



SAINT MARTIN
DE PORRES High School

A Cristo Rey Network School

Transforming urban Cleveland one student at a time

6111 Lausche Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44103
www.saintmartincleveland.org 216-881-1689

November 09
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A WORD FROM THE PRINCIPAL

By Ms. Mary Ann Vogel

Dear Parents & Families of Saint Martin:

As you read this newsletter your students and the faculty are preparing to close the first quarter of the school year. This has been a busy time for us at Saint Martin; the Office of Campus Ministry has been busy with students at various service events and spiritual retreats, the Office of Admissions has begun to invite potential members of the Class of 2014 to the school, field trips have taken place, students have participated in powerful prayer services, staff members have worked daily to strengthen their work with our students, students have gone to work and school in great numbers even as the flu is trying to break into the school, and our parent evenings have been well attended. In what seems the blink of an eye, the first quarter has come and gone.

The quick pace of life forces me to take time to reflect upon the instances of life I encounter daily; conversations with our students, a visit to Saint Martin that makes a change in the life of a friend of our school, and conversations concerning college transition with members of the Class of 2009. Blessings of Christ which come so swiftly that often I entirely miss them for the blessings they are to me.

These moments help to keep me focused upon the goal of Saint Martin, "creating an environment for success in high school, success in college, and success in life." I am thankful each day for the gift of Saint Martin in our lives.

Our school community has transformed quite a bit since we first opened our doors. As a staff we

continue to commit ourselves in becoming a stronger school community in all we do. We always need your assistance to strengthen Saint Martin. On November 16 and 17 during the Parent Report Card Pick-up Days, we will be asking for your help again. On those days there will be a parent survey for you to complete. The survey will ask for your thoughts on all aspects of the school community; Academics, CWSP, Counseling, Food Services, School Climate, Campus Ministry, and Extra-curriculars. I and the entire school community need to know your thoughts as we begin preparation for next year. Your words and advice will help us greatly.

Thank you in advance for your openness and honesty as you answer these questions.

You may notice some changes in this newsletter with more to come over the next few months. I hope to "shout out" some of the highlights of our Saint Martin students, staff, alumni/ae each month as well as highlight a staff member and "fun facts" from the Cristo Rey Network of Schools. Please let me know how you like these changes.

Most importantly, on behalf of the faculty, staff, and administration of Saint Martin de Porres High School let me be the first to wish you a blessed Thanksgiving.

Go with God. God goes with you.

Information from the Main Office

Please report any change of address or phone number to the main office as soon as possible. This is the only way to ensure effective communication between the school and parent(s)/guardian(s).

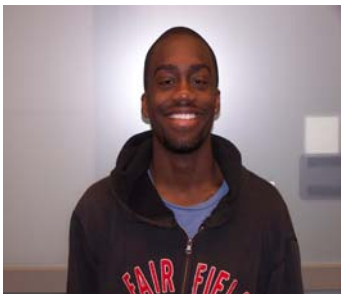
Parents, we need your help. With the cold and flu season upon us, it would be very helpful to St. Martin if each student could bring a box of Kleenex. Just think, if each student donated 1 box of Kleenex we would have 384 boxes of Kleenex in the school.

ALUMNI SHOUTOUTS

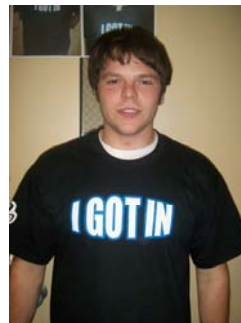
DeVonte Smith '09 – Kent State University '13
Awarded \$2,000.00 towards his college education from the Cleveland Indians. He was honored at the Progressive Field.



Gary Martin '08 – Fairfield University '12
After training hard his 1st year at Fairfield, Gary proudly became a STAG, basketball player for Fairfield University. Look for his #13 on the court.



Back at Saint Martin's we would like to shout out senior, Shirley Jordan '10 for sponsoring our very 1st Blood Drive. We drew 33 pints of blood, the equivalent of 66 milk cartons during this blood emergency time. Please put the next blood drive date on your calendar, March 17, 2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.



Congratulations go out to Mark Konkola, '10 first member of the Class of 2010 to be accepted to college.

