE VOUCHER OFFICE:

*Families have already saved \$30,000 on tuition expenses. Dec 12th is the last day of voucher sales with guaranteed Christmas delivery. Voucher form can be found on the website.*

### LET'S GET EXCITED !!

#### HOLY REDEEMER HS FANTASTIC FACTS

##### Did you know ??

- Class of 2011 averaged 1623 on the SAT.
- Class of 2011 averaged 1068 on Reading & Math, exceeding national, state and local averages.
- Top 25% of our seniors averaged 1927 on the SAT.
- 61% of Class of 2011 earned academic scholarships.
- HRHS offers 10 different AP Courses.
- 99% of Class of 2011 attending a college or university.



Store hours:  
Monday,  
Wednesday,  
Friday  
from 7:30 am to  
8:15 am



## A Message from Mr. Jones and Mrs. Kozick ...

Henry Ford once said, "Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is a process, working together is a success."

As the first quarter of the 2011-2012 school year is completed so is the "beginning" that Mr. Ford referred to in his quote. The "progress" and "success" components now lie in our hands: parents, friends, relatives, faculty and staff, and most importantly, the students of GSA. We have laid the foundation on this holy ground known as Good Shepherd Academy for "progress" and "success" to be realized.

We have witnessed many working together to aid those affected by the recent flooding.

We are seeing this working together come to fruition daily through the food collections for Catholic Social Services and St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen. We have displayed our coming together to present a spirit of unity at St. Peter's Cathedral for the World Mission Sunday Liturgy. Our success at Forensics and Young Scholars Competitions have announced to the communities in Northeast PA that "We are GSA!". We look forward to upcoming competitions in PA Junior Academy of Science and NASA and have our students fine tuning their skills to continue that path of excellence for all to see. Our activities involved Service Club and our recently formed Student Council gives our students the

voice to foster continued success at their school. Dances, Movie Night, Athletics, Skating Parties, and Friendly's Restaurant GSA Night are just a few samplings to keep up together and succeed. We are GSA!

In preparing our hearts and minds for the Season of Advent and the birth of the Christ Child, Jesus, let us count our abundance of blessings, recognize our "progress" and continue on our path to "success". GSA is a working family of believers that surrounds students with God's love. Let us, as one GSA voice, thank God for bringing us together under the banner of "Where the Dreams of God's Children are Protected by the Shepherd." Happy Thanksgiving & Merry Christmas!

## 4th Annual Race for Education

Good Shepherd Academy held its 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Race for Education in October 2011. We once again had a beautiful day given to us from God ♥ The Race for Education is a tuition reduction program that helps families receive credit towards their tuition payments.

Race for Education Chairperson, Debbie Jakubczyk, loves that it also promotes a "healthy" competition between the students. "The students remember from year to year how many laps they ran and how many their competitors completed.

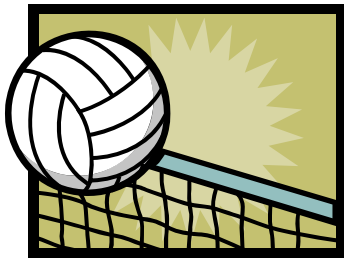
They sit patiently during the Awards Ceremony to hear their name and receive the coveted \$5.00 McDonald's gift card given for the most laps per grade," adds Mrs. Jakubczyk. The Race is also a fantastic community builder!! Many of our friends and neighbors sit along Maple Street to watch our children compete.

We have received over \$20,000 in donations!!! Please let your friends and family members know that we do accept donations through December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011.



## Sports Shorts....

Basketball season is in full swing at GSA, as 26 teams are in full practice mode, preparing for the soon-to-begin games. Boys and girls grades 3rd through 8th are participating. A huge THANK YOU goes out to the Athletic Committee and all the coaches dedicating their time to our children.



A huge congratulations to our Holy Redeemer Girls Volleyball team. Another smashing success of a season led to a District 2 Class 2A Championship and a trip to York, PA to contend in the state tournament. A tough draw in the brackets led to a difficult but competitive weekend.

### Mark Your Calendars...and Please Join Us !!

- November 23 - Race for Education Rewards
- November 27-TOYLAND BINGO 2pm
- December 1- Christmas Flower Pick up 2-4 or 5-7 pm
- December 2- Barnes and Noble Book Fair, Wilkes Barre
- December 4- Christmas Concert at Holy Redeemer 2pm
- December 9 - Santa's Workshop 12-5 pm
- December 10- Building and Grounds meeting 8:30 am
- December 10- BREAKFAST WITH SANTA 9am
- December 13- Social committee meeting 5:30 pm
- December 13- Guardian Ambassadors meeting 6:30 pm
- December 15- Fundraising Meeting 6:30 pm
- December 20- Membership and Marketing Meeting 6:30 pm

The GPTO Journal is published for parents, family and staff of Good Shepherd Academy by the Guardian Parent/Teacher Organization's Marketing and Member Committee. Its purpose is to provide helpful and accurate information about GSA activities and GPTO Programs.



### What We Offer

- Preschool programs for 3 & 4 year olds
- Before & after school care
- Individualized Instruction (I.I.) program
- Instructional Support Program
- Advanced Math Classes
- Smartboard Technology
- Textbooks Online
- Edline
- Basketball & Cheerleading
- Junior Varsity Holy Redeemer Sports
- Forensics (Varsity & Jr. Varsity)
- Yearbook
- Student Newspaper
- Student Council
- Art, Music, Instrumental Music Classes
- Tuition assistance & reduction programs
- Fundraising programs
- Scholarship Bowls
- PA Jr. Academy of Science projects
- Voucher Programs
- Hot Lunch Programs
- Remedial Math & Reading
- Title I Math
- Guardian Parent Organization with Various Committees
- Hildebrant Learning Center's Summer Fun Camp