

St. Mary Academy Newsletter

May 2009
Volume 3, Issue 7

Principal's News

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

Dear Parents,

Summer has arrived with a vengeance. As I write this letter we are anticipating a 90 degree day. Hopefully it will cool down quickly lest this venerable old building turn into a brick oven. Fortunately, the children have transitioned into summer uniforms just in time.

The month of May is dedicated to the Blessed Mother. It is the month of First Communions, Mother's Day, May Procession and Ascension Thursday. All of these will be observed here in various ways. Our May Procession will be held on Friday, May 22 at 9:00 a.m. The children will process from here to St. Joseph Church, led by our 2nd grade first communicants, where we will have our May crowning.

Our Ascension Thursday Mass will be on May 21 at 9:00 a.m. Please join us if you can.

There are lots of field trips planned this month - 5th grade to Strawberry Banke, 5th and 6th grades to the Boston Science Museum, 8th grade to Boston for their class trip, Pre-K to the Seacoast Science Center. All chaperones must meet the volunteer requirements in order to participate. If you are not sure whether you are an approved volunteer please contact Lesley Cruz at cruz@saintmaryacademy.org.

On Tuesday, May 19 SMA will be hosting an alumni reunion at Maple Suites. This will be a luncheon event and all alumni classes are invited. To purchase a ticket, please contact Meaghan Puglisi at puglisi@saintmaryacademy.org.

We will be holding our annual extended evacuation drill to City

Hall on Tuesday, May 26. This is an opportunity to practice our emergency plan. If you would like to help out by coming to City Hall auditorium to pick up your child, that would be helpful in testing our release procedure. [Don't worry, we will be taking all the children back to school at the end of the drill.] Please call the office if you can participate in this.

There are many other activities this month - too numerous to mention - including a wildlife presentation for 7th grade, Mother's Day Tea for 1st grade, 8th grade retreat, etc. Please be sure to keep one eye on the calendar and watch for information and permission slips in your child's backpack.

The last day of school will be June 18. By my count, that means there are 36 days of school left. Please partner with us in making those days genuine learning opportunities for the students. The teachers will be working hard to keep them engaged and busy. You can help by making sure that homework gets done and getting your children to bed early and to school on time.

Do try to make time to say the Rosary with your family during the month of May. Most of the classes will be doing this at school. This is a very special devotion, especially as Mary is the patron saint of our school.

Enjoy the lovely spring weather and all the outside activities that come along during our brief New England spring.



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Attachments:

None

Upcoming Events

- ◆ Pancakes for Playset (5/3)
- ◆ Butterbraid deliveries (5/7)
- ◆ Grade 1 Mother's Day Tea (5/8)
- ◆ Mother-Son Bowling (5/16)
- ◆ Ascension Mass (5/21)
- ◆ May Procession (5/22)

Mission of the Month – Mrs. Kuder

This month's mission collection is going to National Relief Charities, which provides program services that benefit Native Americans throughout the United States.

The NRC's mission is "To help Native American people improve the quality of their lives by providing opportunities for them to bring about positive changes in their communities."

NRC provides administrative oversight and support which provides basic support and education programs to rural

communities on economically depressed reservations in the Northern Plains and the Southwest. They work towards their mission in a way unique to most charities in the United States and certainly unique to charities working with Native Americans, and they have found that their approach creates enormous benefits for their target populations.

May Mission Collection

National Relief
Charities

May 7 & 8

Office News – Mr. Hall, Mrs. Allyson, Mrs. Reese, Mrs. Kuder

Pennies!

By the time you read this, the penny collection for 2008-09 school year will be completed. As I write this, the race is too close to call. Class 7H was still in the lead with 2P in second and 1CZ in third. The following students recently brought in more than \$10 each: Mackenzie Geppert \$26, Ben Finnigan 6G \$18, Caitlin Quinn 1CZ \$13, Jacob Fradillada 2P \$12, Nicholas Milano 2P \$12, Gabrielle MacNeil 1CZ \$10.50, and Sara Feith 5G \$10.30. The total so far is \$490.

Thanks to all who contributed this year!

