

Assumption Tigers

School colors: Black & Gold



www.assumptionschoolgranger.org

**2011-2012
School Board Members**

Chair: Dan Moellenbeck
Vice Chair: Joe Creighton
Secretary/Treasurer:
Carrie Moats

Jerrold Robinson
Susan Steier
Merlyn Wiese
Herb Hartman
Fr. Remi Okere
Dan McGuire

All board meetings are held in the church conference room, the first Thursday of each month, 6:00 p.m. Parents are welcome to attend meetings.

BACK TO SCHOOL

A special edition of the **Simply Put** newsletter
by
Assumption PTO

2011-2012 PTO Board:

President – Gina Derry

Vice President – Cathy Moellenbeck

Secretary – Erin Schmitz

Co-Treasurers – Bret & Anne Posegate

Scrip Chair – Brenda Erps

Welcome Back

The Assumption PTO would like to take this moment to welcome the students and staff back to school. We are wishing everyone a wonderful school year that is safe, full of fun, lots of learning, and exciting adventures.

We would like to invite all parents of students and teachers of Assumption to join us during our meetings this year, which will be the fourth Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m. All are welcome and we hope to see some new faces this year.

God bless you all during the 2011-2012 school year!

Gina Derry, PTO President



**2011-2012 PTO
Meeting Schedule
(all at 5:30 p.m.)**

Aug. 25
Sept. 22
Oct. 20
Nov. 17
Jan. 19
Feb. 16
Mar. 29
Apr. 19
May 17



DEAR LORD,

We thank you for the fragrance of a new box of crayons, the rainbow in each perfect row. Thank you for each bundle of snowy white notebook paper, awaiting fresh possibilities.

May they remind us that you make all things new and bless us with abundance.

Thank you for this ruler, for every eraser that tops every pencil. May they help us remember to measure our blessings, but never your boundless love for us, to allow for the making of mistakes as a normal part of human learning.

As we lay out our new clothes for these first days of school, help us remember

to put on Christ each day, too, and to "clothe the naked" as he asked us.

But mostly, God, help us remember that Jesus is always our best and most devoted teacher – that we never outgrow all his lessons on how you want us to live and to love.

AMEN

Meet and Greet our Teachers!

Tena Purvis	Preschool
Ann Christiansen	Preschool Teacher's Aide
Sue Knie	Kindergarten
Karen Mandernach	1 & 2
Susan Biley	2 & 3
Mandy Means	3 & 4
Jo Ann Mauritz	MS
Greg Stotts	MS
Erin Paulsen	MS
Pam Kenkel	Music
Kathy Pantzar	Technology/Library/P.E.
Georgina Sosa-Dominguez	Spanish (Preschool & Kindergarten)
Amparo Carney	Spanish (1-8)
Deborah Welsch	Guidance Counselor
Julie Schenk	After School Care Supervisor
'Grandma' Kay Sutton	Foster Grandparent



Before & After School Programs

Before School

Doors open at 6:30 a.m. The cost is \$4/day. Students are able to finish homework, read books, or play games while being served a breakfast. "Bettie makes the BEST toast!" is what you will hear from all the students who attend. Students transition to their classrooms starting at 8:00 a.m.

After School Care

Students are monitored by teachers during this time as they play for a while after school, before having a light snack. The students then move into a classroom where they are able to do school work, play games with others, or read until their parents arrive. The cost for this program is \$6/day from 3:30 to 6:00 p.m. On early out Wednesdays, the cost is \$2 from dismissal until 3:30 p.m.



School Lunch Program

We welcome and encourage parents and guests to dine with their students at mealtimes. Many parents find this is a great way to connect with their student and spend some quiet time chatting with them and their friends. If you would like to join us for lunch, please send a note to your child's teacher (or call the school office before 9:00 a.m.) to be included in the lunch count for the day.

The cost of an adult lunch is \$3.00. The monthly school lunch menu is posted on the Assumption School website.

