

PARENT PRAYER



Parent Prayer continues to meet each week at 8:00 a.m. in Smith Hall, just prior to the school mass. The following families will be prayed for in November:

11/1 Cortes, Hamrick, Nelson, Teelon
11/9 Canada, Ingram, Ingram, Paczynski, Theobald
11/16 Caiafa, Ivey, Nguyen, Nguyen, Waller
11/22 Burns, Burns, Judd, O'Connor, Walker
11/30 Burgess, Kaminski, Pack, Taylor, Taylor

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

SEVERAL GIFT CERTIFICATES REMAIN UNCLAIMED FROM THE EVE OF CHOCOLATE SILENT AUCTION. THEY ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE BARGAIN PRICE OF \$50 FOR ALL FOUR CERTIFICATES: • \$50 GIFT CERTIFICATE TOWARD A COSMETIC PROCEDURE FROM *KATE MAYES, MD* • \$12 GIFT CERTIFICATE FOR A MANICURE AT *LEE NAILS SPA* • \$25 GIFT CERTIFICATE FOR ANY HAIR SERVICE WITH *ASHLEY DEAN @ TIFFANY'S GREATEST HAIRCUTS* • \$25 GIFT CERTIFICATE REDEEMABLE TOWARD ANY SERVICES AT *CHANGES DAY SPA*. PLEASE CONTACT MRS. VINE IN THE SCHOOL OFFICE IF INTERESTED. (GREAT STOCKING STUFFERS!)

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to all junior high students for interesting and well presented Social Studies Fair projects. The following students earned recognition for their work:

Projects Without Displays

First Place	Gr. 7	Kristen Ulmer
	Gr. 8	Emma Ardington
Second Place	Gr. 7	Andrew Nelson
	Gr. 8	Max Serkiz
Third Place	Gr. 7	Liam McDermott
	Gr. 8	Caroline Frei
Honorable Mention	Gr. 7	Chloe Kaplan Jared DeMass
	Gr. 8	Olivia Flach Annie Schwenker

Projects With Displays

First Place	Gr. 6	Jared Shuler
	Gr. 7	Sophia Tyrteos
	Gr. 8	Lauren Davis

Second Place	Gr. 6	Aidan Frank
	Gr. 7	Austin Bell
	Gr. 8	Alexa Luszca
Third Place	Gr. 6	Hunter Bajoit
	Gr. 7	Brennan Webster
	Gr. 8	Payton Carter
Honorable Mention	Gr. 6	Alec Bell Nic Barnett Mason Brodie
	Gr. 8	Ann-Marshall Gillam Ashlee Kay

St. Mary's School sincerely appreciates the time and thoughtful consideration the judges gave each project. Judges included Dr. Farmer, Kelly Malyszczek, Ann Ward, Bill Ward, Sandy Herrick, Bob Hottel, and Amber Hottell.

NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOM

Kindergarten Kapers

The Kindergarten students are reading! We have met seven Superkids and completed seven letterbooks. With the letters c, o, g, a, d, s, and l, we can read 30 words! We are also spelling words through dictation. We enjoy making and reading our own books during center time.

November will give us the chance to take our first field trip. We will take a nature walk in Hitchcock Woods and celebrate Thanksgiving with an outdoor feast. We may even run into a Native American!

First Grade Fun

October has been a busy time in first grade. We started the month by enjoying everyone's favorite food, chocolate! The weather was beautiful. Thank you for all your hours of hard work that made the festival such a success. In math we continue to practice addition and subtraction facts and are now beginning a chapter on graphing. In Superkids, we are beginning Unit 4. We have had some tough spelling words, which, why, where, who, what, and when, all in the same lesson. Whew!!!! Congratulations to our own Megan Craney. She read lots of books this summer and came in third place overall for reading the most pages. She got to enjoy a lunch at the Pizza Joint. Way to go, Megan!

My mother passed away on October 8. I would like to thank you for all your prayers. They make her loss easier to bear. Being around all your happy, smiling, and loving children also helps a lot.

Special note: On Tuesday, November 22, we will go on a field trip to USCA. We will see a

performance of "The Velveteen Rabbit." More info and permission slips will be coming soon.

Third Grade Thoughts

Written by classroom journalist, Sophia Frank

The third grade class just finished doing How-to Talks. These were little speeches that each person presented to the class about how to do something they really liked. Our class learned how to make fruit smoothies, supreme nachos, paper airplanes, and how to make a pillow - just to name a few of the great presentations. At first, many of the students were afraid to get up and speak in front of their friends, but everyone did a really good job and we had fun!

In science class, we studied ecosystems. Many people brought in great posters which showed an ecosystem that they wanted to share. The most popular ecosystem was the desert. There are many different things that we didn't know about ecosystems that we learned by doing this project. You can see them displayed in Carter Hall along with our personal narratives and vocabulary candy corn.

Everyone was excited to finish the first quarter AR requirements with the reward of a homework pass. If you see us in the hallway reviewing flashcards, we are studying hard for our Mad Minute tests. Come on by our class anytime and we will greet you with a smile!

