



Immaculate Conception School

## November 9, 2017 Newsletter



### IMPORTANT DATES/UPCOMING EVENTS

November 14	Diversity Assembly has been postponed
November 17	Thanksgiving Feast
November 22	Nickels to Nails Assembly/Thanksgiving Prayer Service (Noon Dismissal)
November 23-26	Thanksgiving Recess

### FROM THE DESK OF MR. KAPPERMAN

Dear Parents,

I hope that everyone had a good week and is adjusting well to the much chillier weather that has arrived.

**Halloween Candy:** Felicia Mullane would like to remind you once again to please send in any extra or unused Halloween candy to the main office at the School to her attention.

**Box Tops:** Our current Box Tops for Education Contest is running through the Christmas break. Please remember to send those little squares in so the School can turn them into money to help educate the children.

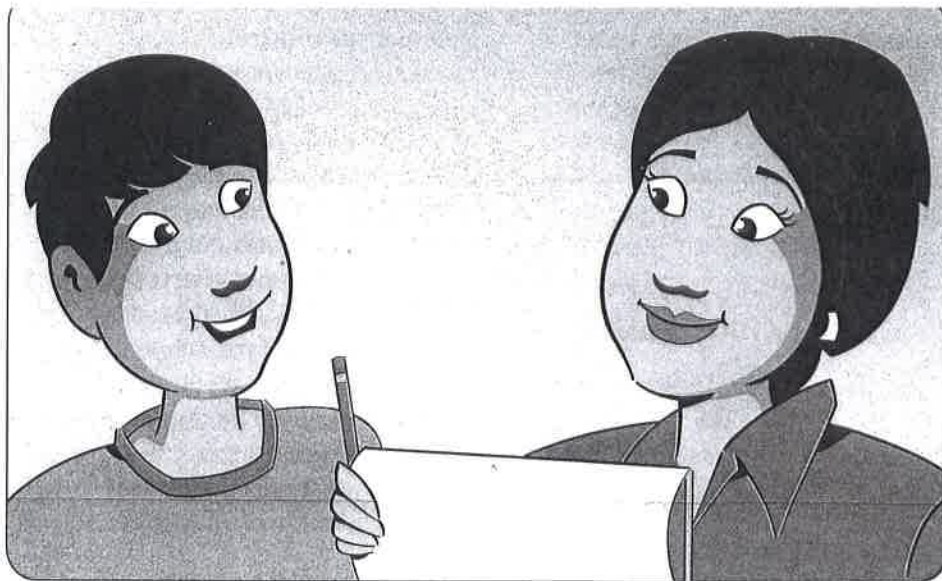
**ICS Spirit Gear:** If you are interested in ordering any of the current ICS Spirit Gear the deadline for ordering is November 17th.

**Nickels for Nails:** I am very proud of our Student Council this year. They have been working hard to improve the School's community outreach. With that in mind, I am happy to announce that the Student Council will be running a Nickel's to Nails drive to help support Habitat for Humanity. More details will be provided at a student assembly on November 22nd.

**Math Scores:** Math scores on the New York State tests have been low across the State. Schools within the Diocese of Buffalo have not been an exception. As a result I have been working hard to address this issue at our School. I have worked with the teachers to check the alignment of our Math texts to the Common Core curriculum maps. A gap analysis of the Math data has been completed and shared with the teachers. A Math committee is in the process of being formed with teachers from various grade levels to review our current texts and curriculum to monitor and adjust as necessary to begin improving the results from these tests.

**Congratulations Lego Robotics Team!:** Mr Cich would like to say how proud he is of this year's Lego Robotics Team. In addition he would like to thank Ms. Bender and Mr. Stine for all of their assistance this Fall. I would also like to extend a thank you for Mr. Cich for his hard work and dedication to the team this year.

**Technology Article:** Please be sure to read over the information from Ms. Perry that is attached to this newsletter. It provides some useful information for you to share with your children.



## Give your child practice making decisions



The best way to learn how to make good decisions is by making lots of them. So give your child as

many opportunities as you can to make choices.

Young children can decide which healthy items to pack in their lunch, for example. Older children can make decisions about more significant things.

Of course, you must still set the boundaries. Your child can decide whether to do her science or her social studies homework first, but she can't decide to watch TV before she starts her homework.

Gradually give your child more freedom to make decisions. Keep in mind that children don't always connect outcomes with the choices they have made, so help your child think about the consequences of her decisions.

If she makes a poor decision, sit down and talk about what worked and what didn't. Ask, "What would you do differently next time?" The next time she has to make a decision, she will be able to draw on what she learned.

