

St. Mary Academy Newsletter

March 2009
Volume 3, Issue 5

Principal's News

Mrs. Rosemary Reese, Principal
Mrs. Cynthia Kuder, Vice-Principal



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Dear Parents,

As February rolls into March we have hope that spring cannot be too far behind. The snow piles are slowly diminishing and I have had reports that some folks have even had grass sightings. I hope you all had a good winter break and that you either enjoyed the benefits of winter on the ski slopes somewhere or, even better, traveled to a warm and sunny place.

This has been a challenging winter with power outages and snow storms. In order to make up a day we will be having a ½ day of school on Good Friday. In observance of this solemn day the Student Council will be presenting a Living Stations of the Cross at 10:00 a.m. All are invited to attend.

The big event this month is our auction. We no longer have a golf tournament so the auction is our main fundraising event of the year. It is incredibly important that we all get behind this to make it successful. The online portion of the auction goes live on Sunday, March 1 and everyone can get involved in this. Just go to <http://saintmaryacademy.cmarket.com> to register. The live auction will take place on Saturday, March 21. Don't forget to order your tickets. Invite your friends and neighbors and reserve a table.

On March 15 the eighth graders will be holding a Pancake Breakfast in our gym to raise money for their class trip. Everyone is invited.

On March 20, all our teachers will be attending a professional development day to be trained in

the Key 3 program. This program is designed to help students improve reading comprehension in the content areas and to develop study skill strategies. This training will be followed by a month-long on-line component.

Standardized testing for Grades 2-8 will take place during the week of March 30-April 3. Please avoid scheduling appointments during that week that would require your child to be absent. A good night's sleep and a good breakfast will guarantee your child's best performance.

St. Mary Academy is sponsoring a Protecting God's Children training on Wednesday, March 25 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Mary Parish Hall. If you have not yet been trained, please plan to go. All volunteers who work with children must attend Protecting God's Children. You can register by calling the school office at 742-3299.

A number of people have asked me about the process for identifying a new Principal. At this time a Search Committee is being formed which will be chaired by Mr. Nick Milano, chair of the SMA School Board. Once the Search Committee has been formed the position will be advertised and the process will unfold. I realize that many people are feeling anxious during this time of change but I am confident that, with guidance of the Holy Spirit, we will identify a new leader who will provide the vision and energy to move St. Mary Academy into the future. Thank you for all your kind words and good wishes since the announcement of my decision to leave St. Mary.

Upcoming Events

- ◆ Gr. 8 Pancake Breakfast (3/15)
- ◆ Auction (3/21)
- ◆ Protecting God's Children (3/25)
- ◆ Standardized testing (3/30-4/3)

Mission of the Month – Mrs. Kuder

This month's mission collection is going to Seabeck Mission to support their work in Haiti. Haiti is one of the poorest countries in the world and has been devastated even further by hurricanes. Our offering will help the Sisters of Mother Therese as they run an orphanage and help street children.

They also provide medical services to the poor and to the street people. Please join us in our effort to reach out to others.

Thank you for your support.

**March
Mission
Collection**
Seabeck Mission-
Haiti

Thursday,
March 12

Students of the Month – Senora Dromey-Heeter

Please celebrate the following students who particularly excelled and exemplified the Student Council Virtue of the Month: Honesty

Carlos Gajewski
Samantha Printy
Rebecca Boisvert
Olivia Furino
Grace Lopez
Mackenzie Geppert

Matthew Kelly
Cam Adams
Mr. Duffy

'To make your children capable of honesty is the beginning of education.'

-John Ruskin



Box Tops for Education

So far, for the 2008-2009 school year, SMA has received \$536 through the General Mills Box Top for Education Program. A box of 3,600 Box Tops has been sent out in February, which will bring another \$360 to the school. Thank you to all who participate.

For those of you who aren't familiar with this program, look for the pink "Box Top for Education" coupon on hundreds of General Mills products. General Mills brands include

Cheerios, Betty Crocker, Pillsbury, Juicy Juice, Kleenex, and more. Just clip the coupons from the box or label and send them to school with your child. Each homeroom has a designated container to collect the Box Tops. For a complete listing of participating products go to

www.boxtops4education.com.

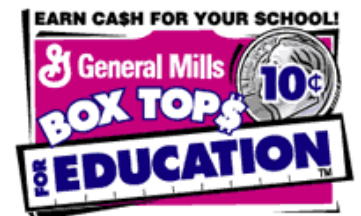
There are other ways to earn money for SMA through the Box Tops Marketplace.

You can shop online at over 70 stores like JCPenney, Lands' End, and Oriental Trading.

A percentage of your dollars spent at these online stores will go to SMA. You may already be shopping regularly from some of these stores! All you have to do is go to www.boxtops4education.com, pick SMA as your school, and start shopping.

I urge you to go to the website and check out all the ways that the Box Top for Education program has for SMA to earn dollars.

SMA Box Top Coordinator,
Judy Coffey



Development News— Mrs. Puglisi

Auction Updates - Get in on the action....

Online Auction - Live on March 1

Start bidding on items leading up to the big event. Please pay special attention to which items are LIVE. Only these items will continue bidding at the live event on March 21. The remainder of the items will be sold online only through March 18. Please register at <http://saintmaryacademy.cmarket.com>. Questions? Please contact Meaghan Puglisi at Puglisi@saintmaryacademy.org or call 742-3299. Additional event details can be found online at www.saintmaryacademy.org - go to community events, auction.

Coffee and Viewing - Friday, March 6, 8-9 a.m. in SMA Gym

We know it's hard to really get a good look at all the wonderful items up for bid so we're offering the opportunity to view the auction items first-hand while the online auction is going on so you can see for yourself what's inside all the baskets, especially the classroom projects!! Join us for coffee on Friday, March 6 in the SMA Gym from 8-9 a.m. In addition, we will be selling both event tickets and tuition-free raffle tickets.

