

# *The LCA Weekly*

## *September 3, 2009 Edition*



### **Calendar**

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| September 4  | No School - Non-Instructional Day                              |
| September 7  | No School - Labor Day  |
| September 8  | Preschool begins<br>Band lessons begin for upper grades        |
| September 9  | Curriculum Night, grades one through four, 7 p.m., Cafeteria   |
| September 10 | Curriculum Night, grades five through eight, 7 p.m., Cafeteria |
| September 16 | Faculty Meeting - early dismissal at 2:30 p.m.                 |
| September 17 | Market Day pick-up, 7 - 8 p.m., Cafeteria                      |
| September 18 | LOFT Adult Social  |

### **News**

#### ***With School Underway, a Few Reminders for Parents & Students:***

- Be sure to put names & classroom numbers on all equipment you send to school with your child, including any playground toys.
- Be sure to keep small children close to you if you walk to school with them. We want to avoid accidents!
- Please do not litter or loiter on neighbors' yards when picking up or dropping off your children.
- Please do not bring your dog with you when dropping off or picking up children. Dogs are not permitted on campus.
- There is no smoking permitted anywhere on campus when school is in session.
- Bicycles, whether ridden by children or adults, must be walked on campus.
- Use crosswalks when crossing the street to reach cars – PLEASE DO NOT JAYWALK!

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#### ***Keep Those Forms Coming!!!!***

In last week's take-home envelope – the first of the year – there were a number of forms that we ask our parents to complete at the beginning of the year. Those forms are due back now! Please take the time to complete them and return them to your child's homeroom teacher.

#### ***Volunteer Opportunity: "Envelope Moms" Needed for Thursday Mornings***

We are looking for volunteers for our Thursday Morning Envelope Stuffing Team. That's the group that prepares the take-home packet each week. If you'd like to be a part of that team, contact the Main Office at 521-0559. We'd appreciate your help – there, or anywhere!

#### ***Have a Long Walk to School? Bus Passes Available***

Students living in Cleveland at a distance of **more than two miles** to school may qualify for free RTA bus tickets or transportation reimbursement. If you qualify, forms are available in the Main Office. These forms must be

returned by Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. Also, students living in Lakewood, but **more than one mile** from school, may qualify for reduced-fare RTA bus tickets. There is a separate form for this, also available in the Main Office. This form is due by September 7<sup>th</sup>. Contact the Lakewood Board of Education for more information.

***A Note from the School Nurse....***

If your child has a food allergy or any other health issue requiring medication, please be sure to inform LCA nurse Joanne Maiden and complete the relevant forms as soon as possible. We now have the medical forms on line for easy download. You'll find them at [www.lakewoodcatholicacademy.com/forms.htm](http://www.lakewoodcatholicacademy.com/forms.htm). Any questions can be directed to Joanne Maiden at 521-0559, extension 3060.

***Fifth Annual LCA Race A Success!***

Thanks to all who participated in the Fifth Annual LCA 5k & Michalko Mile Youth Race last Sunday. Despite the gloomy weather, we had a nice turnout and the race will add significantly to the LOFT coffers. Special thanks to race organizers Holly Lauch, Dan Saracina, Shannon Fitzpatrick, Culeen Carey and the entire team, to the Setta family for providing trophies, and to all our family and company sponsors, and of course to Mr. Deisler for showing up at 6 a.m. for set-up! Check the LCA picture pages for pictures and video from race day. Also: We have a limited number of race t-shirts available for sale in the Bookstore, from this year's race and from past races as well if you want to complete your collection!

***Mark your Calendar for the State of the School Address!***

We'll be holding our annual State of the School meeting on Wednesday, September 23 at 7 p.m. in the Gymnasium. The address will include presentations by LCA Principal Maureen Arbezniak, Finance Committee Chair Charles Battiato, and LCA Board Chair Joseph Gibbons.

***St. Ignatius offers Wildcat Football for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys***

LCA boys in grades seven and eight are invited to attend one of two St. Ignatius Wildcat football games with their families this year. There are two opportunities: This Saturday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, at 7 p.m. versus Clayton Northmont High School or Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup> vs. Inkster High School. Both games will be at Byers Field in Parma. Families are asked to enter at the Day Drive entrance directly across the street from the Red Lobster. All students should wear some form of apparel from their grade school – a jersey, sweatshirt, t-shirt, jacket, etc. Admission is free!

***A Note For 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Parents...***

Beginning next week, band practice for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders, which takes place on Wednesdays, will be from 2:30 until 3:30 p.m. If you have more than one child at school and you don't want to make two pick-up trips, we will provide a quiet, supervised place for your band player's siblings to wait until 3:30.