From the Business Office:

Greetings! By now, you should have received your tuition contract, fundraising buyout, and FACTS tuition form for 2009-10. Although the first payment is not due until July, please return the forms to the office by

June 1. This is to allow processing time for FACTS and myself and to ensure we have accurate enrollment numbers for next year.

By now, all tuition and fees should have been paid for the current school year. Please make any outstanding payments as soon as possible.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr. Hall

Reminder

St. Mary's encourages students to perform community service as part of their development as Christians. The following are minimum expectations for each grade level:

Grades 1-4 - 4 hours/year

Grades 5-8 - 10 hours/year

Community Service forms are available in the classrooms and may be used to track hours.

Students of the Month – Senora Dromey-Heeter

Virtues of the Month

The following students were chosen as exemplifying the Student Council Virtue of the Month for April: Self Control.

Meaghan Flynn, Tim Graff, Shawn Dawley and Michaela Thompson

Congratulations for enhancing our school!

Development News— Mrs. Puglisi

We are Holding the First-Ever SMA All-Class Reunion!

On Tuesday, May 19 at noon at the Maple Suites in Dover, alumni will gather for lunch and hear presentations about Saint Mary Academy then, and now. We will be sharing a DVD of the school and also photos from the many generations of families who have attended SMA. Tickets are \$15 each and include a full meal with your choice of pot roast or baked haddock. We are celebrating our alum and giving them the opportunity to reconnect with old friends still in the area. Please contact Meaghan Puglisi at 603-742-3299 or email Puglisi@saintmaryacademy.org if you are an alumnus who would like to attend or would like an invitation sent to you or an alum you know. For additional details, please visit our web site at www.saintmaryacademy.org - click on alumni.

Saint Mary Academy Takes On Dover Christmas Parade

The Dover Elks has decided not to run the Dover Christmas Parade and has passed the reigns over to Saint Mary Academy. This event is truly a spirited, family-friendly event that all can get involved in. While it is a fund raising opportunity for the school, more importantly it's a chance for Saint Mary Academy to really connect with the Dover community and businesses. The committee is working with downtown businesses to close downtown and make this is a larger Christmas celebration throughout the community with old-fashioned caroling, business stores open and decorated for the season, ending with the Christmas parade and much more. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact either Meaghan Puglisi at Puglisi@saintmaryacademy.org or Stephanie Bolduc at luvbugs@comcast.net.

Liberty Mutual Gives Back to SMA

Discover insurance savings while also giving back to Saint Mary Academy. If you receive a car insurance quote from Christopher Valley, an SMA parent and senior sales rep for Liberty Mutual, between May 1st and June 30th, Liberty

Mutual will donate \$5 to SMA. To increase your support of SMA, complete a home quote and an additional \$5 will be donated. See for yourself how much money you could save with Liberty Mutual. And the best part - you receive knowledgeable support, immediate claims assistance and the latest information to help keep you and your family safe. For additional information, please contact Christopher Valley at 749-1045 ext. 52227 or email Christopher.valley@libertymutual.com.

Auction Was a Huge Success

The auction met all fund raising goals and a great time was had by all. Whether you were bidding or simply enjoying a night out amongst friends, this was a night people are talking about. The gym was beautifully transformed into an elegant night of bidding, raffles and celebration of our great school. Each student wrote a wish that was hung in the gym, a special treasure for parents to see. Every person that attended the event had the chance to win two tickets to a Friday night game to see the Red Sox vs. the NY Yankees, simply for attending, truly a great way to say thank you to all of our supporters. A special thank you to our exceptional auctioneer of the evening, Ed Downey, and his helper, Joanne White!!! Ed did a great job keeping the crowd energized and bidding! And to Relyco for underwriting the program book, Harvey's Bakery for donating the desserts, and for Marshall Rental Center for giving us everything we needed to make the gym beautiful. We are deeply grateful for everyone who helped make this event a success. From parents who donated items and pulled together classroom projects, businesses who gave us great certificates, sponsors, attendees, online bidders and our dedicated committee members who worked very hard: Stacy Anglace, Leslie Barbini, Nicole Bosco, Monique Couillard, Beth Evans, Shelley MacGregor, Jen MacNeil, Cheryl Saylor and Michelle Wood. Saint Mary Academy is so grateful to everyone for your endless support of our school. Planning stages for next year's event will be starting soon. If you are interested in joining the committee, please contact Meaghan Puglisi at Puglisi@saintmaryacademy.org.

