



St. Joseph School, Fullerton

8416 Belair Road Baltimore, MD 21236 Phone: 410-256-8026 Fax: 410-529-7234

Monthly Newsletter

November, 2010

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

*Little children, let us love,
not in word or speech, but in truth and action.*

1 John 3:18

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As I am just completing the first round of teacher classroom observations, I have been struck by the way the children are actively engaged in the learning process here at St Joe's. Third graders worked in pairs to make bar graphs of raw data, Pre-K students explored their sense of smell learning about dangerous smells and enjoying pleasant odors, in small groups seventh graders brainstormed *Jesus as Light* through a 'Shared Writing' process in Religion class, and eighth graders experienced Asian printing in Art by creating their own 'chop block'. In all the classes, children were highly motivated to participate. There has been a sense of enthusiasm and joy of learning in the rooms.

In a large way, I attribute this engaging atmosphere to the careful planning and content knowledge of our teachers. Coupled with their experience, our teachers have stepped up to the challenge and opportunity of the new technology that we recently purchased through HASA funding. They are using the projectors, Learn 360 video clips, the document camera and more tactile experiences to capture the attention and inspire the creativity of the children. Lessons are so much more enjoyable when the children can see material come to life. I applaud the teachers who have taken the plunge.

Equally important to teaching and learning content is effectively infusing values in our children. We really want our students to do more than learn about God and talk about being good. We want them to become compassionate human beings, sensitive to the needs and sorrows of the people in their lives and in the world. We want our children to exhibit acts of kindness.

Horace Mann said "I have never heard anything about the resolutions of the Apostles, but a great deal about their *Acts*". We want the same to be said about our St. Joe students.

May you have a Happy Thanksgiving, showing gratitude for all our blessings.

Peace,
Mrs. Phyllis Karko

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November

3	Joe Corbi order form sent home
4	HASA General Meeting – Conference Sign up 7:00 Parish Center
9	Market Day delivered
11	Open House for Prospective Parents 8:30 to 11:30
17	Character Building Assemblies for Grades K, 1, 3, 5, & 8
17	Joe Corbi orders due back to school
19	Pre K Show, Parish Center
22	Thanksgiving Mass 8:15, Progress Reports sent home with students
23	School Closed, Parent Conferences 9:00 am to 7:45 pm
24	School Closed, Parent Conferences 7:30 to 10:00 am
25	School Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday
26	School Closed – Thanksgiving weekend
28	Advent Begins Fr. Kevin’s 29 th Anniversary as a priest
29	Pizza for students in honor of Fr. Kevin’s 29 th Anniversary
30	Joe Corbi products delivered to school

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

HASA General Meeting

The fall General Meeting of the Home and School Association will be held on Thursday, November 4th beginning at 7:00. After the business portion, we will have a guest speaker, Mrs. Sue Finklestein Edwards. She will be discussing child development as it relates to appropriate social skills for each stage during their school years. Immediately following her talk, parents can sign up for their choice of time for the Parent Conferences that will be held on November 23rd and 24th.

Open House for Prospective Parents

Please help us spread the word that St. Joseph School will be conducting small group tours on Thursday, November 11th from 8:30 to 11:30. We ask that prospective parents call us in advance so that we can tailor their tour somewhat to the grades that they are most interested in learning about. If you know someone who might be interested in finding out about our school, please ask them to call 410-256-8026 or email office @stjoefullerton.org.

Snyder Foundation Assembly

On Wednesday, November 17th Ann Gearhart for the Snyder Foundation for Animals will make separate presentations to children in K, 1, 3, 5, & 8 emphasizing humane concepts such as compassion and responsible pet care. Called ‘The Best Kept Secret in Education’ by the Baltimore Sun, the program presents character building skills through a variety of age appropriate programs.