## Regular review helps your child strengthen math skills

Success in math is built on mastering basic skills. Your child's chances of acing more math tests can improve if you do these things:

- **Regularly quiz your child on basic math facts:**  $2 \times 9$ ,  $12 - 4$ ,  $6 + 6$ , etc. Together, make a set of flash cards with the math facts he needs to know. Use them to quiz him—at the breakfast table, in the car or while you wait at the doctor's office. Your child has mastered a math fact when he can give the correct answer in less than three seconds.
- **Resist telling your child the answers.** He will learn better if you show him how to find them instead. For instance, if he doesn't know what  $3 \times 5$  is, have him draw three parallel horizontal lines. Cross them with five vertical lines. Then have him count the intersections to get the answer.
- **Have your child practice writing numbers neatly.** One quarter of the math errors students make are due to messy number writing. Your child should make sure his numbers are neatly lined up, too.
- **Encourage your child to work more problems than the teacher assigns.** Good math skills come with practice.
- **Challenge your child to do math "in his head."** See if he can figure out a problem without using pencil and paper or a calculator.

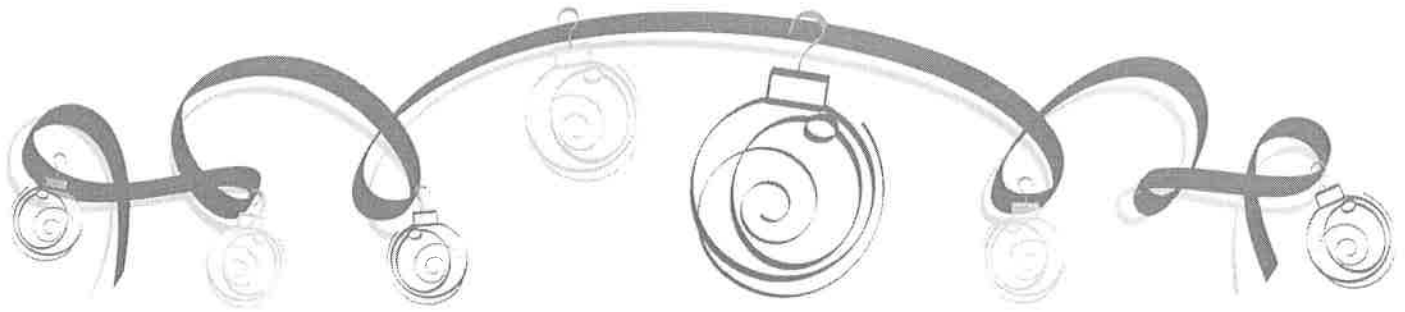
### 11/12 32<sup>nd</sup> Week in Ordinary Time

Justice Challenge: Sunday's Gospel reminds us to always be prepared for Jesus' return. The ten virgins weren't ready, and they ended up in a miserable state. Your challenge this week is to reflect on how well you live the Gospel challenge to care for those in need, to feed, clothe, shelter, and visit the marginalized and vulnerable. Do you procrastinate? Do you put off going to the food kitchen or homeless shelter until you have more time? This week, don't put off helping someone in need. Live as if it's your last day on earth and be a true missionary disciple of Jesus Christ.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott C. Kapperman".

Scott C. Kapperman M.S., Ed.  
Principal



The ICS Christmas Bazaar is 4 WEEKS AWAY!!

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!!

Drop off Used Books in one of the school book bins!  
Bins are located in the Main Office, Cafeteria  
and in the hall near the teacher lounge.

Crafters are still needed!  
Contact Carrie Howe for details! [Howe.freelancer@ymail.com](mailto:Howe.freelancer@ymail.com)

Have any never/gently used Christmas mugs lying around?  
We need them for our "Homemade" Booth!  
Contact Rachel Laubisch for details! [chilian797@hotmail.com](mailto:chilian797@hotmail.com)

Want to learn how to decorate a fresh Christmas wreath? Contact Cheryl  
from Flowers by Nature to see how to help! [flowersbynature@gmail.com](mailto:flowersbynature@gmail.com)

Please consider baking cakes for our ever-popular cake walk! One box of  
store bought mix makes 2, one-layer cakes. Fill out the form below so we  
know how many cakes we have coming.

We are also taking donations of gently used or new Christmas items.  
Please drop them off in the Main Office. All items directly benefit the  
school!