Tickets on-sale now!

Tickets are \$15 each or \$120 per table. We encourage everyone to attend. If you don't want to bid simply come anyway and enjoy an inexpensive evening out among friends, fellow SMA families and faculty in support of our blessed school. And if you have children 4 years and older, we have complimentary babysitting at the PreK building! Cheap tickets and free babysitting? Doesn't get any better than

that.

Typo - On the auction teaser that went out with your auction invitation the date for the Celtics tickets was incorrect. Please note the Celtics tickets are for **Sunday, March 29** NOT March 20.

Tuition-free Raffle Tickets On-Sale Now

Don't miss your opportunity to purchase raffle tickets to win tuition free for one year, for one child at SMA. Tickets are \$25 each and are on-sale now through March 21. Winner's name will be drawn at the auction on March 21. Tickets can be purchased at the main office or by contacting Shelley MacGregor, raffle chair at shelleymacgregor@comcast.net.

Volunteers Needed Day of Event and Next Day Cleanup

If you need volunteer hours and are interested in helping the day of the auction or for break down the following day, we have plenty of jobs for you! Please contact Leslie Barbini, planning chair at leslie@theweddingbelle.net for additional volunteer opportunities still available.



*Jr. High News –Mrs. Sweeney, Mrs. Houle, Miss
Gitschier, Mrs. Roberts*

The Junior High thanks all who made the Valentine's Dance successful, especially the chaperones: Mrs. Andolina, Mrs. Mills, Mr. Poole, Mrs. Sabol, Mrs. Sweeney, and Mrs. Zellem.



Public Service Announcements

**SMA Prayer Tree
For Soldiers**

It has come to our attention that many families here at SMA have friends or relatives who are serving in the military. We even have some alumni serving in Afghanistan who went here to SMA. We thought it might be a nice idea to show the community that we care for these men and women who are fighting for our country.

If you know someone who is in the military overseas, you can send in their name and we will make a dove with that person's name on it, laminate it, and hang it on the tree outside the front of SMA. Hopefully, when other people see these doves, they will say a prayer as well. Every day at St. Mary's we say a prayer for all the soldiers who are serving overseas. Some classes are even writing and sending "Care Packages" to some of these brave men and women.

If you know someone who is serving in the military and would like their name added to the "Prayer Tree", you can either send their name to me here at SMA (Grade 3B) or you can email their name to bilodeau@saintmaryacademy.org

Thank you in advance for sending in those names. Prayer is a wonderful, powerful thing and hopefully these men and women will come home safely to us.

Mrs. Bilodeau

**Protecting God's Children
Workshops in March**

Location: St. Mary Church Parish Hall
Dover, NH

Date: Wednesday, March 25
6:30-8:30 p.m.

To register, please contact Nancy Allyson at (603) 742-3299 or allyson@saintmaryacademy.org

SMart Business Directory

Remember to go to the SMA website and look at all the businesses who have advertised in the SMart Directory. If you need help around the house, with a website, or if you need an electrician, etc., you will find SMA parents or Alumni who have advertised there. Please patronize their businesses. Some of these businesses offer a discount to SMA families.

If you have any questions, or wish to advertise your business, please contact me at: bilodeau@saintmaryacademy.org

YOGA NEWS: **A Fun Alternative for Early Release**

Brown Bag Zumba

Zumba is the latest craze that puts dance moves to Latin music to provide a low impact aerobic workout. While students eat their bagged lunches with friends, each will receive a complimentary fruit smoothie. Following lunch students will learn basic dance moves and put them to music for a fun afternoon of Zumba.

Zumba is scheduled for Wednesday, April 1 (early release day) from 12:00 – 2:00. The cost is \$12.00/child with a 10% discount for siblings.

Please return registration form and payment to Mrs. Schwoerer

Child Name:

Parent:

Email:

Phone:

Please list any food allergies:

Mary Schwoerer, owner and director of Yoga Basics offers a range of classes and workshops for children. Mary is a NH-registered Guidance Counselor and Educator.

Open Circle Program: Parent Workshop

...limited enrollment... sign up now...

SMA is accepting registration for our Open Circle Social Competency Program. This program is FREE with babysitting available for the evening session only. Each session includes one hour workshops for six consecutive weeks. The series will:

- * Familiarize you with skills your children are learning/practicing in class
- * Assist you in the use of these skills at home
- * Help you adapt/extend these skills for more effective parenting

Skills include: cooperation, problem solving, taking responsibility, improving communication, developing self-control and appreciating differences

Morning Session: Tuesdays, March 10 - April 14 @ 8-9 a.m.

Evening Session: Wednesdays, March 11 - April 15 @ 6:15 - 7:15 p.m.

Please fill out the bottom form and return to your child's teacher:

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OPEN CIRCLE PARENT WORKSHOP

Name: _____

Child(s) names/teachers: _____

Email: _____

Best Phone Number: _____

Please circle session/time that you will be attending:

Morning (8 - 9 a.m.)

Evening (6 - 7 p.m.) Childcare Yes No Number of children:

Facilitator: Mary Schwoerer, SMA Guidance Counselor

St. Mary Academy Student Referral

Date: _____

Name of referring family _____

Address of referring family _____

Name(s) of student(s) referred _____

Address of student(s) referred _____

Please attach this form to admission application. Thank you.

St. Mary Academy Student Referral

Date: _____

Name of referring family _____

Address of referring family _____

Name(s) of student(s) referred _____

Address of student(s) referred _____

Please attach this form to admission application. Thank you.