Currently in Seventh Grade Life Science

Seventh grade scientists have mastered the parts of animal, plant, and bacteria cells. It was inspiring to read which cell parts most impressed them in their awe over how much God "packed" into such a small space. Students are now focusing on photosynthesis and cellular respiration. Once cell functions are understood, the class will move to a study of genetics.

Science Fair planning and exploration are also underway. All students have an approved question and are now turning to background research. This next project piece will be due on Wednesday, November 16. Adequately researching topics will help students make a meaningful project hypothesis, which is one step closer to experimenting!

Currently in Eighth Grade Physical Science

The eighth grade physical science students have received Science Project packets detailing all components of the 2011-2012 project, including due dates for each required part. (Parents: have you seen your own copy of the packet that was sent home recently???)

At this point in time, almost all students have had their questions teacher-approved and should be ready to begin taking notes on relevant research, facts, and

information, leading to that all-important hypothesis. There are some amazing projects in the works. Stay tuned!

As a lead-off for the study of motion, students determined the three fastest runners in each class by computing the speeds. Students are currently graphing distance vs. time results to discover the importance of "slope."

Artistic Adventures

It's beautiful weather for a walk in downtown Aiken! As you stroll along Laurens Street, stop in the Aiken Center for the Arts for a look at some awesome canine inspired art by the second grade. The creations will be on display until November 11. Walking made you hungry? Drop into the New Moon Café for a muffin and a new St. Mary's School art display. Some never-viewed textured treats as well as some colorful music inspired works are on display.

The past few weeks have had student artists shaping their projects to celebrate activities in their community. Bringing their religious study of saints into the art room, students in grades 1 through 6 have created special saint sashes for All Saints' Day Mass. Not only did students learn about writing on fabric while studying symbols as a means of communication, they also had the opportunity to learn about some of their wonderful big brothers and sisters in heaven. Students put such love and attention into creating a symbolic sash for their particular saint of study. Come see these works on Tuesday, November 1 for a special All Saints' Day Mass at 9:00 a.m. with Bishop Guglielmo.

Students have also had the opportunity to work on coloring, designing, and cutting skills while commemorating Red Ribbon Week! Check out their "Proud to be Drug Free" medals in the Cafeteria along with a special banner created by Mrs. Carroll's second grade students.

And with the start of the second quarter, the first batch of ceiling tiles by the eighth grade class is complete (almost☺). In the weeks ahead you'll be treated to some new ceiling tiles. Can you find Mario, Chef Boyardee, and a bumblebee?

Religious Reflections - Grades 4, 5, 6 and 7

Fourth grade religion classes have found our students having interesting conversations on the types of promises people make. The importance of keeping promises was emphasized in the story of God giving the Ten Commandments to Moses. The students have learned that the first three commandments deal with our relationship with God and the remaining seven deal with our relationship with others. The

students have discovered that God entered into a very special covenant with the Israelites and continues to keep His promise to us just as He did to the Israelites.

Students in fifth grade are reacquainting themselves with the Beatitudes and recognizing that the Beatitudes show us how to be true disciples of Christ. The students were impressed with the story of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati who was a perfect example of living the Beatitudes. Pier Giorgio gave a poor woman the money he had received for his graduation so that she would be able to pay for her apartment. We all understand why he is called "The Man of the Beatitudes."

Old Testament studies in sixth grade have introduced us to Isaac, the son of Abraham and Sarah. In becoming familiar with the story of Abraham following God's instructions to kill his only son, the students were able to draw several comparisons to the events of Isaac almost being killed to the events of the Crucifixion. Both involved an elevated place, wood, obedience to the Father and a sacrifice. The students have moved on to meet Rebekah, Isaac's wife, and the sons of Isaac and Rebekah, Esau and Jacob. The students were entertained by the story of Esau trading his birthright for a bowl of stew. Lively discussions centered on the fact that God allowed Jacob to receive the birthright, despite his deception, reminding all of us that God's ways are different than our own and that God always has a wonderful plan in place.

The prophet Isaiah is the current topic in seventh grade religion. The students have learned that Isaiah is considered the greatest Old Testament prophet and even has a place of honor as being the first of the Prophetic books in the Bible. The students are learning the powerful words Isaiah delivered to mainly the Southern Kingdom. We have just begun to look at Isaiah 22 and to find the connection to the words delivered to a better understanding of the authority given to the leaders of the Church.

Vocation Club News

42 young men gathered together on Tuesday, October 4, to hear the story of the patron of our club. Reid DeMass did an outstanding job as Maximilian Kolbe, sharing important facts about his life, especially his time spent in the concentration camp.

On Thursday, October 6, 61 young ladies attended the St. Cecilia meeting to watch and listen as Madison Mueller did an excellent job portraying St. Cecilia. The young ladies were impressed with the bravery of this young saint. The eighth grade students took wonderful leadership roles in welcoming all of our younger students, leading us in prayer, passing out snacks and helping to answer questions about the clubs. Make sure you mark your calendars for our next meetings. Tuesday, November 8, the Kolbe

Club will have Fr. Wilson as a guest speaker, and on Thursday, November 10, our St. Cecilia Club will be participating in a service project to make baby blankets.

