



thelink

Your weekly information link to Saint Paul Catholic School

January 22, 2015

Calendar

January

Thurs, January 22

- Report Cards

Sun, January 25

- Catholic Schools' Week begins
- CSW Open House 11:00-1:30PM
- Scholastic Book Fair

Tues, January 27

- Andrean Mass (7/8th grs.)

Fri, January 30

- Family Friday

February

Mon, February 2

- Dress Alternative Day

Sat, February 7

- Girl Scout Spaghetti Supper

Tues, February 10

- 8th gr. visits OE

Thurs, February 12

- Valentine's Day Parties 1:30-2:15PM (K-5)

Fri, February 13

- NO SCHOOL/Snow Make-up Day

Mon, February 16

- No SCHOOL/Snow Make-up Day

Tues, February 17

- Mardi Gras Luncheon

Wed, February 18

- Ash Wednesday

Fri, February 20

- End of Progress period

From our School Advisory Council President

A Letter to Our Families—Linda Boxum

Dear SPCS Families,

During December, Father Joe, Mrs. Scupham, Mrs. Kepa, Steve Poole, Jessica Clements and I met to review our school's finances. In those meetings, we judiciously reviewed our current budget, and formulated a new one for the 2015-2016 school year. These meetings are never easy, and require a lot of preparation and prayer to guide us.

For the next school year, a drop in enrollment is anticipated due to a large graduating 8th grade class coupled with one incoming kindergarten class. Our school, along with today's society, is faced with economic challenges including rising heating and cooling costs, a water bill that increased 54% and a 15% increase for trash collection. Additionally, we also are faced with the challenge of declining church donations which further impacts our budget. There is also a diocesan salary raise for both faculty and staff incorporated into our upcoming budget.

After prayerful consideration, it has been decided that the deficit will be covered by three equal contributions from our school savings, the endowment, and a 5% school tuition increase. All other fees, scrip dollars, and hour commitments will remain the same.

Our school's largest sources of income are tuition and fundraising. We are aware that the recruitment of new students and families is an integral part in the continued health and success of our school. As a promotional tool for currently enrolled Tiny Tim's pre-school students, we will offer a \$500.00 Kindergarten tuition credit. We are very blessed to have a healthy savings from which to pull these funds. It is equally important that we support our fundraising efforts wholeheartedly. Ways this can be accomplished are by volunteering to work/chair events, by regularly purchasing scrip and attending fundraising events, and encouraging family and friends to do the same. I encourage you to maximize your scrip contributions. If we all maximize the use of scrip, and even broaden it to non-school families, we can easily offset some of the financial burdens to our budget. As the number of school families decrease, so do our scrip profits. That is why it is even more important for us to attempt to increase our scrip contributions.

It is only with the support and prayers from our SPCS families that our children will be able to thrive both academically and spiritually in our community. I am thankful and humbled by the hard work and dedication of our school staff and our school families which has resulted in a magnificent *faith based education* for our children.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Scupham or myself.

Many blessings,

Linda Boxum
SAC President

Prayers

We often have many SPCS family members and friends in need of your prayers as they battle serious illnesses. Please pray for them.

- ◇ Wendi Balda
- ◇ Laura Bernardini
- ◇ Judy Bretz
- ◇ Melissa Buynak
- ◇ Judy Carichoff,
friend of Margo
Oglesby (Speech)
- ◇ Tommy Folan
- ◇ Valerie Hawes
- ◇ Donald Klawitter,
father-in-law of Pau-
lette Klawitter (Gr. 3-
Aide)
- ◇ Lothar Klumpp
- ◇ Peggy McGuckin,
(Computer Teacher)
- ◇ Steve O'Shea
- ◇ John Randazzo
- ◇ Sue Wehren

Business— *Jane Scupham*

Report Cards

Report cards are coming home today. Please be sure that your tuition account is up to date to ensure receipt of your child's report card.

Dismissal Carline Refresher Quiz:

- What time is appropriate for the line to begin forming?
- What entrance should be used at dismissal?
- How far up should the first car in each line pull up?
- How many cars in line 1? Lines 2-10?

Now that the bridge on Harrison is open please avoid entering or exiting the school parking lot at the stop sign. It is much safer to use the wide center church entrance.