STAFF SHOUTOUTS

Nicole Stacey, MSW, LISW, and our Director of Counseling, was recently recognized as the Ohio School Social Worker of the Year for 2009. This distinction was awarded by the Ohio School Social Worker's Association and the Midwest School Social Work Council, which represents eleven Midwest states. Mrs. Stacey's husband, children, parents and best friend were in attendance at the lovely banquet at the Hyatt Dearborn.

Also in attendance was Gwen Howard, social worker, and Joanne Lewis, Dean of Students representing Saint Martin.



November's Virtue is Responsibility

Responsibility is often regarded as a burden, but here we discover that it is actually a great source of personal power. It is the key to taking charge of our lives. As a case in point, we could see a remarkable example of a young woman who grew up in poverty but transformed her life by taking complete responsibility for shaping her own future. We learn that responsible people do what needs to be done, fulfill their obligations, are accountable for their actions, use good judgment, and don't let people down.

Leviticus 5:1

"If a person sins because he does not speak up when he hears a public charge to testify regarding something he has seen or learned about, he will be held responsible."

Office of Assistant Principal of Student Life

Mrs. Joanne B. Lewis – ext. 321

We are looking forward to all of our parents volunteering to chaperone school dances and attend athletic events and host our parent meetings. There are plenty of school activities that you can join in and support.

Thank you to everyone who attended our last Parent meeting on October 13, 2009 – "Cooking from the Garden" we had a record number of parents in attendance. We especially thank Mr. Rich Clark, President of Saint Martin de Porres High School and Ms. Michelle Brickner, teacher, and gardener for the "wonderful chili and brownies" and to our friend Mrs. Joanna Sommerville.

Our Parent Advisory Board Members are:

Ms. Drake – 216-738-0559

Ms. Brown – 216-355-4193

Mr. & Mrs. Williams – 216-431-6504

Mr. & Mrs. Santiago – 216-956-6145

Mrs. Marks – 216-280-9353

Ms. Jones – 216- 701-1493

Ms. Byrd – 216-338-8690

Mrs. White – 216-240-1876

Please encourage your students to be respectful at school and live within the guidelines and rules of

Saint Martin de Porres High School, where our motto is: Work, Study, Serve, Lead and Pray. Discipline encompasses every area of our lives, when we are disciplined in life we can count on continued SUCCESS!!

May the Peace of God be with you.



Notes from the Nurse

Mrs. Nancy McCrickard – ext. 316

Here is the most current advice from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) about the flu (all flu viruses, including H1N1, or "Swine Flu"). Check this website for the most current information: <http://cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>

What You Can Do to Stay Healthy

- **Stay informed.** This website will be updated regularly as information becomes available.
- Influenza is thought to **spread mainly person-to-person** through coughing or sneezing of infected people.
- **Take everyday actions to stay healthy.**
 - Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
 - Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hands cleaners are also effective.
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.
 - Stay home if you get sick. CDC recommends that you stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.

- **Follow public health advice** regarding school closures, avoiding crowds and other social distancing measures.
- Find healthy ways to **deal with stress and anxiety**.
- Call 1-800-CDC-INFO for more

From the Business Office

You should have received a statement with your student's Progress Report indicating your current year's tuition and the balance due by the end of the school year. If you have a balance on your account, we ask that you make monthly payments by the 15th of the month to the Business Office. All major credit cards will be accepted.

Your next statement will accompany your student's report card. In an effort to reduce postage costs, we are sending your statements home with the progress reports and report cards only; however, please call Mrs. Solarz at 216-881-1689 ext. 365 (T-Th) with any tuition related questions.

Your prompt payments are appreciated!

Performance reviews have been sent out to sponsors for the one month review. Students are reviewed on topics including work speed, attitude, and initiative. This gives us chance to see where students need assistance at the beginning of the school year. Any student receiving an overall review of borderline or unacceptable will be placed on progress reports. The student will then be reviewed each work day by their supervisor and have a follow-up meeting with a Corporate Work Study coordinator to discuss their progress. Students continue on this program until reaching an overall rating of good or outstanding on three consecutive progress reports.

Students will be assessed again in January and June to monitor progress in the program. The sponsors are also reviewed by the students. This gives our students an opportunity to express their feelings about their jobs and give feedback to their supervisors. Copies of the reviews completed by our sponsors will be mailed home in early November.