Grade 1 News –Mrs. Cronholm & Mrs. Cruz

The first graders thoroughly enjoyed seeing the play, “Charlotte’s Web,” at the Rochester Opera House. They’ve also been had at work memorizing their lines for the Mother’s Day tea which will be held on May 8th at 1:30. You will want to be sure to bring your cameras, video cameras, and of course, tissues, to this special occasion. Personal invitations will be coming home shortly so keep your eyes out for it!

On Thursday, May 21st at 9am the first graders are hosting the Ascension Mass in the gym. They will be doing the readings, bringing up the gifts, etc. We hope you will be able to join us!

Now that spring is finally here, many of the sports have begun as well as the longer hours of daylight. We encourage everyone to get outside in the fresh air and exercised and of course appreciate the many benefits of participating in team sports. However, we

still have over 30 days left of school and we kindly ask you to try to make sure your child is getting enough sleep at night so that they can be at their best while in school.

Keep reading to your child each night. It is such a great experience and truly helps them become better readers themselves.

Enjoy the warmer weather and we are looking forward to seeing you at the Mothers’ Day Tea!

Mrs. Cronholm and Mrs. Cruz



Grade 2 News –Mrs. Pinsince & Ms. Smith

It's always nice to see May arrive. All the flowers are in bloom and winter has finally taken leave.

Second graders will be receiving their First Eucharist at their parishes throughout the month. Congratulations to all. This is a major event in their faith development.

We are finishing up learning cursive. The transition from manuscript printing to cursive writing is always fun to see.

Animal projects will be due Tuesday, May 26, 2009. We will be studying animals and

their habitats throughout the month. We will send a separate letter soon with all the details needed for the projects.



Grade 3 News –Mrs. Bilodeau & Mrs. Leonard

The third grade has begun collecting its pledge money for the Heifer Project Read-a-thon. With less than half of each class reporting at this time we have collected almost \$1000. Last year we had a grand total of \$2301.46. We hope that every third grader

will participate in this project and bring in his/her pledges and donations by Friday, May 1st. The project is called Read to Feed and some of our boys and girls have been reading a lot. Thanks and thanks for your support

Spanish News – Senora Dromey-Heeter

Special gracias to Marcela Vallecilla - Biggs and Mateo Biggs for speaking to four Spanish classes about their travels to Peru, their knowledge of the Incas and their visit to Machu Pichu. Seventh and eighth graders were truly engaged in this fascinating topic! Gracias to the Biggs for sharing their experiences, travels and pictures to the Spanish Students of SMA. Gracias, gracias, gracias...who knows which SMA students will one day travel to South America! Seeds have been planted!

In my heart, I will be in South America over the weekend of May 15th. I will, however, be spending a weekend in Rockland, Maine for Spanish Immersion at The Penobscot School. This venue is both a wonderful locale and language school. If anyone would like more information, let me know or visit their website: www.languagelearning.org. They have immersion

weekends in Chinese, French, German, Italian, Spanish and Philosophy. So it's not South America, but, immersion really is the way to go when learning another language!



Nursing News— Mrs. Bender

I hope you all had a healthy and safe April break. I'd like to remind all of you about the State's changes of the immunization requirements for the school year of 2009-2010. As stated in the last news letter the grades affected will be those entering Kindergarten, 1st grade, 6th grade and those that are 11 and above starting the new school year. Please check with your respective physician about these changes and if you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Summer is coming upon us and don't forget summer safety. Use sunscreen when going out in the sun, hydrate well with water, wear protective gear when bicycling, skateboarding, rollerblading etc. and don't forget swimming safety. Never go swimming alone.