Your support is ALWAYS appreciated! THANK YOU!  
~ Amanda and Derek Punaro ([Amanda@punaro.com](mailto:Amanda@punaro.com))

Please detach and return to the Main Office

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### CAKE WALK FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

# of Cakes \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you!!

As a reminder, please turn in your Football Frenzy tickets to the school office by November 20<sup>th</sup>. All sold and unsold tickets must be turned in and accounted for. Please remember, the more you sell, the more we profit. All proceeds from this fundraiser go to the school's athletic program to help pay for uniforms, referees and sports fees for each sport. Your generosity is appreciated. If you have family and friends out of the area that would like to purchase tickets on-line, please forward them the link below:

**help SUPPORT**

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL**

**CASH PRIZES**

**BUY 2 GET 1 FREE!**

**4 SIMPLE STEPS**

1. Go to [www.footballfrenzy.com](http://www.footballfrenzy.com) to purchase tickets
2. Register or login
3. Enter your team access code
4. Purchase your team tickets by 11/20/17

**Offer valid thru 11/20/17**

**2017 FOOTBALL FRENZY**

**25 CHANCES TO WIN \$1,000 TOTAL CASH PRIZES**

**\$200 WEEKLY PRIZES**

**CHECK RESULTS ONLINE**  
FOOTBALLFRENZY.COM  
OR DOWNLOAD THE GREEN BIRD APP

**ACCESS CODE: ABC-123-456**  
**TICKET NUMBER: 1000**

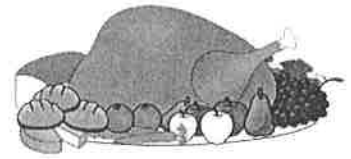
**YOUR 5 TEAMS EACH WEEK TEAM CODES ON BACK**

1	2	3	4	5
SOCS	GNP	TAM	JAC	AIL
CIN	NEP	OAK	DET	DEN
WIN	STL	SEA	BUF	TEN

**CLICK HERE TO BUY TICKETS NOW!**

Any questions can be directed to Trish Skutnik at 716-604-7724 or [pskutnik@yahoo.com](mailto:pskutnik@yahoo.com).

November 2, 2017



Dear Parents,

The annual Thanksgiving feast will be held **Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am**. Students, faculty and staff will share a traditional turkey dinner. 8<sup>th</sup> graders will assist their Kindergarten buddies and 7<sup>th</sup> graders with assist their 1<sup>st</sup> grade buddies. It is a wonderful time of sharing as everyone sits down together and each class shares the dish they helped prepare with the rest of the school. An effort will be made to make sure there are allergy free options for all students.

Each class will prepare a dish for the meal in the school kitchen during class time. I provide all the ingredients for each dish; I just need some volunteers to help the class with the preparation! Class liaisons and any available volunteers are needed to come in on Tuesday (11/14), Wednesday (11/15), and Thursday (11/16). Even if you did not sign up as a hot lunch volunteer, please feel free to help. **If you are interested in helping the students prepare the feast, please let me know.** Please do not contact your child's teacher directly. The schedule, as of today, is as follows:

K & 6	Butter	In the classroom	
1 & 7	Apple crisp	Tuesday, November 14	1:30 PM
2	Fruit platter	Thursday, November 16	9:30 AM
3	Jello	Tuesday, November 14	9:30 AM
4	Stuffing	Wednesday, November 15	1:00 PM
5	Potatoes	Thursday, November 16	10:30 AM
8	Relish tray and set-up	Thursday, November 16	1:30 PM

I can't forget about the main dish, THE TURKEY! 14 parents/families are needed to each purchase and cook a 20-pound turkey at home. You may submit a receipt for reimbursement for the cost of the turkey. If you are willing to cook a turkey, please let me know at [jsextonsc@aol.com](mailto:jsextonsc@aol.com) or 680-2779.

A contribution of **\$6.00 per family** is politely requested to help offset the cost of the feast. Please put your cash donation in an **envelope labeled with your family name and "Thanksgiving Feast"**. Please have all donations to the office by **Monday, November 13**. Your donation is greatly appreciated! **If you prepaid for hot lunch for the year, you do not need to send in a family contribution since the feast was included in the prepay amount.**

If you can help with any of the preparations, either in school or cooking a turkey, or if you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you,

J'Neene Sexton     [jsextonsc@aol.com](mailto:jsextonsc@aol.com) or 680-2779

# Strategic Searching

**\* DID YOU KNOW ...**

Google provides search results in under a second, but its algorithm takes more than 200 factors into consideration in that time.

