

St. Louis School Cardinal Post

Volume 2 Issue 8

April 2011

Upcoming Dates:

- May 3 – K-4 May Procession; Advisor/Advisee Picnic; Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night
- May 4 – Confirmation at the Cathedral
- May 5 – Mass in Spanish
- May 6 – Field Day grades 5-8
- May 7 – First Communion, 10:00 a.m.
- May 9 – Altar Server Bowling Party 12:00-2:00 p.m.; No School for 8th Grade
- May 10 – Show Choir Spirit Concert 7:00 p.m.
- May 11 – Orchestra Spring Concert 7:00 p.m.
- May 12 – 3rd Grade Riverboat Field Trip
- May 13 – 8th Grade Trip to Magic Springs
- May 14 – Cardinal 5K Race
- May 15 – 8th Grade Mass and Brunch
- May 17 – Drama Night
- May 18 – Drama Day Program; Preschool Spring Program
- May 20 – 8th Grade Graduation 7:00 p.m.
- May 24 – Kindergarten Graduation 9:30 a.m.
- May 27 – Last Day of School, Dismiss at 11:30

**Refer to stlouismemphis.org for additional dates.*

A Message from Mrs. Niedzwiedz:

Dear St. Louis Families,

I want to wish everyone a blessed Easter Season! Lent, leading into Easter is such a time of transformation. We examine our lives and try to make sure that we our living true, authentic lives serving God and others. St. Louis students are taught about this kind of lifestyle throughout the school year. With the assistance of their parents and teachers, they learn that true happiness does not come from material things, but by giving of our treasure and ourselves to others. One of the most recent acts of service that I have witnessed here at St. Louis School is the generosity of the 1st through 3rd grade as they collected items such as shampoo, soap toothbrushes, deodorant etc.... to be passed out to those in need at St. Mary's. They also collected money donations to buy food for St. Mary's Soup Kitchen. They decorated over 200 goody bags! What a wonderful testament to the love and spirit of charity that springs forth from St. Louis families. I loved watching the students, teachers, and parent volunteers work to prepare the sandwiches and goody bags for those in need during Easter. Smiles were abundant and you could tell that a feeling of Christian love was abounding. This is what Catholic education is about!

Thank you all for sharing your children with us each day. Each child is such a unique gift from God! Please know that we love and care for your children and we feel blessed to teach them and for them to teach us every day. I always tell the children that they need to strive to be the best they can be, and we too promise to continue to grow and learn as educators.

God's peace and love be with you all!!!!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Teddi Niedzwiedz



St. Louis School Mission Statement

St. Louis Catholic School is committed to quality education in the spirit of Christ in accordance with the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. Working in partnership with parents and the community, we are dedicated to preparing our students for the future through faith formation and academic excellence utilizing progressive technology while enhancing students' emotional, physical and spiritual well-being.



Diocesan Art Show

Artwork by students from around the diocese was displayed at St. Francis Hospital during March and April. Artists in grades K-12 were selected to display their artwork and receive special commendations from Dr. Mary McDonald. Several St. Louis students were honored at the Diocesan Art Show on April 10 at Longinotti Auditorium, St. Francis Hospital. Those honored include Mary Kent Driscoll KA, Ava Wendt KB, Ginny Tavoleti 1B, Sam Wallace 1B, Josh Jones 2A, Matthew Durden 2B, Jeni Grace Wolbrecht 3B, Sarah Moran 3A, Rachel Baioni 4B, Karen Benedict 4B, Savannah Stovall 5B, William Thiel 5B, Corinn Davis 6B, Juianne Cordera 6A, Jillian Cunningham 7A, Zoe Thompson 7A, Lena Baioni 8C, and Baylor Bush 8B. The artwork by two of these students, Jullianne Cordera and Mary Kent Driscoll was selected to be gold ribbon winners and will be displayed at Bishop Steib's annual golf tournament in May.

Boosterthon

Thank you to all who participated in the first annual



St. Louis Boosterthon Fun Run. The students were so welcoming to JD, Tater Todd and Austin, the Boosterthon staff. The staff of Boosterthon made daily visits to each classroom and spoke to the students on the characteristics of being a leader and fired the students up to help raise



money to kick off the St. Louis Annual Fund. Thanks to all participants; St. Louis should raise \$22,000.00 for use in our school and for our students.