WEEKLY SCHOOL MASS

There is an all-school student-led mass every Thursday morning in the church. Mass begins at 8:30 a.m. Your student will have parts in these masses throughout the school year, and parents often attend the school masses whenever they can make it. Following mass, many of the parents head over to Amici Espresso in Grimes for a quick cup of coffee. Everyone is ALWAYS invited!

School Uniforms

School uniform guidelines can be found on the Assumption website. While you can shop anywhere for school uniform clothes, Lands' End will donate 3% of net sales from their school uniform products back to Assumption School. To take advantage of this offer, go to www.landsend.com/school and use the school number for Assumption in your order (900036898).

If you use Lands' End Scrip (17%) to purchase uniforms online - Assumption will receive a 20% profit from the sales!!!

Did You Know?

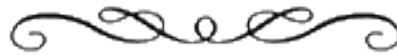
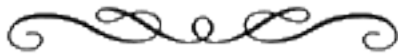
We also have a **FREE** uniform exchange.

This is located in the coat room across from the gymnasium entrance.

Reuse & recycle!

Special Activities at Assumption...

- *Weekly Mass
- *Mock Trial (1st semester for Middle School)
- *Summer School Program (open to K-8th grades)
- *Alter Server Instruction (3rd grade and up)
- *Weekly Rosary or Stations of the Cross
- *7th & 8th Grade Parochial School Dances
- *Instructional Field Trips (paid for with BRAG proceeds for all students)
- *Sacramental instruction for First Communion, Reconciliation, and Confirmation
- *May Crowning in the Spring
- *Celebration of the Feast of St. Nicholas
- *Catholic Schools Week
- *Artist in Residence Program (during CSW)
- *Chess Club (2nd semester for 1st - 8th graders)
- *Christmas and Spring Musical Programs
- *Instrumental Band (Middle School)
(Mrs. Kenkel also offers private piano lessons)



Sports at Assumption...

Girls Volleyball: This team is open to middle school girls grades 5-8. They compete in the Parochial School League in Des Moines. The coaches are Cathy Moellenbeck and Brenda Erps.

Girls Basketball: The team is open to all girls from 2nd through 8th grades. Basketball basics are taught to the younger girls who come to practices and get the chance to play in some games. The Middle School girls compete in the Parochial School League in Des Moines. The coach is Connie Bugenhagen (Mrs. B).

Boys Basketball: Open to Middle School boys grades 5-8. The team competes in the Parochial School League in Des Moines. The coaches are Jerrod Robinson, Mike Darr, and Janet Merry.

Cross Country: Our students may join the Junior High Cross Country team that is organized through Dowling Catholic High School. More information may be found at <http://dowlingcrosscountry.blogspot.com>.

Wrestling: Dowling Catholic Maroon Mat Club is open to all kids K-8 in the greater Des Moines area, regardless of school attendance. Wrestling level will be determined by the coaches on an individual wrestler basis.

1st/2nd Grade Boys Basketball: Teams to be determined.

3rd/4th Grade Boys Basketball: Teams to be determined.



BRAG

Bike Ride Around Granger



2011 BRAG Date: Friday, September 23

- *BRAG is our school's only significant fundraiser.
- *Students collect pledges and donations for the laps they ride around a set route in Granger.
- *100% of donations go to the school with nothing to sell.
- *Excellent community event combining students, teachers, parents, and volunteers.
- *Fun for everyone!



Why we ride...

...to enhance our curriculum and facilities by investing in technology and improving the learning environment for all students.

...to prepare our students for high school and college by blending new technologies with proven educational methods.

...to promote physical fitness through a variety of activities.

