



Dear Parents,

September 2008

Once again **PRES** is on the move with technology!! (Literally) The summer months proved to be very busy here at school. The library was converted to the new computer lab. The tech team was instrumental in this move. This transformation was made possible by many volunteers from local union members, parents, parish members, alumni, Mr. Bob, Mr. Pete to school students and everyone in between. The construction began with partial demolition of room 4, making way for the new library. Books, shelves, and computers were removed, walls were repaired, wiring was run for network and electric, more computers, and computer desks were moved and put into place. Rooms were painted and renewed. Students are pleased with the results. I am hearing a lot of WOWS!!! Thank you to all that made this transformation possible!!

During the summer we were able to purchase three more SMART Boards and have them installed. As of now, we have a SMART Board in rooms: 6, 9, 11, 14, and 15. There is a Webster interactive whiteboard installed in Kindergarten. We received a SMART Board, projector, and laptop through the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit, federal funds, and installation was included. This technology was placed in the new computer lab. The IU offered SMART Board training for the faculty; the first of two days training for our faculty was held last Friday. A second session will be held in November. The training proves to be invaluable. Before you know it, faculty and students will be SMART!!!! This is yet another great stride as Pres forges ahead with technology! We are truly blessed to have teachers that are ready, willing, and able to embrace new teaching methods and technology.

Our focus again this year is to purchase and install interactive Smart boards in more classrooms. Again this year, we have *United Streaming* available. "*United Streaming* provides thousands of developmentally appropriate videos, images, and related resources and makes learning accessible, manageable, and fun". This certainly complements the integration of technology throughout the school for the students' benefit.

Our main fundraiser for technology this year is the **Basketball Tournament** to be held at Cardinal Dougherty High School on Saturday, **October 18**. Put a team together and be part of a fun day. If you are not playing, feel free to stop by and show your Pres Pride and cheer our teams on!!! More information is available on the school web page.

Please remember to check out **Presentation BVM School** web site. We are using the school web page as a major communication tool for our students and their families. The "family envelope" is now digital. All school related family communication is available on the school web page under *Family Communication*. Weekly email notifications are sent to anyone that has joined our email list. If you have not done so already, please visit the school web page, and click on Join eMailing List on the left column. Input your email address. It is that simple!!

www.presentationbvm.org/school

We have changed our **WEB AFFILIATES** association this year. We are utilizing iGive.com. There is an iGive link and more information available on the Presentation BVM School web page. When doing your online shopping, simply click through the link on our web page, register with iGive and designate Presentation BVM School as your cause. Pres will receive a percentage of the purchase. After registration on iGive, you can directly access the iGive web site for shopping. This is an easy fundraiser for our school.

Speaking of easy fundraisers.....don't forget, we are using Search and Give also. This is a simple way to earn money for the school while doing searches online. More information is available on the school web page.

Technology is ever changing and Pres is proud of the technological advances we have made. All of this progress is made possible in part by the technology team. This is a group of people dedicated to the advancement of technology throughout the school and for the betterment of our students. The team meets on a monthly basis. Meetings generally revolve around the overall technology goals of the school and the plans to help achieve these goals. Planning, fund-raising, grant writing, hardware/software acquisitions, installation/reconfiguration of PC's, and communication are among some of the many items that are discussed at these meetings. If you are interested in enhancing technology for your child or to help out in any way, please contact Mrs. Rocks at techteacher@comcast.net On the job training provided☺

We have much to be thankful for here at Presentation BVM School. We thank everyone for their continued prayers, support, kindness, and generosity. The **Pres Pride** is obvious.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Trudy A. Rocks
Technology Coordinator