To thank and congratulate students for all of their participation, Mrs. Niedzweidz and Mrs. Shaw let students pie them in the face! Thank you for being such great sports!

Technology Update

Anyone visiting the St. Louis campus this year would readily see the emphasis on increased technology in the classrooms. The infusion of technology into the curriculum has been a learning process for all of the teachers. As we try to integrate technology into the daily lessons we must also focus on continued professional development for the teachers. Nine faculty members attended the TAIS Technology Summit on April 15, 2011. The summit focused on practical uses of technology in the classroom and emphasizing STEM curriculum which centers on science, technology, engineering and mathematics into our daily routine.

Plans for 2012 continue to emphasize technology as we strive to present to the students a challenging curriculum that will enable them to succeed in the 21st century. Technology additions for next year include integrating iPads into the PreK, Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten, installing SMART Boards in classrooms; introducing clicker response systems to classes and updating the current desktop computers in our computer lab.

St. Louis Eighth Grader Wins Character Achievement Award

Carter Lane, an eighth grader at St. Louis Catholic School, has been awarded the Character Achievement Award by the Memphis Central Rotary Club. Carter was chosen to receive the award by a committee of judges who selected him from a pool of area 8th, 9th and 10th graders nominated by



their schools. His selection was based on his significant character development. Carter's essay to the committee articulates his focus on life: "I love the gift of my life and I am committed to having courage through difficulties which lie ahead so that I'll be able to encourage others as they face troubles." Carter, a cancer survivor, is an active member of the St. Louis School community. He presently serves as student council president and is a leader on the campus. The entire St. Louis School and Parish congratulate him for his achievements.

Kite Day

What better way to celebrate a windy spring day than flying kites? The traditional 3rd grade kite day was coupled with a new tradition this year, kite day for the sixth graders with their kindergarten buddies. Despite the rainy string of school days, both groups were able to fly their kites on Monday, April 18. Special guests of kite day included Sr. Yosefa and Father Dennis.



Rubbish

The students at St. Louis School have been discovering the big impact they can have when they do something small to keep the community and the Earth clean. Mrs. Durden, the art teacher, and Mrs. Reese, the 7th-grade and 8th-grade Grammar and Writing teacher, collaborated on a project that Mrs. Durden created hoping to make the students more aware of the issue of litter and how little it takes to clean up the community. The students were asked to take their cameras on family excursions to parks, shopping centers, and their own neighborhoods where they sought out litter, and took a "before" photograph of the area where the litter was left. The students then picked up the litter, cleaning a small space in their community, and took an "after" photograph.



After this experience, the students did the writing portion of the project, reflecting on the experience and what it would mean for the community and the Earth if each person in Memphis and the surrounding areas did his or her part, picking up just one piece of litter on regular outings. Many of the students were surprised that one person could make such a difference by picking up just one piece of litter, and that often; others witnessing the students picking up litter would join in and pick up items too. It became a community effort in many places throughout the city just because one student inspired others by his or her actions.

Mrs. Durden and Mrs. Reese hope that the students will continue to be mindful of the community and the Earth by picking up litter, hopefully inspiring others to do the same.

~Mrs. Reese, Junior High Grammar Teacher

Community Connection

Magical... that is the first word that comes to mind when I think about your children helping others during this holiest of weeks. All the children in first, second, and third grades brought in money donations so we could buy food for the St. Mary's Soup Kitchen. The children also brought in so many wonderful donations of lotion, shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, tissues, etc. so they could stuff over 200 beautifully decorated goody bags. Now the men and women who come to St. Mary's for assistance will also have a blessed Easter surprise with the warm wishes and generous gifts from all of you. The children's artwork on the bags sent an extra dose of love and hope to those in need.

With the money you sent, the third graders were able to make and deliver over 200 bologna sandwiches! They also put cookies into little baggies for a sweet treat and some peanut butter crackers for a nice snack. Some people sent in candy, and we made sure to share it with them all. What's Easter without a little candy, right?

I know the Lord smiled upon this loving adventure. I had "spiritual goose bumps" watching the third graders carry in and deliver box after box and bag after bag today. I know the children touched lots of lives and led with the Holy Spirit guiding their way! Our Precious Lord, Jesus, was served today because He said that when we do something for others, we also do it for Him. I can't think of a better way to celebrate Holy Week.

