

St. Ann School

January 12, 2012

Counting our Blessings...

St. Ann School Mission Statement

We at St. Ann School are guided by the Holy Spirit to provide an exceptional Catholic education for students spiritually, academically, physically, and socially.

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:00PM

Sunday: 8:30AM, 10:30AM,
and 5:30PM

January Events

- 14 - Girls Basketball Tournament
- 20 - End of marking period
- 24 - Advisory Mtg., 6:30PM
- 27 - Reports cards go home
- 25 - PALS, 1:50PM
- 25 - Sacramental Prep. Mtg., 7:00PM
- 28 - Winterfest, 7PM-Midnight
- 29 - Feb. 5 - Catholic Schools Week
- 29 - Coffee & donuts after AM masses

February Events

- 1 - I Care About Others March
- 1 - Bob Evans Community Fun Night
Noon - 9:00PM
- 1 - Preschool applications available
for Fall 2012
- 5 - Parish Breakfast after AM masses
- 10 - Parent's Night Out, 6:30 - 9:30PM
- 15 - Catechism Bee, 10:00AM
- 17 - NO SCHOOL
- 20 - NO SCHOOL, President's Day
- 22 - Ash Wednesday Loaves & Fishes
- 24 - Living Stations, 1:30PM
- 28 - Advisory Mtg., 6:30PM
- 29 - PALS, 1:50PM
- 29 - Sacramental Prep. Mtg., 7:00PM
- 27-March 2 - Book Fair

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From the Principal

Wow, now that Spring has sprung for about the third time this Winter none of us are quite sure what to expect! I would like to assure you that no matter how unpredictable the weather may be, we will continue to educate your children as best we can (it might throw off the Science lessons a little!). Our week started off with a delicious Parish Breakfast after the 8:30AM and 10:30AM masses on Sunday. Thank you to the Knights of Columbus for providing a great meal and the opportunity for much needed fellowship. Our third graders were excellent leaders in Wednesday's School Liturgy (before the Liturgy I presented the Dignity and Respect Award and the Ponderosa Character Awards). Students in Kindergarten - 7th grade celebrated Eucharistic Adoration with Deacon Jim Siler after the Liturgy. I had the privilege of taking Jaylyn Hamilton, Chris Anderson, Jon LaMonde, and J.P. Creed to Ponderosa for lunch as our monthly I Spy Award winners. Students in Kindergarten - 5th grade will do DIBELS testing today, which provides us with important information in regards to their Reading abilities. Our girls basketball teams will conclude their seasons on Saturday when they play in the season-ending tournament at St. Mary's, Big Rapids. Go Girls!

Our Liturgy next week will feature our second graders as our leaders. Our boys basketball teams will be entering their second week of practice as they prepare for their first game. Friday, January 20th, will be the end of the second marking period, with report cards coming home the following Friday, January 27th. I would also like to remind parents of students in grades 3 - 6 that if your child is planning on skiing on Tuesday, they must register on Monday at 7:35AM as they enter the building for the start of school. This week was much better than the previous week but there were still students who had forgotten their money or paperwork.

I would like to clarify information about the Winterfest so that all of our parents will understand our expectations. St. Ann School's fundraisers benefit our school/students by allowing us to provide services, programs, equipment, etc. that we wouldn't be able to do without having successful fundraisers. They also benefit our families by enabling us, in part, to be one of only two school in the Gaylord Diocese to offer a tuition-free education to our Catholic families and to offer the lowest tuition in the Diocese for non-Catholic families. This is also an option because of the generosity of our parishioners and through the financial giving of our school families through their Sacrificial Intent Pledge. However, we also depend on our parents to honor their commitment to volunteer to work at these fundraisers, including the Winterfest, so that we have the appropriate number of workers to operate a successful fundraiser. We also expect that our parents purchase a ticket (as has been expected the past two years), as all of our staff members who attend will also do, so that they can enjoy the event before or after their shift is completed. Your ticket enables you to entry in the raffle, live entertainment, a beverage, and great hors d'oeuvres throughout the fun-filled night! Most importantly, you are supporting the education of your child/(ren), continuing the tuition-free tradition of St. Ann School, supporting all that we do program-wide for our students, etc. Thank you for understanding and supporting our mission at St. Ann School (see above) through your financial commitment and generosity, as well as your volunteerism!