Please, please, please do not arrive any earlier than 2:15. There is NO REASON ANYONE should sit outside a school playground for over an hour. When there are piles of snow, the passages are narrower and the parking lot is not just for the school. The Clothing Center and the Adult Day Care Center need room to pass. Running engines cause polluted air (and warm cars have been known to provide perfect napping opportunities which in itself is unsafe!). **Loading of the lot is never earlier than 2:25. PLEASE DO NO ARRIVE BEFORE 2:15.**

Lastly – Please stay in the row you are assigned when entering the lot. We need to have the maximum number of cars in each row. Row 1 is **shorter than the rest due to the fact that the sidewalk runs out**. There are 7 cars in the rest of the rows, beginning with row 2. Often drivers think they do not fit in row 2 because it is longer than row 1. Also, the first car in each row really **needs to pull up to the yellow line** to allow space for 7 cars.

Please share the Car Line Dismissal Procedure found in the white envelope with all caregivers, grandparents, etc.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION!

All God's Children— *Tracy Ruiz*

AGC was started about five years ago by a Saint Paul parent who was looking for support from other parents struggling to help their child achieve their highest potential at Saint Paul despite the learning challenges her child faced. This support group of parents has grown into a very important advocacy group for these students of Saint Paul's. Our group is the only one of its kind in the Diocese of Gary and we have received support and even funding from the Diocese to further educate one of our own, Debbi Czaplá, in order to better serve ALL students here at Saint Paul. Our group continues to work on ways to improve the quality of the educational and social experiences for students at Saint Paul. While our group began to help students facing more significant learning challenges we have discovered that in helping one student, we are helping all the students; and have discovered that while every child does not have a diagnosis or stigma to overcome, ALL students face challenges at some point during their educational lives.

Please join us Wednesday, January 28th at 6:30pm in the cafeteria to find out more about AGC and how you can be a part of this exciting organization of parents trying to make Saint Paul the best it can be and a place where All God's Children are welcomed, accepted and developed to their highest potential !!

Gala—Request for Volunteers— *Kelly Martin, Heather O'Donnell, Tracy Stillman*

Are you willing to work to help your school raise funds to keep your tuition costs down? Fundraisers historically cover approximately 20% of the annual budget at SPCS; the Gala alone typically raises 20% of your fundraising dollars. We are looking for volunteers to help make the Gala a success. We need volunteers for a wide range of tasks. Please contact the Chairs at your convenience.

Last Chance to Order your Yearbook! — *Natalia Cox*

The deadline to order the yearbook is January 31st. If you still want to order a book, return your order form and payment immediately. Use the order form included in the white envelope in November or order online at <http://www.jostensyearbooks.com/> (St. Paul Valparaiso). If you need a new form, please fastdirect me and I will send you one.

Don't be caught without a book at the end of the school year. This is the last chance so order now! There will be very few extra copies. Call Natalia Cox (707-7253) for any questions!

A Tasty Lesson— Anna Funk

Measuring, mixing, stirring, folding, decorating—what do these things have in common? They are all part of a math, science and art lesson! Last Friday, we had pastry chef Cayla Klawitter (SPCS '07) visit our classroom and teach the students how baking incorporates math (measuring ingredients), science (states of matter), and art (decorating with icing and other ingredients). Each student in the class participated in all steps of the baking process. Some students measured an ingredient while another stirred it in. The students even had time to make their own chef hat while their cupcakes were cooling. At the end, the students had made yummy chocolate cupcakes decorated like snowmen. It was one of the tastiest lessons we have had to date.



***Cayla Klawitter (SPCS '07) completed her Associates Degree in Pastry at Southern New Hampshire University. She is currently in her last semester working to complete her Bachelor's Degree in Restaurant and Hotel Management and Culinary Management. We thank Cayla for her generous donation of time and expertise.*



Semi-Final Game vs. St. Mary Griffith— Michael Zajac

This past weekend the 6th Grade Boys Basketball Team kept their season alive and improved their record to 12-0 by winning an overtime Semi-Final nail biter against St. Mary's (Griffith). Down by 6 in the 3rd quarter and by 4 late in the 4th quarter, a big basket by Jason Isley and a 3-pointer by Michael Zajac gave the Panthers a 1 point lead 27-26. With a few seconds left St. Mary's made a free throw and tied the game up 27-27. During the 2 ½ minute overtime period baskets by Sam and Will Ruiz and 3 clutch free throws by Will gave the Panthers a 6 point lead and sealed the win! Patrick Sayers, Amol Verma, Robert Pruzin, and Evan Hartman all played great and it was such a great Team WIN!!