Parent – Teacher Conferences

Progress Report Cards will be going home with the students on Monday, November 22. Parent Conferences are scheduled for the following two days: Tuesday, November 23rd from 9:00 AM to 7:45 PM and on Wednesday, November 24th from 7:30 AM to 10:00 AM. In Catholic schools, all parents are strongly encouraged to meet with the teachers after the first marking period. This year, we have moved conferences to the two days before Thanksgiving break. This will allow those families who want to go out of town an extra day for travelling. Conference sign up will occur immediately after the HASA General Meeting on Thursday, November 4th. Please make every effort to sign up and meet with the teachers during this specially reserved time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Grandparents' Day Date Change

Due to a conflict with the clean-up from the Winter Chicken Dinner, we had to change the date for our very popular Grandparents' Day. As a result, Grandparents' Day will be held on Thursday, March 31st instead of March 10th as listed on the Annual Calendar. Although this is a long way off, we wanted to let you know so that the grandparents can arrange their schedule. Please spread the word to your loved ones.

Too Much Information! – School Rack

If you are still receiving email notifications from School Rack about previous teachers updating their sites, you can disable those notifications. Open one email from each of the prior teachers, scroll to the bottom of the message, and click the unsubscribe link. You might receive an email confirming that you wish to unsubscribe.

Fr. Kevin Anniversary

Our Pastor, Fr. Kevin Schenning will celebrate his 29th year as a priest on Sunday, November 28th. Each year he has treated the children to a Pizza Lunch to celebrate his anniversary. On Monday, November 29th, Fr. Kevin will provide the pizza. The usual milk orders will be served. Please send in fruit, snacks or drinks if your child wants them. We are truly blessed to have a pastor who love his school and wants to see it succeed. Congratulations, Fr. Kevin! (Actually he is 'Monsignor Kevin Schenning' now but he never asks to be addressed that way.)

CLASS NEWS

Grade Seven Sets Up Learning Community

The seventh grade is very busy "blogging" on a Discussion Board through my School Rack website. Various topics are presented, and the students respond to them. Their answers and the way they write them contribute to their grades. A mystery book report is being completed using this format. The students even have opportunities to create topics of their own and respond to the topics of others. These activities have been met with a great deal of enthusiasm. Topics related to Religion and Language Arts will be presented throughout this school year.

-Mrs. Radziminski

Fifth Grade in Action

The students of grade 5 have written poems for the Fall Issue of Creative Communications. Topics include holidays, friends, pets, and the Ravens. A variety of poetic styles were used, like haiku, acrostics, and cinquains.

In Science grade 5 students are busy organizing a leaf exhibit gathered from a Plant Walk distinguishing plant type and characteristics, whether it has seeds or spores, and if it is an angiosperm or a gymnosperm.

Grade 5 students are writing personal narratives. These multi-paragraph essays explore sequence, dynamic beginnings, time clue words, dialogue, and satisfying endings. Typing the narratives ties together all the skills of writing and computer expectations.

Grade 5 read Three Young Pilgrims getting ready for November's best holiday, Thanksgiving. Comprehension skills were used to illustrate their version of the story. The Story Art will be posted in the hallway outside of Room 10.

-Mrs. Keefer

The Fifth grade recently worked in small groups in order to research facts about four Native American groups. Each group presented their information to the class through many different forms- interviews, dioramas, posters, costumes, models and artifacts. Both classes did a GREAT job!!

-Mrs. Barnes

Grade 2 Helps Those Who Serve In Our Military

2B collected items to send to my Mom (Master Sgt. Janet Baldrige) in Tallil, Iraq. They brought in toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, soap, etc. A more complete list of items is listed on my SchoolRack page... there are a lot! We had 4 boxes total and included thank you cards from each child to my Mom and the soldiers.

-Mrs. Smythe

(You can find a copy of the card they all colored and sent in each box and also a letter my Mom wrote back to them at the end of this newsletter.)

