

St. Pius X School Newsletter

Newsletter
February 2010

Principal - Geri Morrison
Asst. Principal - Peg Hauf



NOTICES

Wednesday
February 3rd
Open House
8:30 - Noon

Friday
February 5th
NOON DISMISSAL
NO AFTERCARE

Thursday
February 11th
Donuts for Dads

Monday
February 15th
NO SCHOOL
No Before/AfterCare
President's Day

Wednesday
February 17th
Ash Wednesday

Wednesday
February 24th
Bake Sale Grades 5&6

Sunday
February 28th
Spaghetti Dinner

Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

We are excited to begin Catholic Schools Week with a mass at 11:15 on Sunday. We hope you will come join us to celebrate. Many wonderful events have been scheduled at St. Pius X School this coming week. Please refer to the listing of activities that was sent via g-mail or look for the schedule in the church bulletin. Both Miss Brooks and Mrs. Lawrence, committee co-chairs, have worked hard planning the week's activities. We are all appreciative of their efforts to make Catholic Schools Week so special.

Our students and families are committed to helping those in Haiti. They will be signing their name on a paper link. These links will be connected and hung throughout the school. One link is valued at 50 cents and 3 links for \$1.00. The class with the highest percentage of links will win a free tag day!

Did you know that our parishioners, families, faculty, staff, and students have been busy 'Keeping Warm with St. Pius' as they have completed over 60 lap afghans? These will be donated to various nursing homes for their residents.

Please mark your calendar for our Parent Update Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 3rd at 7:00 PM. Our agenda is full and contains an update on cyber safety for you and your students.

We are very excited to have another Prismatic Magic Laser show this year on Monday, February 8th. The topic will be Black History; how appropriate for the month of February. We thank the Home School Association for their generosity in providing our students with this wonderful show.

Donuts for Dads is another fun time scheduled for Thursday, February 11th, from 8:30-11:30.

Our annual parish Spaghetti Dinner will be held in the gymnasium on February 28th, beginning at noon.

We are proud to announce that this year our Teacher of the Year is Mrs. Kathy Lutz. Nominated by her peers, Mrs. Lutz is a veteran teacher with 25 years of service in the Catholic School System. We are privileged to have her on our faculty and will celebrate this honor with her on March 18th at the Archdiocesan Teacher of the Year Banquet.

Please remember to send in any new addresses, phone numbers, or e-mails. It is very hard to contact you if your child becomes ill during the day when we do not have the proper communication tools.

It is important to send in your re-registration paperwork as soon as possible. February 1st is the date the re-registration papers and \$100.00 per child fee is due.

I look forward to seeing you at mass on Sunday and at many of the events scheduled during February.

Sincerely,

Geri Morrison
Principal

CLASSROOM CHATTER

The following students have artwork on display:

Maddie Doyle
Colleen Cook
Abe Jenkins

**3rd Grade:**

Grade 3 is looking forward to “Biography Day” on Thursday, February 18th. They will come to school dressed as the person about whom they read and give an oral presentation using “cue cards”.

5th -8th Grade:

The 5th – 8th graders participated in the interview process on Friday, January 22nd for their JABizTown trip. Three teams of two teachers began interviewing the middle school students so that the experience of applying for a job was as realistic as possible for them. A special thank-you to the students for behaving so well while they waited their turn and to Mrs. Morrison and the teachers who helped make “interview day” a success.

Purple Friday Food Drive:

SPX’s first ever Purple Friday Food Drive was held on Friday, January 15th. Seventh grade student, Tommy Oswald, organized a food drive that had two purposes – to help stock the CARES Food Pantry with food and celebrate the Baltimore Ravens play-off success. Students had to bring one food item and in exchange they were able to wear purple to school. The food drive was quite a success. Over 1,000 items were brought to school to help feed the hungry. Miss Brooks’ 7th grade religion class helped fill two vans with food. Thanks to everyone who participated!

An important reminder:

Please refer to the handbook regarding dismissal of students.

We ask the people picking up our students to wait in the designated car lines until your student(s) comes to the car. Safeties, with the aid of teachers on duty, will allow traffic to leave line by line. Every so often, the bell will be rung to allow students who did not get to their car initially be allowed a safe time to cross to their car. Please – be patient and wait for children to get to their cars as well as waiting for your line to leave. The entire process can usually be completed in less than 10 minutes – and the safety of our children necessitates everyone’s cooperation.