I Spy Awards

Chris Anderson, 1st
Molly Anderson, 3rd (x2)
Jakob Bartman, 2nd
Bryce Bengelink, 3rd (x3)
Noa Bengelink, JrK
Isaac Blaszak, 1st
Nick Blaszak, 3rd
Kenna Booher, 1st
Sydney Bushor, K
Kameryn Clous, 2nd
Logan Collins, 2nd (x2)
Jordin Ellens, 6th
Luke Enyeart, 3rd (x2)

Zoey Feister, 2nd
Colin Hess, 3rd
Quinn Hess, JrK
Olivia Kapuscinski, 3rd
Luke Kennard, 1st (x2)
Frannie Kiomento, 1st (x2)
James Kiomento, 2nd
Trevor Knapp, 6th
Grace Krannitz, 1st
Sean Krannitz, JrK
Garrett Losinski, 4th
Kara Makela, 1st
Alix Matzke, 3rd (x2)

Macey McKeever, 1st
Reagan McKeever, JrK
Teddy Richards, 1st (x2)
Emma Reuther, 2nd (x2)
Bernardo Rojas, 1st
Lindsey Tonello, 2nd
Gracie Tweedale, 2nd
Jonathon Vo, 3rd
Sophie Whitaker, 1st
First Grade Class
Fourth Grade Class (x2)
Sixth Grade Class

Playground Superstars

Noa Bengelink, JrK
Tommy Huynh, K
Emma Johnson, K
Jaylyn Hamilton, 1st
Kara Makela, 1st
Emily Burt, 2nd
Julia Jezak, 2nd
Madi Drabik, 3rd
Olivia Meyer, 3rd
Gabe Drouillard, 4th
Justin LaMonde, 4th
Jacob Cook, 5th
Ryan Cox, 5th
Tyler Lung, 6th
Stephanie Slater, 6th
Bennett Johnson, 7th
Jennifer Slater, 7th

December Character

Winners of the December Character Award (Respect) are:

Front row L-R: Avery Meyer,
Noa Bengelink
Middle row L-R: Lindsay Ward,
Zoey Feister, Jacques
LaMonde
Back row L-R: Lissi Ureta,
Sydney Paul, Brooke
Kochanny, Ashley Hudson

Lost & Found

Our Lost & Found bench is full. If your student is missing any articles of clothing, lunch boxes, etc. check out the bench in the gym. Any items left after Friday, January 20th will be sent to Goodwill.

Vocations

Bishop Bernard Hebda will be celebrating mass at St. Stephen's on January 16th at 6:30PM. Following the mass, Bishop Hebda will be speaking to the Religious Education programs for St. Stephen's, St. Ann, St. Edwards, and St. Teresa's K-12 students. All students with their parents in our cluster parishes are invited to attend. A big thank you to the entire Religious Education instructors in our parishes. If you would like more information, please contact Laura Miller at 231-660-0797. Continue to pray for our Bishop, clergy, students, and vocations.



December Dignity and Respect

I would like to nominate this student for the December 2011 Dignity and Respect Award. He not only encompasses the attributes found in the monthly Character Award, but has also proven to be a student dedicated to the mission of St. Ann School - someone who strives to do his best *spiritually, academically, physically, and socially*. This student enjoys reading and writing, and has earned his t-shirt for meeting the first Accelerated Reading classroom goal. He is very responsible. He gets his work completed, and is motivated to do his best at all times. He also placed first in our classroom Spelling Bee earlier this fall. He is reverent in church, volunteers by serving at Mass on a regular basis, and takes his faith seriously. He is a positive role model who helps others when possible, and is always respectful to teachers and peers. This is why I'm proud to nominate Julian LaMonde to receive the December 2011 Dignity and Respect Award. Congratulations!

~ Mr. Carlson

Reading Connection

Tips for Reading Success

Beginning Edition

January 2012

St. Ann School

Fr. Murphy, Pastor Bob Kellogg, Principal

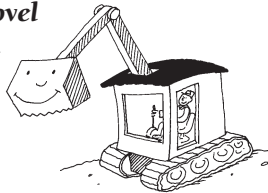
Book Picks



Read-aloud favorites

■ *Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel*

Mary Anne is a hardworking red steam shovel. Her driver, Mike, is upset because all of the jobs are being given to shiny new trucks that run on gas or electricity. What will happen to Mike and Mary Anne? A classic tale by Virginia Lee Burton. (Also available in Spanish.)



■ *I Lost My Tooth in Africa*

Your child might be surprised to discover that the African tooth fairy leaves chickens in exchange for lost baby teeth. Based on a true story, Penda Diakité's book tells of her little sister's exciting experience during the family's visit with relatives in Mali.



■ *A Day with No Crayons*

The world is full of art supplies! That's what little Liza discovers after she colors on the walls and her mother takes away her crayons. In this story by Elizabeth Rusch, Liza finds other ways to express her creativity—using mud, flower petals, and even toothpaste.

■ *Andy Shane, Hero at Last*

Andy isn't sure he can win a bike-decorating contest against his friend Dolores. But as the children ride their bikes in the town parade, Andy has a chance to be a hero. The latest book in the Andy Shane series by Jennifer Richard Jacobson.



Fun at the library

Where can your child go to hear a good story, find the latest books and magazines, and surround himself with information about almost any topic? The public library! Here are a few ideas for making the most of your next trip.

Listen to a story. Ask a librarian for information about story hour. Some libraries even have special read-alouds that include crafts, puppets, or snacks. You can also have your own story time. Let your youngster choose a few books. Then, find a quiet corner and read to him. Or let him pretend to be a librarian—he can read to you or to a younger sibling.