***And Finally: A Special Note from Mrs. Gretchen Petty....***

My Dear LCA Family: How can I ever begin to thank you for the kindness that you have showered on Claire, Colin, Scott and me following our tremendous loss? The gifts, cards, money, meals, flowers, hugs, prayers, phone calls and visits overwhelmed us. As we continue on without Tom, the thing that will get us through each day is the love and support you have shown to us all. Please know that we will never forget what you have done for us and we will carry that love in our hearts forever. Thank you and May God bless you all as he has blessed our family. Sincerely, *The Petty Family*

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***In This Week's Packet:***

- EdLine Information Letter
- Principal & Pastor Designate Letter Regarding LCA Worship Schedule
- Principal Letter About Extended Curriculum
- Lakewood Schools Community Forum Flyer



September 3, 2009

To Our Lakewood Catholic Academy Families,

We have made a change this year at Lakewood Catholic Academy that we wanted to share with you today. It is in regard to our schedule for student worship opportunities during the school year.

As you know, our Catholicity is of primary importance to our school. Every Friday afternoon since our inception, we have celebrated Mass in the gym as a school community. The only exceptions have occurred during weeks when we have Holy Days of Obligation, during which we celebrate on the holy day itself, or when we are not in session on a particular Friday.

Since our opening in 2005, we have been asked by many of you to consider the idea of celebrating class-level Masses in our beautiful, intimate, and ultimately under-utilized Chapel. After much deliberation, we have decided to alter our schedule of worship in a way that, we believe, will improve the experience of the liturgy for our students, while also preserving the integrity of our academic schedule. While we know that some of our families will question doing away with a weekly all-school Mass, we believe that these class-level Masses will result in a deeper spiritual experience for our children.

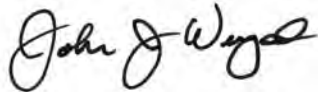
Here are the basic details of our new approach:

- All-school Masses will still be held for Holy Days and special occasions, such as opening and closing Masses, Grandparents Day, and other special days such as Ash Wednesday.
- In addition to these all-school Masses, students will participate in grade-level Masses in the Chapel, which will provide a more intimate setting and experience. The celebrating priest will come to school at the beginning of the week to meet with the homeroom that is planning the Mass, significantly increasing the students' stake in the Liturgy.
- The current plan is to celebrate Mass for two grade levels each week.
- Homerooms will take turns planning the Mass for their grade level. For example, Mrs. Seeds' homeroom will plan the first Mass for 8th grade; Mr. Tabar's class will plan the second Mass, and so forth.
- In addition to Mass, grade levels will be encouraged to plan/participate in at least one prayer service per month. Prayer services will be led by the students and teachers, and will not involve a priest.

- Second graders will attend some Masses with 7th grade so that they can be witnesses to the Eucharist in preparation for their First Communion.
- First graders may also attend some masses with their 8th grade “buddies.” We are continuing to work on the details of this arrangement.

In summation, we believe that this new approach will make use of one of our finest campus assets – our beautiful chapel – while raising the level of student participation in the planning of our Liturgies as well as increasing the quality of the liturgical experience for your children. It will also allow us to maintain the integrity of our academic schedule by eliminating the need for shortened periods every fifth day. As in everything we do, we will of course evaluate the new system at the end of the year to assure that we are achieving our goals.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John J. Weigand". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Fr. John J. Weigand  
Pastor Designate

Maureen Arbezniak  
Principal



September 3, 2009

Dear Parents,

As we begin the 2009 - 2010 school year, we are pleased to introduce a new program at Lakewood Catholic Academy, the Extended Curriculum. This program is designed for students in Grades 2 - 6 who exhibit high levels of academic achievement and/or ability based on standardized test scores and teacher recommendations. In order to qualify for this year's program students must have met two of the following three criteria:

1. A CogAt score of 120 or above;
2. A Core Total of 95% or above on the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills;
3. A recommendation by last year's teacher(s).

Students will meet one morning per week in the Learning Lab (Room 104) with Miss Kathy O'Toole (Grades 2 - 3) or Mrs. Eileen Murphy McGuire (Grades 4 - 6). If your child qualified for this year's program, you will be receiving a letter from one of these teachers next week.

Although we remain committed to differentiating classroom instruction for all students, this program will provide the opportunity to extend and deepen the curriculum for our students who need a higher level of challenge.

Enrollment in the Extended Curriculum will be fluid. A portfolio will be kept on students who "almost" qualified for the program this year: after monitoring their performance, they might be added to the group mid-year or might qualify next year based on this year's standardized test scores. Likewise, students who find the program too challenging might not qualify for the program next year.

The Extended Curriculum, along with Understanding by Design, our unique approach to vocabulary development, the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, our Reggio-inspired preschool, and the many other high quality programs in place here at Lakewood Catholic Academy all serve to advance our goal to be the finest Catholic school in the Diocese of Cleveland.

Thank you for all you do to keep Catholic education alive in the City of Lakewood!

Very truly yours,

Maureen Arbezniak  
Principal



September 3, 2009

Dear Parents –

Welcome to a new school year. As in past years, Lakewood Catholic Academy will be using Edline, a program that is an easy way for you to keep-up-to-date online with your student's progress. Teachers in Grades PK-2 do not maintain an EasyGradePro Gradebook. Instead they will be using their Edline web page for listing their homework, projects, parent information, etc. The teachers in Grades 3-8 have already uploaded their gradebooks. You should be able to see your student(s)' information if you have an active account.

