The St. Gabriel PTU welcomes you to the 2016/17 School Year

Welcome! The PTU has a wonderful year planned and we are excited about each upcoming event. This letter outlines the PTU events for the 2016/17 school year, and provides information on how to keep up to date on PTU happenings throughout the year by accessing the information on-line. We welcome you to be a part of the PTU this year. Come to the PTU meetings, volunteer a few hours at your favorite event, be a part of your child's academic life. We wish you a very successful and blessed school year. Thanks for all you do!

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What is the PTU?

The PTU stands for the Parent Teacher Union. We are an organization made up of parent volunteers whose purpose is to engage in activities that benefit the students of St. Gabriel School. Our goal is to inform you, involve you and represent you.

We implement four annual **FUNdraisers** including our legendary *Fall Christmas Boutique,* the *Malley's candy sale, KidsStuff Coupon Book*, and the *Walkathon.* We raise funds to provide enrichment activities that would be otherwise unavailable to the students and staff. Some of the PTU funded programs and activities include:

- Annual teacher allowance ($200 per teacher)
- Kindergarten t-shirts
- 8th Grade Graduation, T-shirts
- Father/ Daughter Dance (NEW!)
- COSI on Wheels
- Teacher Appreciation *(3 times per year!)*
- Family Fun Nights
- Field Trips ($10 per student)
- Arts Days Series
- Sunshine Committee
- Room Parent activities
- Catholic Schools Week Activities
- Halloween Carnival
- Santa Gift Shop
- Shakespeare Festival
- School Celebrations
- Waldameer Tickets
- Much More!

What We've Accomplished by FUNdraising:

- **Field Trips**
  - $10 per student is allotted for FUN field trips for the students saving the school $5,000 per year!
- **Box Top for Education Program and other Shopping Rewards**
  - These easy shopping incentives raise approximately $2,500 each year.
- **Arts Day**
  - Allows for a variety of organizations to be brought to the school for to offer students the opportunity to experience music, dance, and other fine arts.
- **Special Education Fund (NEW!)**
  - $2,000 is allocated to Mrs. Trem for STEAM supplies throughout the year for new projects as they arise throughout the year.

PTU Monthly Meetings
All are welcome to attend the PTU meetings. PTU meetings are held 30 minutes prior to the Principal's Circle meetings typically held once per month. Meeting minutes are posted on the school website after each meeting. Attending PTU meetings are a great way to stay connected! If you are unable to attend the PTU meetings, be sure to check out the PTU website for the latest information.

PTU Volunteer Opportunities (Found at www.i-volunteeronline.com/stgabrielptu.asp)
If you would like to volunteer a few hours at a time, then check out "iVolunteer" for a listing of all current PTU events that need volunteers. It is an easy way to view volunteer opportunities at a glance and sign-up on-line. A link to iVolunteer can also be found on the school website.

PTU Committee Coordinators (Found on the School Website)
A comprehensive list of each PTU Committee and Committee Coordinator can be found on the school website under "Current PTU Info". Our Committee Coordinators are extremely talented and dedicated individuals who give their time and talent for the benefit of our children. We are deeply grateful to each Coordinator – they make a significant difference for St. Gabriel School.

Please review the committee list below and contact Laura Hoffman at laura.hoffman@heart.org if you are interested in learning more about any committee.

- Patterson's Family Fun Night
- Kids Stuff Coupon Book *(1 of 3 FUNdraisers)*
- Room Parent
- Arts Day
- Christmas Boutique *(2 of 3 FUNdraisers)*
- Santa Gift Shop
- Catholic Schools Week
- Father/ Daughter Dance
- Malley's Candy Sale *(3 of 3 FUNdraisers)*
- Family Fun Nights
- Grizzly Den & Uniform Swap
- Shopping Rewards (Box Tops/ Campbell's Soup Labels)
- Walkathon *(Funds special school project each year)*
- Hospitality
- Sunshine
- Bulletin Boards
- 8th Grade Graduation

PTU Forms (found on school website under "Current PTU Info")
The following forms can be found on-line as well. Simply print out the forms you need and send them in to school per the instructions on each form.

- Patterson's Family Fun Night
- Room Parent Volunteer Form (*due August 23, 2016*)
- Sweatshirt/T-Shirt Order Form
- Gym Uniform Order Form
- Volunteer Form

Thank you for choosing St. Gabriel School. We invite you to be an active part of your student's academic life. We encourage you to get involved. It is the support, time and shared talent of parents that keeps the PTU strong and able to do so much for our children. Thanks for all you do!

All forms and PTU event information can be found on the school website under "PTU Current Info".

- For grades Jr. K – 8, Room Parent forms will be e-mailed August 1st. All completed forms must be returned by Orientation Day, August 23, to be considered. There will be a table in the gym during Orientation Day to drop your completed forms off and/or to ask any questions. The Room Parent Committee and PTU Board will be making selections August 26th; all Room Parents will be notified by August 27th if selected.
    - **You must be Virtus Trained to be a room parent**. Please contact Anna Lee, Safety Coordinator, at alee@st-gabriel.org should you have any questions regarding Virtus, finger printing, etc.
    - **YOU MUST ATTEND THE ROOM PARENT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR September 1st from 7-8pm IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM**. We will be discussing the many changes being made for Room Parents for this coming school year as well as all Room Parent responsibilities.

