

Thursday Thoughts
April 30, 2009
Carlton Rider
Principal

You will find an order form as a part of this week's Thursday Thoughts for the Summer version of Simple Solutions covering the areas of Mathematics, English & Writing Mechanics, and Reading Comprehension. Last year there was some confusion concerning the Mathematics booklets as regards grade level. Grades K – 4 are listed as such. Grade 5 is Intermediate A, Grade 6 is Intermediate B, Grade 7 is Pre-Algebra, and Grade 8 is Algebra 1, A. Grades 5 – 8 are marked on the order form. The cost per book is \$10.00, payable with each order. In order for parents and students to receive the books before the end of the school year, please send the order form, along with your payment, to the school office or your child's homeroom teacher on or before Friday, May 8, 2009. This order form can also be found in the Information racks next to the school office. Questions? Call the school office at 740-654-1632.

Glad Tidings to Catherine Hartman! Catherine is an eighth grade student and was selected by her pastor, Msgr. Anthony Frecker, to be nominated for the Serra Club Award for being the outstanding altar server of the year at her parish, Pope John XXIII. Congratulations to Catherine for being recognized for her dedication as an altar server for her parish.

Our 5th graders have joined forces with the 5th graders from St. Bernadette School for their three day outdoor education learning experience at Pilgrim Hills. This is a great learning experience and gives the students from St. Bernadette an opportunity to become acquainted with our students before coming to St. Mary's as sixth graders. Prayers and blessings to the fifth grade teachers and those parents from both schools who volunteered to accompany the students!

Speaking of the 5th graders from St. Bernadette . . . they will be visiting with us on Wednesday, May 6th. Both the teachers and I look forward to having these students share a day with us to give them an idea as to what life is like at St. Mary's.

Glad Tidings to our teachers and the students who help them for our two flower sales! Each year our teachers' association sponsors two flower sales with the proceeds going directly toward tuition assistance. On average, our teachers donate over \$10,000 a year to provide assistance for families in financial need. If you multiply that yearly total times the 25 or so years that the teachers have been sponsoring this project, you get an idea of the amount of money they have put toward helping families in providing tuition assistance. I also want to recognize our students who have given their time and energy to helping the teachers fill orders and carry the flowers to cars, trucks, and vans. With National Teacher Appreciation Week being celebrated the week of May 4th, you might want to take a minute to thank your child's teacher or any teacher for that matter, for everything they do, both in the classroom as well as outside of school time, to make our school a great place to learn.

Introducing **Summer Solutions!**

"On average, students lose approximately 2.6 months of grade level equivalency in mathematical computation skills during the summer months." Ron Fairchild, Executive Director of the Johns Hopkins University Center for Summer Learning.

Parent Letter/Order Form

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The best way to maintain your child's academic progress in math and language arts is through on-going and consistent practice over the summer months. *Summer Solutions* will keep your child proficient in his/her skills and will continue to foster the confidence gained throughout the school year. *Summer Solutions Mathematics* is available for Kindergarten – Algebra I; *English & Writing Mechanics* is available for 1st – 8th grade; and *Reading Comprehension* is available for 2nd – 5th grade.

The lessons are designed to be completed 3 times per week for 10 weeks. Each book contains 30 lessons along with answers designed for self-checking. The cost of each book is **\$10.00**; there is no shipping/handling fee or tax when you pre-order through your child's school. Please complete the order form below and return it, along with payment, to your child's teacher by **May 8, 2009**. **Please make your check payable to the school.**

Note: When ordering Math, choose the same level as the *Simple Solutions* book that your child is now using.

You can find more information at www.SimpleSolutions.org. At our website, you can email the authors of these books if you have questions about the content of the program.

Summer Solutions Order Form

Student Name _____

Grade _____

Mathematics			
Level	Qty.	Level	Qty.
K		5 Intermediate A	
1		6 Intermediate B	
2		7 Pre-Algebra	
3		8 Algebra I, A	
4		Algebra I, B	

English	
Level	Qty.
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	

Reading	
Level	Qty.
2	
3	
4	
5	

Please return this form to your child's school as soon as possible. Make check payable to the school.

