

January 6, 2012

## From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents,



Happy New Year!



The staff is very happy to have all of our students back in school rested and ready to hit the ground running. This is an excellent time of year for learning! Please make sure your 2nd - 8<sup>th</sup> grade students eat a nutritious breakfast and get plenty of rest, as we are in the middle of our winter MAP testing cycle.

2012 brings a new look for our newsletter. The changes are based on your feedback from the survey. Changes to look for:

- **Front Page:** Will include a letter *From the Principal's Desk, Week at a Glance*, the *Mission Statement* and *Contact Information* for your quick reference.
- **Second Section:** Will inform our readers about what is happening that affects the whole school (*ASA Happenings*) and a brief summary of what is happening at the Pre-school, (*Little Saints*) Elementary (*Elementary Express*) and Middle School (*Middle Ground*).
- **Third Section:** Look for information *From Our Parishes*, *From the High Schools* and *From Our Community*.
- **Picture Page:** We heard that pictures require too much ink to print, but we also heard that many of you like the pictures! All pictures will be grouped together on one page so you may choose to print the picture page or not.

We will continue to "tweak" the newsletter over the next couple of months. Please let us know what you think of our new look.

As we welcome 2012, we thank God for the many blessings of our families, students and parishes!

Anne Harpold  
Principal

Michael Deбри  
Assistant Principal

## Survey Results—Fundraising

### Fundraising & Service Hour Survey

112 or 65% responded

Of the respondents:

- 39% are satisfied with the current fundraising model.
- 44% said fundraisers are too frequent.
- 62% said they spend \$200.00 or more per year on fundraising.
- 57% are opposed to an "Activity" Fee.
- 80% are opposed to raising tuition to cover fundraising.
- 64% said parents should be required to perform service hours.
- 56% agreed with an "opt out" of service hours for a fee of \$5 – \$10 per hour.

Favorite Fundraisers include: Jeans Day for Charities, Book Fairs, Labels for Education and Eaglefest Auction.

The ASA administration and fundraising groups will continue to study the results and all the excellent comments that were made as we plan for next year and

## Week at a Glance

Sun. Jan. 8, 2012

Epiphany of the Lord



Tue. Jan. 10, 2012

MS MAP Testing  
Home & School Meeting, 7:00pm Elementary Lounge

Wed. Jan. 11, 2012

MS Mass, 8:30am (7 - Zimelis)  
EL Mass, 10:00am (2 - Schneider)



Wed. Jan. 11, 2012

MS MAP Testing  
EL MAP Testing  
School Board Meeting, 7:00pm MS  
Library

Thur. Jan. 12, 2012

EL MAP Testing

Fri. Jan. 13, 2012



## ASA Happenings

### ASA Winterfest

Parents and students: mark your calendars for February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012! From 1-4pm the ASA Home and School will be hosting "Winterfest"! Held at the Elementary School Campus, this free event is for families to come and enjoy sledding, snow games, indoor games and events and even some food and snacks! We hope to see you there...More information to come as the event gets closer.



### Snow Shoveling Ministry

Although today feels more like the first week back from spring break rather than Christmas break, we know that snow and cold weather are surely to come. As they say in Michigan, if you don't like the weather, wait ten minutes.



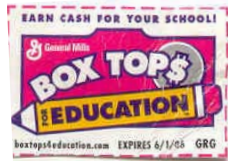
At the end of this month, we will be celebrating Catholic Schools Week. The theme this year is Catholic Schools - Faith. Academics. Service. When the snow does finally arrive, the Middle School students would like to offer a snow shoveling ministry to parish families in need. By participating in this ministry we can exemplify to our community that we are answering God's call to serve.

Mr. Debri spoke with the Middle School students today during religion class about the need to serve. If you or your student would like to help serve in this ministry, please sign up in or contact the Middle School office at 363-7725.

Here is the information as it will appear in parish bulletins: *During the upcoming Winter 2012 months, students from the All Saints Academy Middle School are offering to be of service to our parish neighbors and friends, by volunteering to shovel sidewalks and driveways to those parish members or church neighbors who are in need of this help. This service will give our students an opportunity to "give of their time" as our Catholic Faith and the teachings at school call them to do. We also want to show our appreciation for the continual financial support that the school receives from the four parishes. Saturdays or Sundays will be the day that shoveling can be done, however if an emergency arises, please don't hesitate to call. Teams will be assigned to your home*

### Box Tops for Education

Another Box Top for Education contest is beginning. The winning classroom at each campus will win a special treat, based on who submits the most # of box tops. Box Tops must be turned in by February 24th. Make sure to put your child's name, and Homeroom teacher on the bag, in order for their class to receive credit. This year's earnings so far are \$1649. Keep up the good work and keep clipping those Box Tops! Thanks!



Jean/Color Day  
Friday, January 27th Both Campuses

## Little Saints



### Preschool Openings

The second semester of Preschool is underway, and we have openings for more four year olds. We have space in our MWF AM and PM classes. We also have space in our Fabulous 4s and 5s PM class. Children enrolling in these programs needed to be four before December 1, 2011. We also have a limited amount of spaces in our Extended Preschool Program – Preschool and Child Care in one. Children must be three and toilet trained to enroll in this program. Currently our T-TH AM class is full. If you are interested in more information or enrolling a Preschooler, please contact Beckie Patterson at [bpatterson@allsaintsacademygr.org](mailto:bpatterson@allsaintsacademygr.org) or call the Elementary

## Elementary ExPRESS



### We Have a New 4th Grade Student Teacher

Hi! My name is Kim Dickow and I will be student teaching with Ms. Brewer for the month of January. I am a Junior at DePauw University (in Indiana, not Chicago) majoring in Sociology with minors in both Education Studies and Spanish.