- Our "Family Fun Night" at **Patterson's Fruit Farm** is Friday, September 16th. Find the registration form on the school website and attached in this packet to attend, and check out iVolunteer to sign-up to opportunities to help!

- It's never too early to think about Christmas! November 11th and 12th St. Gabriel PTU will host the annual **Christmas Boutique** throughout the school. This is an incredible shopping experience has over 80 artisans displaying and selling their unique handcrafted items. The fun doesn't end with shopping, this boutique offers a Charity Basket Raffle and delicious snack bar to keep you energized while you prep for the holidays!

- Did you know you can help the school simply by shopping the way you already do? If you have a store card from **Target, Heinen's or Giant Eagle**, please link them to St. Gabriel School. These stores participate in programs that give back to local schools. **Some of these stores require you to re-register each year.** Be sure to make sure St. Gabriel is linked to your account!

- Additionally, our **Boxtops for Education** program is still going strong! Save those "boxtops for education" as well as Campbell's and Tyson's labels. The PTU hosts contests twice per year with a Dress Down Day as the prize for the classroom that collects the most box tops and labels! Send your box tops and labels to the school (marked with your child's room number). Every boxtop and label provides funds back to our school. **Remind relatives to collect them for you too!!**

- The PTU will again be running the **KidStuff Coupon Book** fundraiser to help support PTU expenditures serving the St. Gabriel School community. We will be sending home a "KidStuff" Coupon Book with the youngest and only students during orientation. There is no obligation to purchase or sell books. Participation is completely voluntary. If you choose not to participate, please return your book to your homeroom teacher.

- The PTU proudly announces the annual "Grizzly Outing" at **Kalahari on Thursday, February 16, 2017**! Make your reservation now to take advantage of the $119 (+taxes) nightly rate that includes "run of the house" access to all waterpark facilities. Contact Kalahari directly at 1-877-525-2427 (877-KALAHARI) to reserve your room today! Space is limited, so call now! Be sure to mention the school code "Grizzlies" when making your reservations to take advantage of this great rate.

- New this year is the **Father-Daughter dance on Saturday, March 11th!** Details to come soon!

2016/17 PTU Calendar

PTU Meetings will be held 30 minutes prior to Principal's Circle

July
18 – Uniform Swap/ Grizzly Den Sale

August
11 - PTU Board Meeting, 5 – 7 pm, TBD
17 – Teacher Welcome Luncheon
23 – Room Parent Applications are due

September
1 – Room Parent's Tea, 7 pm, Church Community Room
7 – PTU Board Meeting, 7:45 am, REO
8 – Skate Party (Painesville City Skate Center)
14 - COSI
16 – Family Fun Night at Patterson's Fruit Farm

October
4 – PTU Board Meeting, 7:45 am, REO
28 – Halloween Carnival, Gym

November
8 - PTU Board Meeting, 7:45 am, REO
10 - Skating Night (United Skates of America, Wickliffe)
11 – Christmas Craft Show, 6-9:00 pm in the MPR & PC
12 – Christmas Craft Show, 9am-3pm in the MPR & PC

December
8 – Santa Shop
14 – PTU Christmas Social, 6 pm at Red, Wine and Brew (replaces regular PTU meeting)

January
5 – Skating Night (United Skates of America, Wickliffe)
29 – 4 –Catholic Schools Week
29 – Open House/ Uniform Swap/ Grizzly Den Sale

February
2 – Staff Appreciation Massages/Luncheon
7- PTU Board Meeting, 7:45 am, REO
16/17 – Kalahari Outing

March
7 - PTU Board Meeting, 7:45 am, REO
11 – Father Daughter Dance, MPR
16 - Skating Night (United Skates of America, Wickliffe)

April
4 - PTU Meeting (2017/18 Board Elections), 7:45 am, REO

May
3 - Appreciation Mass & Reception, Mass begins at 8:05, Reception follows (replaces regular PTU meeting)
4 – Teacher Luncheon
5 – Bus Driver Appreciation
19 – Walkathon, 8:15 on the football field; Field Day follows
26 – Walkathon rain date

June
5 – 8th grade graduation celebration

Updated 8/3/2016

GET INVOLVED!
Let's make a difference…together!

Name: _____
Phone Number: _____
Email: _____
Grade of Child / Children: _____

Check all interested areas.

Committee	Member	Vice-Chair
Patterson's Family Night		
KidsStuff Coupon Book		
Room Parent		
Arts Day Series		
Christmas Boutique		
Santa Shop		
Catholic Schools Week		
Father/ Daughter Dance		
Malley's Candy Sale		
Family Fun Nights		
Grizzly Den		
Uniform Swap		
Shopping Rewards		
Walk-a-Thon		
Hospitality		
Sunshine		
Bulletin Boards		

If you are interested in volunteering on any of these committees, please fill out this form and return to the school to Laura Hoffman c/o St. Gabriel PTU.