

# St. Louis School Cardinal Post

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## *A Message from Mrs. Niedzwiedz:*

Dear St. Louis Families,

Spring is coming! It is such a blessed time of year, a time of new beginnings and fresh starts for our earth and for all of mankind. Lent will soon be upon us in preparation for Easter. One of my favorite things to do as principal is welcome the students to school in the morning carpool line. I love to remind the children that every day has the promise of being a great day. Much of what our day becomes is how we approach it. If we come to school ready to smile, be kind to others, and use our gifts to glorify God, then chances are we will have a good day. If we come to school angry, hurt, and only thinking about ourselves, then chances are our day will not go well.

I have the privilege of serving on the Diocesan Catholic School Advisory Board. At our meeting this month, one of the fellow members on the board spoke so eloquently about why he sends his children to Catholic School as opposed to Shelby County Schools where his wife works. His answer was so fantastic! He said that his children are the future of our church. Every day the children open their day with prayer, they learn about their faith daily in religion class, attend Mass weekly, and are taught that serving God and others is the only way to true happiness. This is what Catholic education is all about. This is why we make the sacrifice of paying tuition to make sure that the faith is passed on to future generations. We must teach our children to be courageous like the Saints. We want them to stand up for what is good and right in God's eyes. That is our most important mission here at St. Louis along with promoting academic excellence.

Teachers, administration, and parents need to work together supporting each other in teaching our students that God loves them, will always be there speaking to them, and they must listen to his voice. Congratulations to all of you for recognizing the importance of passing on the faith to your children. That faith will be there to help them in all their life situations. There is no greater gift that you can give your children.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Teddi Niedzwiedz



Mrs. Niedzwiedz celebrating Grandparent's Day with students.

### *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.

### *Upcoming Dates:*

- March 1-3** – Science Fair in the gym
- March 1** – Chic Fil-A Spirit Night
- March 5** – Home and School Auction, 6:30-10:00 p.m. Clunan Center
- March 9** – Ash Wednesday 10:00 All School Mass
- March 11** – End of 3<sup>rd</sup> nine weeks
- March 14-18** –Spring Break
- March 24** – Pre-K3 Grandparents Day 10:30 am Home and School Meeting 6:30pm in the Clunan Center
- March 25** – Pre-K4 Grandparents' Day 10:30am Men's Club Fish Fry 5:00-8:00 p.m., Cafeteria
- March 28-31** – Boosterthon
- March 30** – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade NET Retreat
- March 31** – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade NET Retreat
- April 1** – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade NET Retreat

*\*Refer to [stlouismemphis.org](http://stlouismemphis.org) for additional dates.*



## Grandparent's Day

On February 18, 2011, St. Louis School invited grandparents of students in kindergarten through fourth grade to come visit their grandchildren's classrooms and meet the teachers. Grandparents were then invited to the gym for an outstanding performance lead by the music teacher, Ms. Mary Jackson-Sellers. All grades sang songs dedicated to their grandparents. After the individual class performances, all students joined hands and encircled their special guests for a grand finale.



## Advisor/Advisee News

The Advisor/Advisee program for seventh and eighth grade students focused on drug and alcohol awareness. Students learned and discussed the harmful effects drugs and alcohol can have on their bodies and minds.



Eighth grade students learning about the dangers of alcohol are given an opportunity to wear Fatal Vision Goggles, by MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving). The goggles simulate alcohol impairment and students learn firsthand how alcohol affects their senses. As pictured, Mary Langley Montegut has difficulty walking a straight line. The activity stresses the importance of avoiding alcohol and the effects alcohol has on a person's body.



## Sixth Grade News

On February 17, 2011, the sixth grade went to visit our neighbors at Baron Hirsch synagogue to learn about the Jewish faith since we are studying the Old Testament. Rabbi Finkelstein entertained us by teaching about the synagogue and some of the Jewish faith's traditions. We discovered many things that we had in common, such as both places of worship have stained glass windows and an eternal light. We also both learn the same Bible stories from the Old Testament. We especially enjoyed seeing the large, hand-written, valuable and beautiful Torahs that Rabbi Finkelstein showed us.

~Mrs. Kathryn Mosteller, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher

## Davis-Kidd Book Fair a Success

The annual Davis-Kidd Book Fair was held in mid February in the library and was a very successful venture. The SLS share of the profits is \$1058.56. This money will go to purchase a variety of new books for the library, including the newly published NBA series. Other books that will be purchased cover a variety of reading levels from emergent reader chapter books such as *The Rainbow Magic Ocean Fairies* series to *Swindle's* sequel, *Zoobreak* by Gordon Kormann.

A special thank you to all who came to the book fair and made these purchases possible, especially our grandparents who helped double our sales in just one morning!