Find out what's new. Look for a "new arrivals" display. Your child can read the latest book from his favorite author or discover a brand-new writer whose stories he might enjoy. (Tip: Put his name on the waiting list for new or upcoming releases you think he'd like to check out.) Also, browse the children's magazines. He can



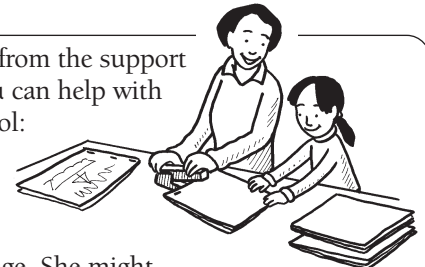
read the most recent issues of *Fun for Kidz*, *Ladybug*, *Click*, *Humpty Dumpty*, and others.

Read around a theme. Together, choose a theme for your library visit. You might pick something your youngster is studying in school or another topic that interests him. Then, encourage him to explore different sections of the library as he gathers books that go with his choice. A winter animal theme, for instance, could include a story about a polar bear, a non-fiction book on penguins, and the biography of an Antarctic explorer.♥

Reading helpers

As children learn to read, they can benefit from the support of as many adults as possible. Here's how you can help with the reading program at your youngster's school:

- Offer to read aloud to the class, small groups, or individual students. You could also listen while students read to you.
- Tell the teacher if you know another language. She might pair you up with a child who speaks that language and is learning English.
- Make books. When students write stories, volunteers may be needed to staple or bind the pages together.
- Help children use computers and encyclopedias to look up information.
- Assist with after-school events such as book fairs or literacy nights.
- Volunteer during your youngster's library time to help students find books they'd like to check out.♥



Writing: Step-by-step

A writing plan can help your youngster make sure that her story turns out just the way she wants it. Share these steps with your budding author.

Sketch

Suggest that your child divide her paper into three columns: “Beginning,” “Middle,” and “End.” Then, have her fill each section with sketches that show what might happen in that part of the story.



Draft

Your youngster can use her plan to write a rough draft. Ask her to say each sentence aloud (“I have a cat named Peanut Butter”), and then help her put the words on paper. This will keep each idea in mind as she writes.

Check

When your child’s draft is finished, ask her to read it aloud and to stop if she wants to add a detail or if something doesn’t make sense. Help her add capital letters where they belong.

Share

Finally, let your youngster type her story on a computer or print it neatly on a fresh sheet of paper. Encourage her to illustrate it and read it aloud to your family.♥

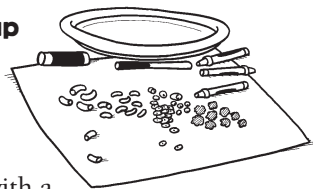
Fun with Words

Crafty spelling

Turn spelling time into craft time! Your youngster can learn how to spell common words, and stretch her creativity, with these projects.

Alphabet soup

Ask your child to color the center of a paper plate lightly with a crayon to look like a bowl of soup. Then, have her flip through a book and look for *sight words*, or words that are used frequently. *Examples:* “the,” “and,” “like,” “went,” “you.” She can use a dark-colored marker to print them in the “soup.”



Q&A

From choppy to smooth

Q When my son reads aloud, it sounds choppy. How can I help him read more smoothly?

A Reading sounds slow and uneven when a child focuses on one word at a time rather than stringing words together fluently. This can happen if a book is too hard or if he doesn’t have a lot of experience reading out loud.

If your son is stumbling over a lot of words (say, 1 out of every 10 or so), offer him an easier book. But if he knows all the words and still isn’t reading smoothly, he just might need more read-aloud practice.

Encourage him to read the way he talks. Try reading a passage aloud together so he can match your pace. He might also like to record himself reading into a tape recorder or cell phone. When he plays it back, he’ll hear how he sounds. Then, he can practice a few times, make another recording, and compare the two to see how much he has improved.♥



Cute as a button

Help your youngster gather a variety of craft supplies (buttons, dry noodles or beans, sequins, beads, pom-poms). Have her write words that she is learning in glue on a sheet of construction paper. Then, let her press the objects onto the glue. When it dries, she can run her fingers over the letters—touching them will help her remember how to spell the words.♥

Parent to Parent

Solving mysteries

In school, my daughter Ella recently discovered mysteries. Her teacher reads them to the students, and they pretend to be detectives, listening for clues that will help them crack the case.

Ella asked if we could do this at home, so we checked out some from the library: the Young Cam Jansen series by David Adler and A to Z Mysteries by Ron Roy. I gave her a small notepad and told her it was a detective’s notebook.

I suggested that she use it to jot down the clues as I read. For example, she drew a van that appeared to belong to no one and a character who sneaked out of a party without an explanation.

After reading a couple of mysteries, she solved a case before the detective in the story. She was excited, and I think this has been good for her, because it helps her really understand and pay attention to what’s happening in a book.♥



OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ways to promote their children’s reading, writing, and language skills.

Resources for Educators,
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