First Grade reads to Help Other Read

First grade 1B has joined the Scholastic Book Club Classroom Care. Each child has pledged to read 10 books starting October 12th to December 17th. When completed Scholastic Book Clubs and its charity partners will donate One Million Books to Kids in Need in all 50 States. So far 7 children have met their pledge.

We are just so excited about this!

-Mrs. Arczynski

CONGRATULATIONS

Math Olympiad

On Saturday, October 23, 16 of our middle school girls participated in The Catholic High School Math Olympiad. We entered four teams of four girls each who competed in a variety of events against girls from other Catholic high schools.

The team members were:

Team 1 – Allyson Westfall, Jamie Teramani, Olivia Kaiss and Noelle Acaso

Team 2 – Maddie Samons, Emily Meyerl, Lauren Jenkins and Krystelle Estrella

Team 3 – Jordan Mosco, Arnelle Fonlon, Cari Middlecamp and Bhakti Panchal

Team 4 – Hannah Laue, Ianna Pirozzi, Lola Dada and Alyssa Dovere

Scores were comprised from individual and team problem solving, and for the 15th year, our school was recognized with Team 1 (above) placing Third overall in the competition. Congratulations on your outstanding performance.

Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth

Congratulations to 8th Grader Steven Richards who scored with ‘High Honors’ on the SAT Math Test last spring as part of the CTY program at Johns Hopkins. He received recognition from CTY. Congratulations also to former 8th grader, Samantha Freud who earned ‘Distinction’ for her Reading Score on the SAT. Samantha is currently a freshman at NDP.

Cake Contest Winner

Way to go 4B for bringing in the most cakes to support the Chicken Dinner. As Fr. Kevin promised, you will be treated to a class Pizza Party. Mrs. Diggs, you have a very spirited class.

Red Ribbon Week Parade

On Friday October 29th we held our 10th annual Red Ribbon Week parade. It was the biggest and best yet! We'd like to thank Father Kevin and Mrs. Karko for once again leading our parade, Captain Dee-Fense for helping spread the message to "Be on the Defense Against Drugs", our drummers Casey Turner, Mark Padilla, Christian Mananghaya, and all our participants. This year we had 44 entries and 178 students creatively spread Anti Drug messages.

Our three winning entries will be treated to a pizza lunch. They were...

Wii Don't Do Drugs: Sixta Villagaray, Paige Sokolowski, Kerrigan Bosley, Jillian Seay

We Don't See Drugs in Our Future: Erin Disney, Meagan Smith, Katie Mills, Gabrielle Christy, Delaney Samons, Rachel Tomas, Haley Fink.

Don't Say I Do To Things That Will Hurt You: Ogechi Iwumune, Kayla Dialoiso, Maddison Samons, Rachel Venanzi, Megan Posko, Victoria Wolford, David Fultz, Kelenna Nwakama, Bobby Robinson, Nick Randolph, Josh Tamayo, Chimobi Iwumune, Brooke Rosenberger, Carrie Middlecamp, Ezinwa Nwakama

THANKS TO...

In Honor of Our 160th Anniversary

Have you seen the picture in the Church vestibule advertising the St Joseph 160th Anniversary? The amazing artwork was done in *one day* by our very own St Joseph School 8th grader Khrystelle Estrella. We are sincerely thankful for her willingness to share her remarkable talent with our parish.

Annual Appeal

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to everyone who donated to the St Joseph School Annual Appeal. Thanks to the generosity of 77 donors our school received \$3,680.00.

Principal's Scholars Dinner

Thanks to Mrs. Joanne Richards our families and their students enjoyed a wonderful dinner and evening of proud moments at the Principals' Scholar Dinner. We are very grateful for your work to continue this treasured event for our students.

(Parents, please be aware that this is the Richard's last year at St. Joe. Joanne is willing to team with any folks who would like to step up to make sure we don't lose this opportunity in the future. Please let me know if you can help or if I can give you more details.

