

St. Louis School Cardinal Post

Volume 3 Issue 3

October 2011

Important Dates

- Oct. 14—Pep Rally
2:00pm
- Oct. 15—Feed My Flock
- Oct. 20 – Home and
School Meeting
- Oct. 22 – First Penance
Meeting
- Oct. 23 – School Open
House
- Oct. 23—Trunk or Treat
- Oct. 28 – Parent –
Teacher Conferences
Dismiss 11:30am
- Nov. 1 – All Saint’s Day,
No School
- Nov. 3—Make up
Picture Day
- Nov. 7—Winter PE
uniforms are to be
worn
- Nov. 14— Speech and
Hearing Screening
JK-3rd
- Nov. 22—Spelling Bee
9:30am
- Nov. 23-25 Thanksgiving
Holidays

*Please refer to the
school website for
other important
dates.*

www.stlouismemphis.org

A Message from Mrs. Niedzwiedz:

Dear St. Louis Families,

As I was walking down the hallway this afternoon and observing classes, I was filled with excitement! Each class was so engaged in the learning. In one class a student was demonstrating how he made tornadoes in a coke bottle. In another class, students were using white erase boards to complete math problems. Teachers were smiling and happy and students were working and learning. It is times like this that I am so thankful that God (in the form of Msgr. McArthur) called me to be principal at St. Louis. I can remember the joy I experienced as a teacher, watching my first grade students learn and grow both academically and spiritually. Now, I get to experience it on a much grander scale, through the eyes of all the children in the entire school. I am blessed.

These are exciting times at St. Louis School, and the best is yet to come. We have been looking at the floor plans for the new Junior High wing that is part of our Capital Campaign project. I do hope that everyone will support this effort to ensure that we will be able to provide the educational opportunities necessary for current and future generations of St. Louis students. We are building the future church. It is hard to believe that those precious kindergarteners and elementary students will be the families of the future, who will fill the pews of St. Louis in the next twenty years. It is up to all of us to make sure that we set forth a solid path for the future. Both teachers and students are anxious to see the changes to the church and school. It will be so beautiful when it is completed.

This month has been a month of professional development for the faculty at St. Louis School. The Junior High teachers along with the administration visited CBHS to learn about their plan to go “one to one” with electronic tablets and eliminate textbooks for next year’s freshman class. We learned about many free online textbooks, mainly geared for high school. It was very exciting. This information will help us make sure that our Junior High curriculum fully prepares our graduates for a smooth transition to this high tech environment.

The Diocese had its professional day this month as well. Sr. Mary Angela Shaughnessy was the keynote speaker. She is a Sister of Charity of Nazareth, former teacher, principal, professor and attorney. She presented information on current legal school issues. Also, there were many informative breakout sessions, and teachers were able to select the topics of interest. As teachers, a big part of our job is teaching students to be lifelong learners and to model this love of learning.

Yesterday, we prayed the Rosary with the entire Diocese for peace. It was amazing to hear Msgr. McArthur leading over four hundred voices as we prayed each decade.

Peace be with all of you.

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.





Team Guerri at the Walk for Autism

We Are Family

Many around our diocese know of the football prowess of St. Louis School, what they don't know is the dedication of one coach to build fine young men. On Saturday, September 17, 2011 many St. Louis football players and their families met at Shelby Farms in support of Coach John Guerri. Coach Guerri has led the junior football team for more than twenty years. He not only instructs our young players in the fundamentals of football, but teaches them sportsmanship and character. This year many of the football family decided it was time to give back to Coach Guerri and his family. A few hours on a Saturday morning might seem small to some, but to the Guererris it meant a great deal! Team Guerri was in full force as many, clad in St. Louis football jerseys, walked the Walk for Autism in honor of Thomas, Coach Guerri's son. Thank you Coach Guerri for your many years of service to St. Louis parish and school and to our families.



8th grade students place labels on bags for Feed My Flock.

iPads Unveiled in Kindergarten and Preschool

Technology is being infused throughout the school and our youngest students love it! The kindergarten began using the iPads in the literacy centers earlier this month and the preschoolers are enjoying the many educational apps as well. One

kindergartner exclaimed "This is so cool!" There are so many educational apps that the students enjoy playing. The games



are so fun the children do not even realize they are learning. The ten iPads are rotated between the kindergarten and preschool and are used at center time. Each iPad has over fifty apps installed on them to teach the students math, phonics, and reading. If you know of an educational application that you would like to tell us about, just let one of the teachers know.