Thank you so much for all your help, prayers, and donations! Thank you to Mrs. Townsend who helped me do the shopping, organizing, and brainstorming. Thank you also to Mrs. Lequerica, Mrs. McCrary, Mrs. Reynolds, Ms. Harris, Sister Josepha, Ms. Stavrum, Mrs. Niedzwiedz, and Mrs. Shaw for all their support and encouragement. This service project would not have been possible without each and every one of them and YOU!

~Mrs. Hansom, 3rd Grade

Exams

As educators we are charged with preparing the students for academic success. One way that we feel we can foster this duty is to begin exams in not only the eighth grade, but the sixth and seventh grade as well. Beginning this May the sixth graders will take spring exams in social studies, math, English and science. The seventh and eighth graders will begin taking semester exams in the core curriculum subjects of religion, math, grammar, literature, science, social studies and Spanish.

Duke TIP Recognition

Congratulations to the 7th graders who participated in the Duke TIP Talent Search program. Duke TIP is dedicated to identifying academically talented students and providing them with innovative programs to support the development of their optimal potential. Now in its 31st year, Duke TIP's 7th Grade Talent Search identifies academically promising seventh graders based on standardized test scores achieved while attending middle school. Candidates are then invited to take the ACT or the SAT as seventh graders, which allows them greater insight into their academic abilities. In addition, they gain valuable benefits and resources through their tenth grade year.

The following students participated this year: Iggy Crone, Mary Fracchia, Ben Hill, Lauren James, Katie Koch, Own Martin, Maggie Perry, Justin VonStein, Elizabeth Tavoleti, Lanie Trotter, Catherine Weglicki, and Mary Katherine Werner. All participants will receive information on Duke TIP's wide range of educational programs including Independent Learning, eSeminars, and Scholar Weekends. Those who meet the admission score criteria will also receive information on Duke TIP's renowned summer programs and eStudies. For more information please visit Duke Tip's website: www.tip.duke.edu.

The following students received special recognitions from Duke TIP:

- Grand Recognition: Justin VonStein
- State Recognition: Mary Fracchia, Ben Hill, Katie Koch, Justin VonStein, Elizabeth Tavoleti, Lanie Trotter, and Catherine Weglicki

Knowledge Bowl

Congratulations to our Knowledge Bowl team for their stellar performance at Diocesan Academics Day! Pictured are: Katie Perry, Elizabeth Tavoleti, Katie Koch, Lanie Trotter, Nicholas Bucholz, Mary Catherine Polatty, Emory Wills, Thomas O'Malley, Brooks Phelan, Justin VonStein, Anthony Bologna, Amy Reaves, and Megan Wilson.



Sports Update

Track and Field Results:

100 Hurdles	Brandle Bogle 5 th place
4x100 relay	3 rd place
100 m dash	Brandle Bogle – 4 th place Warner Hill – 5 th place;
4x200relay	6 th place
200 m dash	Brandle Bogle – 4 th place Warner Hill – 5 th place
4x400 relay	5 th place
High Jump	Christopher Varnado – 3 rd place
Long Jump	Warner Hill – 1 st place w/ 18'-5 1/2"
Shot Put	Ben Hill – 5 th place Christopher Varnado – 6 th place

The girls' team also did well 2 – 7th and 2 – 8th graders (Sarah Orians & Mary Langley Montegut – good luck in high school girls)

100 m dash	Sarah Orians 3 rd place
400 m dash	Sarah Orians 4 th place
200 m dash	Sarah Orians 6 th place

Thank you to all the coaches and you the parents for another wonderful track season.

~Coach Rainey

ST. LOUIS SCHOOL **Cardinal 5k**

May 14, 2011 * 9:00 AM * Memphis, TN

Join us for the 6th Annual Cardinal 5K —

Including a 1-mile fun run

Organized by the parents and parishioners of St.

Louis School, this event is intended to raise funds for St. Louis Catholic School and the

Madonna Learning Center.

Register at: <http://cardinal5k.racesonline.com>

Registration Fees for the 5K Run:

\$17 by May 13th, \$20 after May 13th

Registration for the 1-Mile Fun Run: \$10

Sponsorships available, starting at \$250:

Contact: Mike Evangelisti

mtevangelisti@farris-law.com

Checks payable to: St. Louis Home and School