The 6th Grade Panthers (and the 7th Grade Panthers) are both undefeated and will be playing in their respective Championship Games this Saturday at Saint Paul. If you can make it, please support our teams and our school and come to our games!! Hot dogs and popcorn are only \$1 and you will see some great basketball too!!

Girls' 7th Grade Basketball Off to a Great Start— Coach Sherman

So far, the Girls 7th Grade Basketball team has played 9 games, and won 6, over St. Mike's (twice), St. Casimir, Victory Christian Academy, Immanuel Lutheran and St. John the Baptist. The team also reached the semi-finals of the St. John Evangelist Holiday Tournament.

All ten team members have contributed to the team's success. Post players Jordan Brys, Mary Anjorin, Madison Lindsey and Elena Thompson are all good rebounders and score well near the basket. Hannah Flynn is the team's leading scorer. Guards Sarah Cavanaugh and Grace Healy are solid defenders and help the team with their all-around play. Guard Annie Sherman is the team's long-range shooter, Bridget Meccia has scored well in multiple games, and Eileen Uthuppan is a tenacious defender. Overall, the girls are all tremendous team players, and are working toward making this the best season possible. Coaches Dan Sherman, Brad Cavanaugh and Dana Jessen are collaborating to maximize the team's success.

Playing for the Championship— Coach Ruiz

The 6th Grade boys play for the CYO Championship at 11:15am this Saturday, January 24th at St. Paul. They earned the chance to play for the championship after defeating St. Mary's Griffith in overtime this past Saturday. It was a nail biter the whole way, but in overtime we took over and won the game decidedly. We will be playing against a very talented Nativity team, so come cheer us on to victory! This team is undefeated and so much fun to watch.

Weekend Schedule

Boys' Basketball Championship

January 24th

6th - 11:15AM @ SPCS
7th (T) - 12:30PM @ SPCS



Come Saturday to Support Your Panthers!



It's always a great day to be a Panther!



Girls' Basketball

January 22nd

6th - 4:30PM @ SPCS vs. Immanuel Lutheran

January 24th

5th (C) - schedule not available at time of publication

5th (I) - NO GAME

6th - NO GAME

7th - NO GAME

8th - NO GAME

January 25th

5th (C) - schedule not available at time of publication

5th (I) - NO GAME

6th - NO GAME

7th - NO GAME

8th - NO GAME

EDGE Youth Ministry Retreat



All 6th-8th grade youth in the parish are invited to *Encounter*, a special retreat hosted by Saint Paul EDGE Middle School Youth Ministry! The retreat will be held on Sunday, March 1, 2015 from 8:15 AM -5:00 PM at Saint Paul Church. Parish youth in grades 6th-8th are invited to come together and learn how to see God at work in their everyday lives. Featuring games, food and fun, engaging video and discussion sessions from the *Encounter* Bible study series, youth will experience God as a loving father with a great plan for them. They will also learn about the Biblical roots of the Sacraments and the Mass.

Youth on the retreat will enjoy the day beginning with a *very special breakfast with Bishop Donald Hying* and Sunday's 10:00 Mass which will be said by the Bishop with our Saint Paul community! Join us for Encounter at Saint Paul Church in the Social Hall on March 1, 2015. Cost is \$25.00 and includes t-shirt and take-home materials. **Registration deadline is February 15, 2015!** For more information or to register for the retreat, call Tracy Ruiz at truiz@aol.com / (219) 405-2417 or Cathie Dull at stpaulvalpoedge@gmail.com / (219) 508-5606.

Great Opportunities for Athletes— Coach Tarnow

There are a few great opportunities coming up for our Saint Paul athletes. Information on the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest and training sessions at Integrated Movement is available. For more information please contact Ray Tarnow, Athletic Director, via FastDirect.



Mission Statement

At Saint Paul Catholic School, teachers, parents, and students work together to create a safe, caring environment, based on Christian values and service to others, that enables students to learn and develop spiritually, academically, emotionally, and physically.

Saint Paul Catholic School — Faith in Education

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To submit articles for publication in *The Link*, please send an email to link@stpaulvalpo.org or send a hard copy labeled "Link" to the office. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