-Mrs. Karko

Three Cheers for the Red Ribbon Parade

Tons of Thanks You's go out to Mrs. Michaud and Mrs. Collins for organizing and executing our 10th Annual Red Ribbon Parade. Those of us who were there enjoyed a wonderful spectacle of floats and banners as our children proudly announced that they will not make dangerous decisions about drugs, tobacco and alcohol. Red Ribbon Week is a behemoth undertaking from the daily announcements through the week of class activities, culminating with the grandest parade every. We loved the visit from Captian DEE- FENCE, too. Three cheers to you!

BITS AND PIECES

Information on the annual Knights of Columbus High School Scholarship is available at the end of this newsletter or on their website <http://www.kofc-md.org>

HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION NEWS

Beginning this month, look for Home and School Association under a separate email for all the latest news.

FROM THE COUNSELING OFFICE

Mrs. Vernick is coordinating the class assemblies now scheduled for November 17th (previously on November 3rd.) Please see her October newsletter submission for more details.



Maryland State Council

Knights of Columbus

10815 Stang Road
Owings Mills, MD 21117

November 1, 2010

Dear Elementary School Principal,

Each year the Maryland State Council of the Knights of Columbus awards several four year Catholic high school scholarships to sons and daughters of members of the Knights of Columbus and to Catholic students in general.

Presently over thirty young Catholic men and women are enrolled in colleges and universities across the country and in Catholic high schools of their choice, in Maryland, through the financial assistance provided by these scholarship programs.

I am enclosing two copies of an information sheet outlining the availability of and eligibility for the high school scholarship awards.

I am confident that you have many graduating students capable of scholarship recognition and scholarship assistance. With this thought in mind, I would be most appreciative if you would place a copy of the enclosed information sheet in a prominent location on your school bulletin board and publicize the availability of these scholarships in your school's bulletin or newsletter.

Interested parents and students may obtain specific information and applications by writing to:

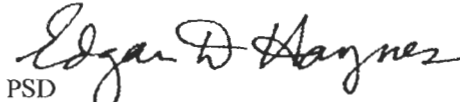
Maryland State Council
Knights of Columbus
10815 Stang Road
Owings Mills, MD 21117

or by contacting our web site at: <http://www.kofc-md.org/pages/committees.scholarship/scholar.htm>

It is important that the student clearly specify that he or she is requesting the high school applications and whether the father or grandfather is a member of the Knights of Columbus. Affiliation with the Knights of Columbus is not required for the O'Brien Scholarship.

Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,


Edgar D. Haynes, PSD
Chairman, Scholarship Committee

Enclosures:
Scholarship Program – Maryland State Council

Scholarship Program

Sponsored By the Maryland State Council of the Knights of Columbus

The Maryland State Council of the Knights of Columbus is the sponsor of two High School Scholarships for its members and for Catholic Students in general. Below is a brief summary of these scholarships and information regarding eligibility for scholarship awards.

The Frederick M. Gossman Memorial High School Scholarship

Designed to assist members of the Knights of Columbus holding membership in councils within the jurisdiction of Maryland in paying tuition for their sons and daughters at accredited Catholic High Schools; two grants of \$1,500.00 per year for up to four years, and one additional grant of \$1,500.00 per year for up to four years, funded by the Maryland Knights of Columbus Insurance Advisors, will be awarded. Awards will be made on the basis of academic excellence, personal qualifications, and financial need. The children of deceased members are also eligible, provided the member was in good standing at the time of death.