I know with the economic climate as it is we are all looking for free or cheap ways to have family fun. The Visit NH events calendar is a good place to find things to do as a family (not all of these events are free.) You can check out the calendar at www.visitnh.gov/best-time-to-visit/event-calendar.aspx

I am sure by now most of you have heard about the outbreak of Swine Flu A(H1N1) in Mexico and New York. Symptoms of Swine Flu are

1. Runny Nose
2. Sore Throat
3. Cough
4. Fever or Feverishness
5. Influenza-like illness: fever (100F)

plus cough or sore throat

Preventive measures include frequent hand washing, covering cough and sneezes and staying home when sick to keep from spreading illness. If you suspect that you are sick you should see your physician. Here is a video on cough/sneeze etiquette you can view online.

www.coughsafe.com/media.html. Also, for Swine Flu updates you can go to www.cdc.gov/swine flu

I just wanted to let you know that it has been a pleasure to get to know your children this year and to serve in this capacity. You should know that each and everyone of them is special and you should be proud of them. I have not run into one that was not respectful and polite. Good luck to those that are graduating and to those of you coming back I look forward to seeing you in the new school year.

Mrs. Bender R.N.

Student Council News – Mrs. Zelle, Mrs. Finnigan and Senora Dromey-Heeter

Special thanks to all of the wonderful Student Council Students who performed a wonderful Living Stations of the Cross. Also, thank you to all who attended this very special event. It was an honor to celebrate Jesus on Good Friday and to keep this day sacred.

And special, special, special thank you to Ally Nicolella and her delightful Mom who helped place the "He Lives." on the fence. That Holy Saturday was freeeeeeeeeeezing but Ally and her Mom showed up and served both SMA in a most wonderful way. Thank you!

Other upcoming Student Council events will include elections for next year's officers. On Monday, May 18, interested sixth and seventh graders will give speeches designating their desire to be President, Vice President, Treasurer or Secretary. The week prior is designated for petitions and campaigns. More information will follow, but do encourage your child to run if she/he has an interest. Student Council is a wonderful venue here at SMA to celebrate leadership and to perform service. Students may also run for Class Representatives in the fall.

Other upcoming events for Student Council

include Riverside Rest Home Bingo, decorating and setting up for the SMA Carnival, our year end picnic and, as always, providing uniforms for anyone who would like some. There are loads of shorts and T-shirts! Email Susan Dromey-Heeter or Teresa Zelle if you need any "new" attire for your child.



Campaign for a Commercial Free Childhood – Senora Dromey-Heeter

Back in March I had a viewing of the film, "Consuming Kids, The Campaign for a Commercial Free Childhood."

According to the film jacket: "Consuming Kids throws desperately needed light on the practices of a relentless multi-billion dollar marketing machine that now sells kids and their parents everything from junk food and violent video games to bogus educational products and the family car. Drawing on the insights of health care professionals, children's advocates and industry insiders, the film focuses on the explosive growth of child marketing in the wake of deregulation, showing how youth marketers have used the latest advances in psychology, anthropology and

neuroscience to transform American children into one of the most powerful and profitable consumer demographic in the world. Consuming Kids pushes back against the wholesale commercialization of childhood, raising urgent questions about the ethics of children's marketing and its impact on the health and well-being of kids."

Due to popular demand, this film will again be shown on Tuesday, May 12th at 2:45 in the library. Let me know if you're interested. This is open to parents, teachers, caregivers or anyone interested in marketing to children. Email me if you are interested. Thanks!

Second Trimester Honor Roll



Grade 4

Highest Honors: Brian Austin, Austin Berchulski, Mariah Berchulski, Alexander Breen, Ryan Burchill, Daniel Evans, Mitchell Genkinger, Elise Girard, Peter Lampesis, Kristin Leclair, Erin Nash, Veronika Scherer, Britton Study, Matthew Teague, Kaitlin Weller

High Honors: Olivia Bissett, Brynn Coleman, Henry Cronin, Isabelle Fradillada, Micaela Rich, Samuel Smith, Abigail Steinhauer, Christopher Thompson

Honors: Emily Anglace, Thomas Bennett, Evan Berchulski, Kathryn Edwards, Joseph Ferland, Lillian Friars, Riley Holzhter, Madison Lapierre, Rusat LaTulippe, Brianna Michaels, Camden Patten, Matthew Wooster