Spotlight: Beta Club

The St. Louis chapter of the National Junior Beta Club recently elected the 2011-2012 club officers. Those serving this year are Mary Katherine Werner, President; Maggie Perry, Vice President; Elizabeth Tavoletti, Secretary; Lanie Trotter, Treasurer; and Owen Martin, Chaplain. These students along with the other members of the Beta Club spearhead many community service projects at school. Currently, they are coordinating the school-wide fundraising efforts for Feed My Flock, the parish initiative to help feed the hungry. Members of the Beta Club explained these efforts to students in grades K-6 and asked them to raise money for the project by doing chores at home. Each student is keeping a chore chart and collecting money for chores completed. The Beta Club members are selling sheep to the junior high students to raise money for the project. Each sheep costs one dollar. Money raised by the students will go to help offset the parish cost of Feed My Flock. It is our hope that all of the students, after seeing the project video and hearing the Beta Club presentation, will understand the urgency of feeding the hungry in our surrounding areas.

Mrs. Harrison Joins St. Louis Faculty

My name is Jackie Harrison. I am a graduate of the University of Memphis with a Bachelor of Science in Education. I have endorsements in Special Education grades K-12 and Regular Education grades 1-8. I taught Instructional Resource full-time for six years in Memphis City Schools. I took off for about six years to be a full-time mom and began substituting when our youngest of four children began Kindergarten. I have substituted for the past three years. My husband, Scott, and I have been parishioners at St. Louis for 17 ½ years. I am excited about being a teacher here and look forward to serving your children.



Speaker Visits St. Louis to Inform Parents about Internet Safety

On October 20, 2011, St. Louis is welcoming John Simi as our guest speaker for the Home and School meeting. Mr. Simi conducts professional development sessions on the Internet and Internet Safety all over the state of Tennessee as well as other areas of the country. John has been with Shelby County Schools for twenty-seven years. He taught 8th grade science for eight years before moving into a supervisory role in the Department of Technology. His current title is Technology Specialist. He reviews and recommends both hardware and software for potential purchase by the district, facilitates the writing and editing of technical documentation, and consults with school staff and personnel from various departments on technology-related issues. We are very fortunate to have him speak to us about the importance of Internet Safety.

The internet can be a wonderful tool, but it can also be very dangerous to our children if they are not taught the proper way to use it. Please take advantage of this great opportunity to hear John speak about the internet, and how to keep our children safe!



Please remember to return your technology acceptable use contract.

Preschool Celebrates Learning

The Preschool has had a wonderful start to this new school year. In September, to help expand our unit on animals, we welcomed Lichterman Nature Center. They brought us a presentation on reptiles. We also learned about several new letters including the letter Dd. To celebrate this letter we had “Donuts with Dad” and even had a Dance Party with the eighth grade. We are looking forward to October with a visit from the Fire Department and The Children’s Museum. They will both be here during Fire Safety Week with programs designed to teach important safety tips during fires and emergencies. We cannot believe how fast our year is flying by!



Report Cards

Report cards will be emailed to parents Friday, October 21st. Please make sure the office has your correct email address.

St. Louis Students Pray the Rosary

St. Louis students in grades 1-8 prayed the rosary together along with Monsignor McArthur on October 12. They joined all other students in diocesan schools as we prayed for peace.



Third Grade Projects

The third grade has had a very busy first nine weeks of school! This year the book reports include an oral presentation along with a written report. September's report is on a biography. Every student read a book on the person of their choice and wrote a report. The students were allowed to dress as their character and presented a report to the class.

The class also studied animal adaptations this month. Each student made a porcupine out of a potato and then added quills made of different materials to show how the porcupine protects itself from danger.



Congratulations to our Student Council Homeroom Representatives

5A: Gerard Tavoletti and Allison Bryant

5B: Patrick Koch and Karen Benedict

6A: Davis Tooley and Sarah Ward

6B: Austin Martin and Finn Mullen

7A: Nate Delgado and Marie Kraker

7B: Reid Lanigan and Courtney Cremerius

8A: Ben Hill and Annie Armstrong



Congratulations to 5B's Mrs. Devin Troy!!

Alumni Update

- *Congratulations to Henry Hill, Class of 2008, for being named a National Merit Semifinalist. Henry attends CBHS.*
- *Congratulations to the following St. Louis Alumni for being selected to the National Honor Society at Christian Brothers High School:*
Patrick Blose, Will Brantley, Joel Cox, Henry Hill, Joe Krebs, Matt Orians, Andrew Parmenter, Donnie Shea, Chad Steward, and David Tipton.

Sports Update...

The St. Louis **7th grade volleyball** team placed first in league competition! The team members are enjoying their second straight undefeated season of league play. Congratulations to the players on the 24-0 record over the last two years!



Congratulations to the 5th/6th **grade boys cross country** team for winning their league and being PAA champions! Also winning championship meet honors is the **5th/6th grade girls cross country** team. Several of our runners placed in the overall standings: Christian Ward 2nd place, Michael



Buchholz – 4th place, and Kaitlyn Trainor – 5th place.

Many of our teams are participating in end of the year tournaments and finishing their seasons in the upcoming days. Good luck to the volleyball, golf teams, soccer, and football teams with the rest of their seasons.