## St. Louis Students Creating a Tile Wall

The students of St. Louis School, Pre K 3 through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, have been busy designing artwork to be used to tile the entrance to the old gym. Each class focused on a different theme such as: 1<sup>st</sup> grade painted butterflies which will be studied in science later this year, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade designed crosses symbolizing the year of their First Penance and First Communion and 8<sup>th</sup> grade designed Cardinals resembling a particular artist's style. The artwork will be transformed into tiles during the month of March. Look for the tile wall to be installed during the summer of 2011. St. Louis Art Program thanks all the parents for their support in purchasing the tiles.



## *Jump for Heart*

All grades participated in Jump Rope for Heart on February 11, 2011. The school raised over \$6,000 for the American Heart Association. Mrs. Harris' class was the homeroom winner by jumping to raise over \$900. Thank you to all who participated!



### ***Teenage Author and Philanthropist to Visit St. Louis School***

On Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, a young author, Riley Carney will be coming to speak to the 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students at our school. Riley is seventeen years old and she has written nine books. She is also passionate about promoting literacy for children.

The first three books of her five-book *Reign of the Elements* fantasy series, *The Fire Stone*, *The Water Stone*, and *The Wind Stone* have been published. This series is a fantasy adventure story with memorable, vibrant characters, fast-paced action, amazing creatures, and humor. It is a journey of courage, friendship, and danger, as a group of teenagers try to save their world.

Driven by her passion for literacy, Riley created a non-profit when she was fourteen years old which champions literacy for children globally. Thus far, she has built three schools in Africa and water purification systems for those villages, created a children's literacy center in a battered women's shelter in Colorado, and bought more than 19,000 new books for classrooms in high-need elementary schools around the U.S.

Some of the proceeds from Riley's book sales go toward her literacy programs.

You may see Riley's author website, her non-profit website, and her blog at:

<http://www.rileycarney.com> ,  
<http://www.linkbylink.org> and  
<http://www.rileycarney.blogspot.com> .

Riley will be speaking to the students in the new gym at 1PM Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup>.

~Mrs. Connie White, Librarian

## *Alumni News*

Congratulations to the following alumni for their achievements:

- Sadler Alexander, Lou Posey, and John Weirich, SLS class of 2007 for achieved CBHS' AP Scholars, National Merit Semifinalists, and Commended Students for the 2010-2011 school year.
- Colleen Sauser, SLS class of 2007 for being selected to participate in the Memphis in May Exchange Program with Belgium.
- Barrett Walthall, SLS class of 2009 for placing 3<sup>rd</sup> in the state in wrestling for CBHS.
- Tate Robinson, SLS class of 2010 for becoming the state champion in wrestling for CBHS.
- Lou Posey, SLS class of 2007 for placing 5<sup>th</sup> in the state in wrestling for CBHS.
- Paul Posey, Noah Connor, and Andrew Evangelisiti, SLS class of 2010 for placing 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> respectively in their weight class in the city wrestling championships.

## *Sports Update*

- Congratulations to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball team for winning the Bishop's Tournament.
- CBLL basketball is underway.
- Good luck to all of the spring sports teams.



## *Home and School Annual Auction*

**Mardi Gras – Krewe of Cardinals...  
Let the Good Times Roll**

**Saturday, March 5, 2011**

**6:30 - 10:00 p.m.**

**Clunan Center**



**Mardi Gras Festive Attire**

**\*Online Auction during the  
week of February 28\***

## *Junior Beta Club Spearheads Drive for Ronald McDonald House*

The Junior Beta Club of St. Louis welcomed “Mad Dog” McCormack as a speaker on February 2, 2011. Mr. McCormack spoke about his association with the Ronald McDonald House of Memphis and the needs of the families it serves. As a service project, the Junior Beta Club collected items for the pantry at



Ronald McDonald House.

The whole school enthusiastically participated, and over four hundred items were donated. Members of the Junior Beta Club delivered the items to the Ronald McDonald House and were given a tour of the facility. They also met some of the families who benefit from the house. It was an amazing experience for those who delivered the goods and visited with the patients and their families.



First grade made valentines for their classmates.



Sister Mary Raymond and Sister Margaret Ann both from St. Paul School spoke with the students about life as a nun.



**\*\*\*Boosterthon is coming in March!!!\*\*\***

## *Mentoring*

It is so important for our young students to interact with the older students in a learning environment. This month the seventh grade worked with the fourth grade to edit the “State Projects” for the younger students. Ivy Almond commented, “Learning with the seventh graders was great because they know more grammar, and they helped me get a better grade.”



The eighth graders wowed the second graders when they gave them bookmarks that they had made for each second grader. The bookmarks will be used by the students during reading.



## *Science Fair*



**\*\*\*The Science Fair is open to the public Wednesday, March 2; 6:00-7:00 p.m.\*\*\***