From the transportation department: A reminder that any time a student needs to have a van called for transportation there is a \$25 fee charged to their account. This includes if a student is tardy and misses their van, or if a student is going home sick from work. With the permission of Corporate Work Study students have the option of calling a parent or guardian to arrange alternative transportation.

Unity Fest

In honor of the feast of St. Martin de Porres, Saint Martin's 3rd annual Unity Fest will take place on **Wednesday, November 4 at 6:00 PM**. Please encourage students to attend. There will be a variety of fun things for everyone. Many Saint Martin students will be performing: folkloric Latino dances by the Heritage Spanish class, praise dancers, the gospel choir. In addition, the African Drum and Dance Group from Karamu House will perform. They will also be available after the performance to teach African drumming and dancing to all who are interested. Finally, there will be food and refreshments. Please come join in the fun and celebration.

☰ **Corporate Work Study**

<p>Top 3 reasons students are fired:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attitude/ Communication Skills: You don't have to be best friends with your coworkers but you do have to be polite. When you have completed an assignment or need help, talk to your supervisor. 2. Being Absent or Tardy: Your employer is counting on you to get work done. Do not be late in the morning or when coming back from breaks. 3. Misuse of technology: Texting and Facebook have a time and place and it isn't at work. Streaming music and surfing the web can cause damage to work equipment. 	<p>Top 3 reasons students receive outstanding reviews:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attitude/ Communication Skills: Asking for more work when you complete a task and being friendly go a long way in the work world. Show your supervisor that you are motivated! 2. Show initiative: Ask to learn how to do more tasks at work. The more you know the more useful you are to your employer. 3. Being responsible: When you get a task, make sure you follow through. If you don't understand, ask for help. Doing an excellent job at small tasks leads to bigger responsibility.
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Sophomore Retreat

On Friday, November 13th, our sophomores will enjoy their Sophomore Day of Retreat at Slovenska Pristava (SP) near Geneva, Ohio. The day will begin after attendance and announcements in their Mod-A classrooms.

Students will board buses for SP which is about a one-hour drive from school. We'll spend the day working together through the themes of Forgiveness and Reconciliation with some student and faculty talks, small-group exercises and fun!

Students can dress down in an appropriate way, and should be prepared for cold and/or misty weather if needed. While indoors, we need to remove shoes and MUST have on socks because of the wooden floors. At some points during the day we'll be outside enjoying the natural beauty of SP.

Retreat is a graduation requirement, and students who are unable to attend for any reason will need a written excuse, and will have to make up the day on a retreat they arrange for themselves.

Lunch and snacks are included. A letter will be coming home about one week before the date with last minute reminders.

College News

Hiram College is offering a "Training Program for Parents" on Saturday, November 21 at 9am-12pm
Join a group of college representatives and high school counselors for the "How to's" of the college search process. Students do not have to be interested in Hiram College to attend.

Register online to attend at:
www.hiram.edu/collegecamp or call 330-569-5986 for more information. Seating is limited so act fast!

College Applications

Be sure to ask your senior if s/he has turned in college applications! The preferred deadline is October 31 to have them to Ms. Hren. Look for OGT information in this newsletter!

Fun Fact

Did you know that Saint Martin is a part of the Cristo Rey Network? We are part of a national network called the Cristo Rey Network, which was founded in 1996 in Chicago. To date, there are 24 schools in the Cristo Rey Network; Baltimore, MD; Birmingham, AL; Brooklyn, NY; Chicago, IL(2); Cleveland, OH; Denver, CO; Detroit, MI; East Harlem, NY; Houston, TX; Indianapolis, IN; Kansas City, MO; Lawrence, MA; Minneapolis, MN; Newark, NJ; North Cambridge, MA; Omaha, NE; Portland, OR; Sacramento, CA; San Francisco, CA; Tucson, AZ; Washington, DC; Watts, CA; and Waukegan, Illinois.

New Network school scheduled to open in fall 2011. Check out the website at www.cristoreynetwork.org.

Please go to the Saint Martin website to find out the latest information about:

- Admissions
- Answers to your questions
- Athletics
- Events
- Faculty/staff pages
- Purchasing Saint Martin gear
- Viewing pictures of school life and all our monthly newsletters and calendars go to www.saintmartincleveland.org.