SCRIP

Scrip is just another word for "gift card". Here is how the program works: When you buy a \$10, \$25, \$50, or \$100 gift card, you pay exactly that amount. You get exactly what you paid for. For every dollar spent, Assumption gets a percentage, as we have pre-purchased the cards at a discount. We use the money for various projects and improvements at the school. The order form is now available through the school's website, or extra copies can be picked up in the school office. Scrip will be widely available throughout the year. You can purchase Scrip in the following ways:

1. Order forms will be accepted at the school office throughout each month at any time with one order being placed the morning following each PTO meeting. Just complete the Scrip order form, total the order, and enclose your check payable to Assumption PTO. Scrip will be ready for pick-up or sent home with your child the following week.
2. The Scrip box with our regularly stocked gift cards will be on campus for daily sales. Scrip can be purchased from Diane in the school office Mondays through Fridays. A list of our regularly stocked cards is posted on the school's website.
3. Scrip will be sold after every weekend mass.
4. Special orders for larger amounts can be placed at any time by contacting one of the Scrip coordinators: Brenda Erps, Cathy Moellenbeck, or Christie Creighton. Also, if additional orders are going to be placed throughout the month, the PTO will send out an email asking if anyone is interested in ordering.

Past Scrip profits have funded the Cubbies and Hallway Remodel, the Middle School Lockers, and the Kitchen Remodel.

Box Tops and Campbell's Soup Labels

Each Box Top coupon is worth 10 cents for our school. You can clip Box Tops coupons from hundreds of your favorite products and your student can turn them in to his/her teacher. Box Tops are tallied each month for a fun class competition that is displayed on the school bulletin board. Assumption receives CASH from Box Tops.

Send in your Campbell's Soup labels with your student as well. These also help in the class competition and go towards "points" that we can use towards purchasing items for the school.

Our Box Tops/Campbell's Soup Coordinator is Sharon Lyddon.



Parent Opportunities

We would like to invite all parents and teachers to our monthly PTO meetings. This is a great way to meet other parents and to explore the many opportunities there are to become involved in your student's education. Even if you are unable to make it to these gatherings, we encourage each of you to share your time, talents, and ideas with our students.

There are many different ways you can participate throughout the school year. The following activities are parent-run activities. Without the great parent involvement that we have at Assumption, our students would not be able to have these fun experiences!

**Back-To-School Breakfast*: A nice breakfast held for all parents of Assumption students.

**Book Fair*: Held in the fall in conjunction with Parent/Teacher Conferences and a pancake breakfast.

**Booster Club Committee*: All parents with a student athlete are automatically on this committee, but other parents are welcome as well. This committee will support our student athletes throughout the year.

**Conference Meals for Teachers*: Don't have a lot of time, but like to cook? Then join this committee and provide food for our teachers' meals during conference times.

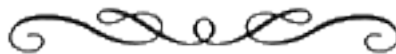
**Homerom Parent*: Each grade has a Homerom Parent who also serves as the liaison between the parents and teacher. This parent also helps organize the classroom events.

**Religious Support Committee*: Join this group to plan Catholic Schools Week, May Crowning, and other special religious events throughout the year.

**Teacher Appreciation Week*: Help plan a fun week in honor of our fabulous teachers.

**Track & Field Day/Ice Cream Social*: This is the big end-of-the-school-year event that is full of outdoor fun and exercise. Parents help run all the competitions and serve the ice cream at the end of the day.

**8th Grade Graduation Reception*: The 7th graders and their parents traditionally host a graduation reception in the gym following the ceremony each year for the 8th grade graduates and their families and guests.



Assumption PTO Mission Statement:

Enriching each student's education is the primary goal of the Parent Teacher Organization. PTO strives to enhance every child's school experience by supporting staff through encouraging parent participation, providing volunteers to assist in school efforts and providing financial assistance to expand educational opportunities. A secondary goal of the PTO is to create a parent support network by planning events that offer parents an opportunity to network and offer prayer and/or volunteer assistance for any family that might need it during a difficult time.



Assumption PTO – 1906 Sycamore – Granger, IA – 50109



Go Tigers!