Grade 5

Highest Honors: Aidan Bruton, Brenna Chrisom, Delaney Housley, Sarah Jacobs, Alyssa Nicolella, Quinn O'Sullivan, Bryce Sczekan

High Honors: Mary Grace Allen, Samuel Andolina, Nicholas Cruz, Anne O'Donnell, Christopher Foster, Robert Furino, Mackenzie Geppert, Caroline Knight, Marina Obyc, Kyler Pilewski

Honors: Nicole Arsenault, Benjamin Begley, Ryan Bennett, Caroline Carter, Ashley Coneys, Sara Feith, Cameron Gould, Sara Janetos, Caroline Kageleiry, James Kelliher, Isaac Leslie, Amelia Lotz, Adam Sabol

Grade 6

Highest Honors: Bryce Berchulski, Colleen Coffey, Alexander Cruz, Charles Pollock, Corbin Study, Emma Teague, Peter Thompson

High Honors: Samuel Burchill, Jack Casey, Mariah DesMarais, John Evans, Sydney Puffer, John Wyeth

Honors: Kelliann Banaian, Alexis Bisset, John Corbett, Grace Gillies, Kevin Gould, Laura Kane, Logan Kelliher, Brittany Linane, Maureen McCafferty

Grade 7

Highest Honors: Ellen Bruton, Maria Chrisom, Margo Clark, Merranda Donnelly, Katherine Foster, Jacqueline Mazzone

High Honors: Samuel Jervej, Johanna Gleason-Vergados, Kimberly Mills, Mara Perkins, Michelle Poisson

Honors: Kelsi Carter, Olivia Furino, Jennifer Gintovt, Elizabeth Hamel, Mickayla Hartford, Mason Kreiger, Tighe Loch, Ian Preston, Samantha Printy, Abbey Raiche, Lillian Smith, Adam White, Sarah Wilson, Parker Zellem

Grade 8

Highest Honors: Emily Antaya, Alison Coffey, Alyssa Coneys, Courtney Couillard, Amanda Girard, Hannah "Grace" Lally, Muriel "Alex" Pollock, Chelsey Puffer, Garrett Thompson

High Honors: Cecilia Chrisom, Kendra Dugmore, Meaghan Flynn, Sydney Gillis, Grace Lopez, Regina Mastrobattista, Stefanie Quintero, Rachel Sabol

Honors: Gabrielle Adams, Joshua Carberry, Katherine Fanning, Frances Graff, Veniamin Knyazev, Ashley Linane, Brianna Michaud, John Sweeney, Ali Xenos

Public Service Announcements

GUITAR LESSONS!

THERE IS A GUITAR PLAYER IN
YOU THIS SUMMER



½ HR / \$20

1 HR / \$30

AN INDEPENDENT GUITAR INSTRUCTOR/
SMA GRAD, JACK WILL BE OFFERING
LESSONS IN A VARIETY OF STYLES FOR
BOTH KIDS AND ADULTS THIS MAY
THROUGH MID-AUGUST

LESSONS IN:
CLASSIC ROCK, MODERN JAZZ
HEAVY METAL, HARD ROCK
REGGAE, EXPERIMENTAL
FOLK AND MORE
FRIENDLY EFFECTIVE FUN

603 953 5343
OR JUST ASK MRS. SMITH

SEACOAST TITANS FOOTBALL AND CHEER

Seacoast Titans Football and Cheer is now conducting sign-ups for the 2009 season which starts August 1.

Ages 7-17, all accepted - no try-outs. For info visit our website at www.seacoasttitans.com or contact Lori Carper 740-4162, carperclan@comcast.net or Kathy Gadarowski-Joyal 343-1788, seacoasttitans@hotmail.com

Sign-ups will be held Tuesday May 19 6-7:30 p.m. at the Titans field in Dover on County Farm Road adjacent to the Court House. Please bring a photocopy of the participant's birth certificate. To sign up online go to <http://www.needhambaseball.com:8080/seacoast-titans/app>