As stated in the 2009-10 Parent Handbook, there has been a change in our policy about progress reports this year. Printed interim progress reports will be sent home to parents at mid-quarter for all students in grades 1-3. Printed progress reports will be mailed home for students in grades 4-8 only if a child has a grade of D or F in any subject area, or if there is any other reason for concern. Parents are encouraged to regularly monitor student progress via Edline ([www.edline.net](http://www.edline.net)).

It is very important for parents to activate their Edline accounts in order to monitor their child's progress. For those of you who have an active account, go to [www.edline.net](http://www.edline.net) and sign in with your user name and password. If you forgot your screen name or password just click the "I forgot my screen name or password link" on the Edline login page. To use this link, you need to know either your screen name or your email address (so Edline can find your account). You also need to know the answer to your security question. Edline cannot send your screen name and temporary password to you if...

- you have never given Edline your email address
- your email address has changed or is incorrect
- you have not chosen a security question

In this case, you will need to contact me at [mwangler@lakewoodcatholicacademy.com](mailto:mwangler@lakewoodcatholicacademy.com) or call the school office and they will connect you to my extension.

For those of you who are new to Edline or have not set up your account, you will find in this week's communication envelope a white envelope labeled EDLINE INFO. It contains a Welcome to Edline! Letter with all the necessary directions, access codes, names, and addresses attached. Just follow the directions to activate all accounts.

If you have any questions, please contact me at [mwangler@lakewoodcatholicacademy.com](mailto:mwangler@lakewoodcatholicacademy.com) or call the school office and they will connect you to my extension.

Thank you.  
Marilyn Wangler  
Technology Coordinator

# Welcome to Edline!

Congratulations! Your school has signed up to use Edline. Edline is an easy way for you to keep-up-to-date online. Once you have activated your account, and your school has posted information, you can use Edline to:

- Check your child's latest grades
- Receive email alerts when new grades are posted
- Receive emails with school or class information
- See what homework is not turned in and read notes from your child's teachers
- Verify attendance
- Read classroom news

## How to Set Up your Edline Account

To begin using your Edline account right now, just follow these easy steps:

1. Make sure you have your personal Edline Activation Code. You will get this code from someone at your school or it might be printed at the bottom of this sheet.
2. Go to [www.edline.net](http://www.edline.net) and Click on '**Click here if you have a new activation code**'

**To see pictures and directions of steps 3 and 4, click the Help button at the top of the Edline page. Follow instructions, or for more information click the '*Print an account setup guide*' link.**

3. Fill in your Activation Code. Your school may give you one parent code for each child. If you receive several parent codes because you have several children, enter each parent code one after the other. Then you can view all your children's information from the same login account. If you happen to receive the same code for the same child twice you do not have to enter it again. Click "Activate This Code" once you have entered all codes.
4. Follow the remaining steps to create your Edline Screen Name and Password. When asked if you already have an account, click "New Account" if this is your first time using Edline. If you already have an Edline account, click "Combine Accounts" to add this child to your existing account.
5. On the last account activation page, print the "Student/Parent Quick-Start Guide" so you can make the most of Edline. After this, you no longer need your Activation Code - you will always use your Screen Name and Password to access Edline. Don't share this information with anyone!

**Whenever you login to Edline, click on your child's name in the yellow Shortcuts box.**

You will then see shortcuts to his or her classes, activities, calendar and reports. Be sure to click the Help button and read or print the 'Student/Parent Quick-Start Guide' to take advantage of Edline features.

## Your Edline Account Data

***I have included only Activation Codes for those accounts that have not been activated. I strongly encourage all parents to activate their accounts so that you may view your student's progress. You must make a decision as to whether or not you choose to activate your child's account.***

***Thank you.  
Mrs. Wangler  
Technology Coordinator***

LAKWOOD SCHOOLS  
COMMUNITY FORUM:

# THE FUTURE OF OUR SCHOOLS AND NEIGHBORHOODS



The Phase III Facilities Steering Committee, a citizens' committee leading a community-wide effort to come to consensus on components of the final phase of the district's 10-year school construction program, will be offering two proposals for the community to consider. Information gathered at the Forum will help guide the Phase III Facilities Steering Committee in its recommendation to the Lakewood Board of Education.

**September 15, 2009**

**7pm-9pm**

**Lakewood High School**

14100 Franklin Blvd.

For more information, please visit:

[www.lakewoodcityschools.org](http://www.lakewoodcityschools.org)

or give us a call at 216-529-4074

Childcare is available for children ages 5 years and up and by reservation only. Space is limited! Call 216-529-4203 by Monday, September 6th to sign up.

Come join us as we discuss a proposal that will affect all of our tax dollars, schools, families, and neighborhoods on these important issues:

- Finishing Lakewood High School
- Going forward in rebuilding two elementary schools and closing one
- The effects on the remaining elementary schools

*Be a part of an exciting time in Lakewood and join your community in discussing the future of our Lakewood schools and neighborhoods.*



LAKWOOD CITY SCHOOLS