Computer Bytes



French News

What fun the French classes have been having in "octobre". We have been studying all sorts of Halloween vocabulary and doing lots of fun Halloween activities in French! We are even singing Halloween songs in French! Ask us about the song "Cinq Squelettes" or "C'est l'Halloween"! We have even been visiting French Halloween sites on the Internet, too! C'est super! We are looking forward to the fun that comes along with "National French Week" and of course can't wait for the candy and bake sale on Friday, November 11, at all lunches. Mme Trezza says she has lots of surprises for that week. Don't forget to order your German Chocolate Advent Calendar early. There are limited supplies this year! À bientôt! Mme Trezza ☺

Student Council News

Congratulations to the following students who were elected as officers for the 2011-2012 school year:

President	Jack Serkiz
Vice President	Chris Sickinger
Secretary	Alexa Luszcz
Treasurer	Payton Carter

The following students were elected as class representatives

Mrs. Mastromonico - 4K	Anna Lipscomb
Mrs. DeMass - 5K	Reid DeMass

Ms. Noel - 1st Grade
Mrs. Carroll - 2nd Grade
Mrs. DalSanto - 2nd Grade
Mrs. Nelson - 3rd Grade

Mrs. Bajoit - 4th Grade
Mrs. Rains - 4th Grade
Mrs. Kramer - 5th Grade
Ms. Thompson - 5th Grade
Mrs. Webster - 6th Grade
Mrs. Yurcan &
Mrs. Ortner - 6th Grade
Mrs. Martin - 7th Grade

Mrs. Miller - 8th Grade

Caroline Frei
Michael Anaclerio
Connie Waller
Lauren Dyches and
Mason Brodie
Chloe Pack
Christian Collins
Erica Flach
Regan McDermott
Alec Bell
Kyle Frei

Liam McDermott
and Adam Rabin
Lauren Davis and
Liana Nguyen

The Student Council celebrated Red Ribbon Week October 24-28. Officers and Class Representatives designed posters that were placed around campus that stress the importance of staying drug free.

The annual Student Council food drive for Thanksgiving will be held Thursday, November 3 through Friday, November 18. Boxes will be placed in each homeroom for the collection of non-perishable food items that will be given to the needy of our community. Please be generous. In keeping with tradition, the Student Council will also hold the famous Carolina vs. Clemson contest. The students will be given the opportunity, during their lunch time, to drop their money into their favorite team's bucket from November 14-18. Let's see which team comes up with the most money! All donations will be given to the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

French Exchange

I am awaiting information on the French students from St. Denis School, in Loches, France, who will be visiting us this winter. They should be arriving in February and stay through the short month. Please consider hosting and let me know as soon as possible if you have not already done so. Remember, students are here to improve their English skills so you do not

need to be in French class to host. I would like to partner the students up as soon as possible to allow families to get to know each other through e-mails, Skype etc.

Our trip to France in June still has room for a couple of students to join in. Call me with any questions at 803-649-3596. And parents, consider joining the tour to Normandy / Brittany and Paris. It will be a great experience! Merci Beaucoup!

Mme Trezza ☺

SAINTS ATHLETICS

Congratulations to ALL of the members on our Fall Teams. The golf team finished FIFTH with all of our golfers improving during the season.

The boys tennis team finished SECOND PLACE this season after beating Augusta Prep 5-0 in the semi-finals.

The boys cross country team placed FIRST in the Augusta Prep Invitational in September and also WON the Aiken/Augusta Private Middle School Championship. Jared DeMass finished FIRST, Eduardo Barquet finished SECOND, and Reid DeMass finished THIRD in the Championship Meet. All of the Saints runners improved during the season!

The Saints Volleyball teams were also successful this season. The girls B team finished the season with 7 wins and 3 losses. The girls A team finished UNDEFEATED in league play then went on to WIN the Championship in a very exciting five-game match. The Saints lost game 1, won game 2, lost game 3, and won games 4 and 5 for a best 3 of 5 victory. The Saints volleyball teams traveled to Summerville this season for the first ever Diocese of Charleston Youth Volleyball tournament. The A team returned to Aiken the CHAMPIONS!! Abbie Ann Truesdell was selected as the Tournament MVP.

Thanks to all who supported Shag for Athletics at the Red Pepper Café. The evening was a total success. Please save Saturday morning, December 10, to support our Pancake Breakfast at Fatz Café. Ticket information will be sent home soon.

PROUD TO BE A SAINT!

EVE OF CHOCOLAGE PARTIES

Please contact Virginia Kay at 803-617-9251 or e-mail ralphvaash@yahoo.com if interested in attending any of the following parties:

- *Zumba - Ditch the Workout, Join the Party!* Novices and experts welcome. Tentatively, November 8, 2011 - \$15/ticket.
- *Mardi Gras Madness!* February 18, 2012 - \$20/ticket
- *Let's Shuck 'Em! Oyster Roast*, March 3, 2012 - \$30/ticket