Request:

Many students have coughs and runny noses. First and foremost, if your child is sick –please keep your child at home. However, many times it is just allergies and/or a cold. Homerooms try and keep supplies on hand, however, we often run low on tissues. If students could each bring in a box of tissues we will be well supplied for the end of winter and beginning of spring. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Lunch Menu:

Thanks to all who tried the new menu options. Unfortunately, it has been brought to our attention that Chick-fil-A cooks in peanut oil, and although their disclaimer says it is safe, we are opting not to repeat the offer. The health of our students is a serious responsibility, and not worth risking over a lunch option. I am sure everyone understands and supports this decision. We will however, continue to offer Dominos on Fridays.

**Special Reminder
Emergency Closings
Delayed Openings**

*If school is closed - Before & AfterCare is closed

*If school is delayed in opening, BeforeCare will open one hour prior to the delayed start of school

*If school closes early - there will be no AfterCare.

In case of weather or emergency related closing, delays, and early dismissals, you may find information concerning SPX three ways.

1. Listen to WBAL radio (1090) for an announcement concerning Baltimore County Schools. We follow Balto. Co. plans.
2. Call 410-427-7400-voice prompt 4 - for closing/delay info.
3. Look for a g-mail sent to your e-mail address on file for the latest updates.

Athletic Association News

Travel Basketball:

Congratulations to the St. Pius X 5th Grade girls and 8th Grade boys' basketball teams. They were both the winning teams for the Holiday ICS Basketball Tournament!..Eilish Gately and her brother David Gately Jr. were both selected as the tournament MVP for their respective teams.

The SPX basketball season so far has had some great results!

At present, the 5th grade girls are undefeated and are preparing for the CYO play-offs.

The 4th grade girls CYO team is up and coming and have won 2 out of their last 3 games with victories over Cathedral and IHM.

The 5th grade boys have won 3 out of their last 4 games in their Saturday night CYO league.

The 6th/7th grade girls are 3-1.

The 6th grade boys have won 2 out their last 3 games.

The 7th grade boys are continuing with an undefeated season .

Many thanks to the SPX cheerleading squad who cheer for the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grade boys' teams.

Girls' In-house basketball – Friday nights 6-7 pm.

Our girls' In-house "open gym" program continues throughout the end of February. Girls enrolled in the CYO program are also welcome to join in the basketball activities and in-house games held each week in our gym.

1st and 2nd Grade Basketball Clinic:

Many thanks to the parents who offered to help get the clinic off the ground in January. The program is a tremendous success with over 60 boys and girls enrolled in the clinic. The participants are learning on Saturday afternoons new basketball skills as well as how to scrimmage. There will be end-of-season parties and an SPXAA surprise will be awarded to each of the enrolled players.

Alumni Extra!!

Alex Smith, class of SPX'02, came and spoke to the middle school about environmental issues. Specifically, he spoke about Watershed Management and Resource Extraction in Southeastern United States. He recapped a trip he took last fall and spoke to the students about The Chesapeake Bay and The Mississippi River, as well as coal-mining in West Virginia and coastline erosion in Louisiana because of oil extraction. After his presentation, the middle school students asked over 20 questions. Alex, a member of Loyola Blakefield's class of '06, is currently a senior at Dickinson College. He will graduate in May, 2010, with a major in Environmental Studies and a minor in music. After graduation, Alex will work for Dickinson College operating all aspects of Dickinson's sustainable farm.

Alumni Updates

*Jabari Weathers - SPX class of '06,
CHC class of '10
-is a National Achievement Scholarship
Program Outstanding Participant as well
as a finalist for Visual Arts*

*Devin Southard - SPX Class of '07, Mercy
class of '11
-attended the National Student
Leadership Conference in New York City*

*Lindsay Scheve - SPX class of '06
Mercy class of '10
-was featured as "student of the week"
in a Catholic Review article*

*Mercy High School
National Honor Society Officers
Lindsay Scheve - SPX class of '06
Johanna Laue - SPX class of '06*

*Volleyball All-Stars at Mercy
Johanna Laue - SPX class of '06
Lindsay Scheve - SPX class of '06
Ava Trageser -SPX class of '06*

*Watch this space for alumni news every
newsletter.*

We are very proud of all our graduates!