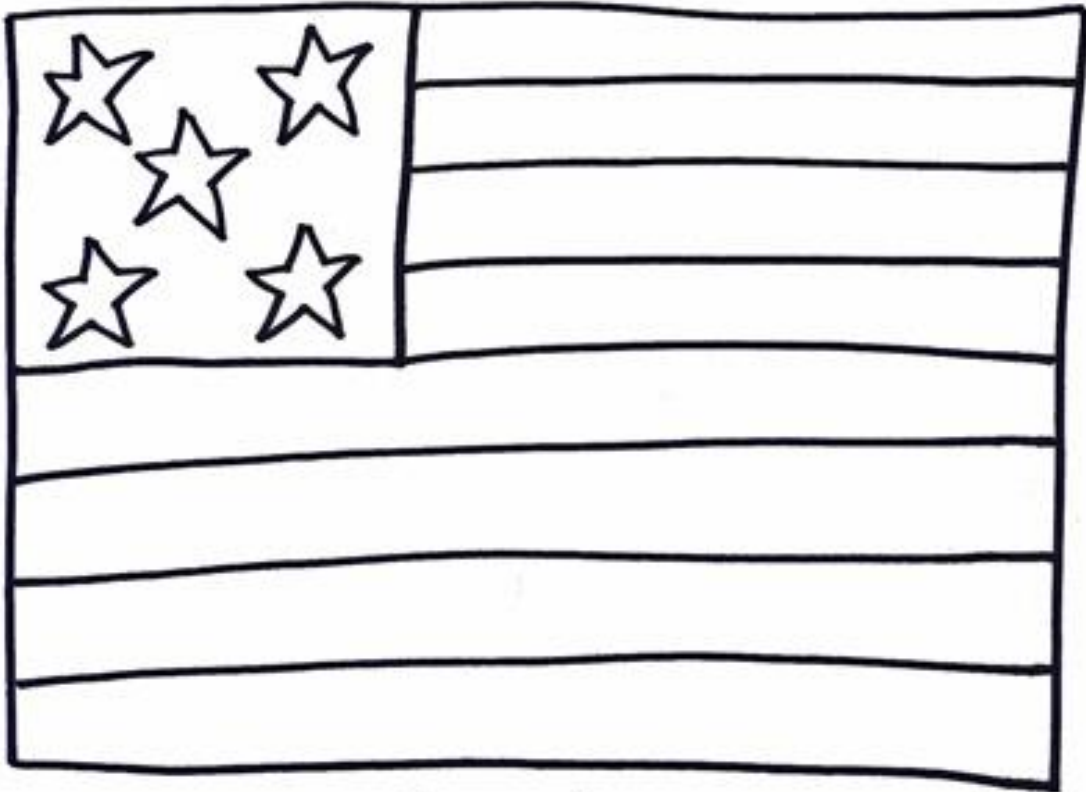
The William J. O'Brien Jr., Memorial Catholic High School Scholarship

Three grants of \$1,500.00 per year for up to four years will be awarded. Eligibility for a grant under this program is open to Catholic students who are residents of the State of Maryland, and to children and grandchildren of a member of a Knights of Columbus council within the jurisdiction of Maryland. Applicants must have been officially accepted at or must be students at accredited Catholic High Schools. Applications will be judged on academic excellence, personal qualifications, and financial need.

Application period is from November 1, 2010 to March 1, 2011. All applications must be received by the Scholarship Committee no later than March 1, 2011. For scholarship information or applications go to: www.kofc-md.org/pages/committees/scholarship/scholar.htm , or write to:

Maryland State Council
Knights of Columbus
10815 Stang Road
Owings Mills, MD 21117

THANK YOU



for all that you do!

name _____ age _____

Dear Mrs. Smythe's 2nd Grade
Class,

My unit is the United States Army Corps of Engineers. We build schools, bridges, water filtration systems, police stations, houses, and much more. My job is to transport all the materials and personnel to build the projects. Someday this country will be a beautiful place to visit. All this is possible because of the United States of America, Soldiers, and American citizens who continue to support not only their

troops but the children of Iraq.

We extend our sincere gratitude to all the children and families at your school. They are truly contributing to something very worthwhile.

Many thanks!

Master Sgt. Janet
Baldrige

(Mrs. Smythe's Mom 😊)