## Word Search

t	h	g	l	r	y	p	o	c
r	s	e	a	l	a	t	s	r
e	e	l	s	l	l	r	t	r
e	e	c	a	c	d	y	r	l
e	a	e	a	e	e	r	a	l
m	e	g	a	n	m	y	t	g
l	l	e	a	s	a	e	e	l
c	l	e	g	e	d	c	g	l
d	l	g	l	t	a	l	y	l

digital    media    strategy    license    scam    copyright

**\* WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

Why is it important to have a search plan?

## 1. Family Activity

Make a poster that outlines a five-step search plan using the SEARCH anagram (see the "Use Common Sense!" tip box for a reminder). As a bonus, pick an example and use it to clarify each step. For example, if someone were trying to do a project on the building of the Egyptian pyramids, what would his or her research question be? What keywords and terms should he or she use?

**\* DO YOU REMEMBER ...**  
What steps can help you conduct efficient and effective searches when you're looking for information online?

## 2. Tech It Up!

Challenge a friend or family member to "A Google a Day," an online search game in which you try to find the answer to a complex search question from a myriad of topics. See who can rack up the most points! Then, learn more about how to conduct savvy searches under Google's "Tips and Tricks" link (<http://www.google.com/insidesearch/tipstricks/basics.html>). After you review the tips, see if you can improve your score on the "A Google a Day" game. Points go down the longer it takes you to find the correct answer!

## 3. Common Sense Says ...

Use the SEARCH anagram to remember five tips for strategic searching:

- Select research questions: Make sure you have one or more questions that get to the core of what you want to find out in your search.
- Extract keywords and terms: You can find effective keywords by highlighting the key terms in your search question.
- Apply search strategies: Use quotations marks or the minus sign to specify exactly what you're searching for.
- Run your search: Remember to check out multiple sources.
- Chart your search: Keep track of which search terms you use on which search platforms so you don't end up duplicating your efforts.

# Common Sense on Strategic Searching



## What's the Issue?

Although most teens know how to type keywords or a question into a search engine such as Yahoo! or Google, they may not understand that there are many ways to search for information. For instance, most search engines offer advanced search strategies, such as filtering by date, exact words, or type of results like news, blogs, images, or video. Once teens have their search results, they should seek out a variety of perspectives rather than rely on the same sites repeatedly, such as Wikipedia. Teens also need to be aware of sponsored ads that will come up in search results with the word Ad in small print. Teens should avoid clicking on ads because they usually don't lead to helpful or relevant information. Strategic searching will help teens find better information, more efficiently.

## Why Does It Matter?

"I'll just google it," is a familiar refrain. When teens want to know something, they usually "google it" by typing a question or search term into a search engine. Though most teens have learned some research skills for school, the majority of their searches are for information related to their interests. But whether in school or out, teens need to acquire skills to get the best and most relevant information in their searches.

## common sense says

**Go beyond Google.** Encourage teens to draw on a variety of search sites. It's easy to get in the habit of using only Google, Wikipedia, or About.com. But if teens rely too much on these sites, they might miss some other great resources.

**Use multiple, specific, descriptive keywords.** There's a difference between searching for *hip hop* and searching for *hip hop for social justice*.

**Try synonyms.** A teen searching for *rare cats*, for instance, can use synonyms such as *exotic cats* or *rare felines*.

**Use quotation marks.** A teen searching for the president's residence should search "*White House*" rather than *white house*.

**Use a minus sign before a word to show you don't want it included.** If you are searching for *mullet* but you want the fish and not the hairstyle, you would enter: *mullet - hair*.

**Pay attention to URL domains.** The URL domain can be found at the end of a website address, and it tells people what kind of organization they are dealing with. Companies usually aim to sell products or services, while organizations, educational institutions, and government entities usually aim to share knowledge and improve communities.

.com = company

.gov = government website

.edu = educational institution

.org = organization



**Recommend trusted sites to search for specific issues.** Rather than always using a search engine, there are times when it's better to search within a credible site. You can recommend several trustworthy sites for your teens on topics such as: health and puberty (TeensHealth - [www.kidshealth.org/teen/](http://www.kidshealth.org/teen/)), current events (CNN.com), or homework help (Purdue's Online Writing Lab (OWL) - [owl.english.purdue.edu](http://owl.english.purdue.edu)).

## Sources

Norton Online Family. "Kids' Top 100 Searches of 2009." <[http://onlinefamilyinfo.norton.com/articles/kidsearches\\_2009.php](http://onlinefamilyinfo.norton.com/articles/kidsearches_2009.php)>

Lenhart, A., Purcell, K., Smith, A., and Zickuhr, K. "Social Media and Young Adults." Pew Internet & American Life Project. 2010. <<http://pewinternet.org/Reports/2010/Social-Media-and-Young-Adults.aspx>>