I hope to become a teacher in the future, so I feel very blessed to have this opportunity to learn from Ms. Brewer and other members of the admirable faculty here as my mentors. In the few days I have been student teaching at All Saints Academy, I have already developed relationships with many of the students and become comfortable here, as I have been welcomed with open arms by the faculty and students.

This is a wonderful school filled with an impressive faculty and bright students with great potential. I look forward to this coming month and all of the learning experiences to come. Please feel free to introduce yourself to me if you see me in the school; parents are an integral part of a child's

## Middle Ground



### Essay Contests Offer Opportunities

Two MS classes will have a special opportunity this winter to win in two separate essay contests.

- Mrs. Zimelis' Language Arts classes are participating in an essay contest sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. Visa gift cards will be awarded to the winner for \$100 and to Runners-up for \$50. The topic for their essay is "What does it mean to be a Patriot?" The two best essays from the council will be submitted to the state K of C around April 1, 2012.
- One ASA fifth grade student will be awarded a \$500 ASA scholarship sponsored by Heritage Funeral Homes. They will be participating in a Life Story Writing contest. Their

## From ASA Sports Boosters

### Update:

Basketball season is a busy time for the sports program. This year ASA is hosting several basketball games. During these game days, we need many hands to help with clean up, set up and concessions. In an effort to include all families in the work schedule, we have assigned the middle school grades to different work days. The calendar for the season is as follows:



Date	Grade	Time	Location
1/12/12 Thursday	5th	5:00 - 8:30	St. Isidore
1/19/12 Thursday	8th	5:00 - 8:30	St. Isidore
1/21/12 Saturday	6th	8:00 - 2:00	St. Isidore
1/23/12 Monday	7th	5:00 - 8:30	St. Isidore
1/28/12 Saturday	8th	8:00 - 2:00	St. Jude
1/31/12 Tuesday	5th	5:00 - 8:30	St. Isidore
2/2/12 Thursday	6th	5:00 - 8:30	St. Isidore
2/4/12 Saturday	7th	8:00 - 3:00	St. Isidore
2/7/12 Tuesday	8th	5:00 - 8:30	St. Isidore
2/18/12 Saturday	5th	8:00 - 1:00	St. Isidore

Please contact Pete & Peg Gonzalez at 724-4539 or [peggygonzalez@sbcglobal.net](mailto:peggygonzalez@sbcglobal.net) if you are available to work. We will also send out email reminders to each assigned class a week or so before the scheduled games.

We are also looking for volunteers for our upcoming Texas Hold 'Em tournament January 26 - 29 (Thursday - Sunday) held at Westgate. Please let us know if you are willing to

## From Our Parishes

### St. Isidore

Save the date, January 29, 2012, for the 40th Annual Pancake Breakfast at St. Isidore Church. You can almost smell and taste 'em



## From Our Community

### Roots Will Rock

**WHAT:** Steve Foote & Jason Proctor, experienced band directors, are beginning an opportunity for students age 13-17 to make music, learn a new instrument, find out what it means to start a band, learn how to arrange music, etc.



**WHERE:** Franciscan life Process Center GR Campus at the old St. Adalbert 's School, 640 5th St NW, GR 49504

**WHEN:** Wednesdays 4:30-6 (Jan 11,-April 25, 2012)

**FEE:** \$25 (due at first class)

For more info, contact [registrar@lifeprocesscenter.org](mailto:registrar@lifeprocesscenter.org). Or pick up a registration form in the school office.

## From The High Schools

2012 Shake Your Tail Feathers Dinner Dance  
Presented by the West Catholic Band Boosters

**50 Years of West Catholic**

**Celebrating the 50s**

50s music by "The Eschelons"

50/50 raffles, cash bar, chicken dinner

Reserved tickets \$25 at the door \$30

Saturday, January 28, 2012  
The Guest House 638 Stocking Ave. NW  
Cocktails at 6:00 - Dinner at 7:00

contact us at 453-7051 or e-mail [wcbandboosters@gmail.com](mailto:wcbandboosters@gmail.com)

## From the Support Staff

### Are Series Books JUNK READING???

First, a series book has either continuing characters or are predictable in plot or storyline. Some have literary merit and others have little but they continue to sell.

Richard Allington, nationally recognized scholar and author, says, "...it may be the time spent reading series books, and even other mediocre books, that creates the skill and interest necessary to read the better quality books."

In a series book, children become comfortable with the characters, settings, and repeated vocabulary.

### Popular Series Books for the Transition Years

#### Primary Grades

Arthur  
Frog and Toad  
Clifford  
Cam Jansen  
Henry and Mudge  
Junie B. Jones  
Captain Underpants

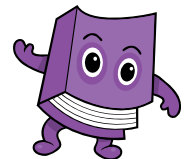
#### Intermediate Grades

Goosebumps  
The Baby-Sitters Club  
Boxcar Children  
Animorphs  
American Girl  
Harry Potter  
Lemony Snicket

Let's celebrate Series Books!

Keep your hands on a good book...

Mrs. Grady  
Mrs. Kloska



### Next Available VIRTUS Classes:

Thursday, April 12, 2012, 9:00am, Cathedral Square