

St. Peter's School

February 18, 2010

Ms. Janet Spallo, Principal
Mrs. Angie Meyer, Vice Principal
School Website: www.stpeterskc.org



Assistant Principal's February 18, 2010 Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Janet has turned the reins over to me once again, as she is attending an all-day Diocesan Principals' Meeting—truly, this is a task I dearly love!

Yesterday we celebrated an all-school Ash Wednesday Mass that helped us begin our Lenten Journey—we are grateful for the many parents and parishioners who attend school Masses—we had a full house yesterday! Janet would like to invite children and their parents to pray the Rosary together in the gym each Monday morning at 7:30 a.m. during Lent. This is, of course, optional—we welcome you to attend any Monday, or all! Additionally, St. Peter's School will be participating in the Operation Rice Bowl money collection during Lent. Operation Rice Bowl is a Catholic Relief Services' Lenten program. Millions of Catholics join together through this program and reach out in solidarity with those who struggle with hunger and poverty through prayer, fasting, and giving during the Lenten season. Every child has received a Rice Bowl—these may be returned to school any time during Lent; the last week of Lent marks the end of the collection. All Rice Bowls and money should be directed to the school office. I would like to thank Sr. Kathleen Marie Henscheid for organizing our efforts at SPS! There are many other opportunities for Lenten activities, which have been and will continue to be published in the weekend bulletins. Our school penance service is scheduled for Tuesday, March 2. Students in grades 2-4 will attend from 9-10 a.m., while 5-8 grade students will attend from 10-11 a.m.

Tuesday many students were treated to two Shrove Tuesday specials—one, the annual Pancake Lunch, hosted by the PTA, and two, Jim Cosgrove, aka Mr. Stinky Feet, who entertained our pre-school through fourth-grade students for an hour that morning! Jim is a graduate of SPS and will also be performing this Sunday, February 21, in the Garden Room (school cafeteria), where a chili cook-off will be held benefitting Cycling for Change. The cost is \$5/person (kids under 2 are free). Please visit the website www.cyclingforchange.org/chilicookoff.html for more information.

St. Peter's sixth, seventh, and eighth-grade students recently participated in the Catholic Math League Contest. SPS sixth graders ranked 10th of 74 schools (using top 3 student scores), seventh graders ranked 12th of 52 schools, and eighth graders also ranked 12th of 75 schools (throughout the United States). Students who ranked in the top 100 of 1478 students include sixth graders John Leisman (ranked in 9th place), Alex Tangen (ranked in 11th place), and Daniel Stanley (ranked in 14th place). Students in seventh grade who ranked in the top 100 of 1055 students include Liam Bryson (9th) and Brady Bird (22nd). Eighth grader Katie Hornbeck ranked in the top 100 of 1396 students (10th place). Congratulations to these students, as well as math teachers Ms. Mary DiGiovanna, Mrs. Diane Marrin, and Mrs. Mary Groshong. In addition, Katie Hornbeck (grade 8), Patrick Bauman, Brady Bird, Anna Bauman, and Robbie Holmquist (grade 7), and Alex Tangen (grade 6) recently participated in the MathCounts competition. Katie Hornbeck was recognized for ranking in the top 20 students that day. Ms. Mary DiGiovanna and Mrs. Mary Groshong coached the MathCounts team.

While many teachers incorporate themes such as black history into the students' curriculum, the Diversity Committee recently met with teachers Ms. Kate Stilley and Mrs. Laura Hall to develop some school-wide activities to recognize the achievements of African-Americans in our country and around the world. Therefore, each morning for the rest of February we will read a fun fact about African-American history and culture. Each student (Continues on page 2...)

Contents

Asst. Principal's Newsletter	1
Important Dates	2
Special Announcements	2

Lew's & The Well

Fish Fundraiser

The annual fish fundraiser began yesterday (Ash Wednesday) and ends on Easter Sunday (April 4). Any purchase of Lew's Famous Fish & Chips, Fish Sandwich, Salmon Salad, and fish-of-the-day specials will give our parish a \$1 rebate for each meal! This offer is extended to the Sunday Buffet Brunches at The Well. The parish with the most meals purchased will get an additional \$250 bonus.

Important Dates

- ✓ Feb. 18; 2010-2011 Registration Forms Distributed (No All-School Mass)
- ✓ Feb. 19; Jeans Day; Fish Fry from 5-7 pm
- ✓ Feb. 21; Chili Cook-off benefiting Cycling for Change (12-3 pm in the Garden Room)
- ✓ Feb. 22; Blood Drive in the Legacy Center (flyer in Feb. 18 packets)
- ✓ Feb. 24; Early Dismissal @ 2:20 pm for Staff Development
- ✓ Feb. 25; All-School Mass @ 8:15 am; Registration Forms due w/first payment
- ✓ Feb. 26; Fish Fry @ 5-7 pm
- ✓ March 2; Penance Services (Grades 2-4, 9-10 am & Grades 5-8, 10-11 am)
- ✓ March 4; All-School Mass @8:15 am
- ✓ March 5; Fish Fry @ 5-7 pm in Legacy Center
- ✓ March 6; SPS Auction

Group Night @ the Mavericks Independence Events Center

Saturday, March 13th @ 7:05 pm
 Special Ticket Price: Terrace-\$12
 Contact Susan Williams@
 816.810.1199 or
swill0401@yahoo.com

Ticket Reservations and Money is due March 5th!

For more information,
 Call 816.252.PUCK (7825)
MissouriMavericks.com

has the opportunity to answer a trivia question each day before lunch—random winners of a free jeans day will be selected each day. Also, students may enter a school-wide poster contest by grade level (K-3, 4-6, 7-8). The contest is open to all and voluntary. Posters should tell us about the student's favorite African-American historic figure and are due to Ms. Stillely or Mrs. Hall by next Wednesday, February 24. There will be three winners per grade level as follows: Most Creative, Most Inspiring, and Most Informative. Winners will be able to select a free jeans day or a \$10 SCRIP card.

This morning the school spelling bee was held. Twelve students in grades 5-8 were finalists in classrooms competitions and include the following: Haley Shaw, Audrey Nelson, Molly Coble (grade 5); Hannah Eyeran, Harrison Oest, , Alex Tangen (grade 6); Hank Wiedel, Abby Ellias, Emma Willibey (grade 7), Alex Ebersole, Meredith Latenser, and Brandon Ryffe (grade 8). Congratulations to bee winner Alex Tangen and runner-up Molly Coble! Thank you to language arts teachers Mrs. Charlotte Jett, Mrs. Patti Dearth, Mrs. Kristin Griffin, and Mrs. Bernie VanArsdale for preparing the students; we are especially grateful to Mrs. Jett and Mrs. VanArsdale for coordinating.

Things are certainly gearing up at St. Peter's. We are planning the schedules for Iowa Tests of Basic Skills, which will begin the week of March 1, the Auction committees are working round-the-clock, finalizing plans for what's sure to be the biggest SPS event of the year, and registration begins for the 2010-11 school year! Your registration forms are included in today's messenger envelopes and are due one week from today with the first payment. If you are St. Peter's parishioners, please remember that a current pledge card must be on file in order for your child/ren to be registered. We understand from speaking with Mr. Tom Nickel, business manager, that cards from school families are coming in slowly—we simply cannot plan for the future without your commitment. Please prayerfully consider the support your family can give to our community. Evidence of your dedication as parents abounds in many ways, for which we are grateful!

Finally, if you haven't heard, students' favorite "round pizzas" returned to the lunchroom today—it's a great day to be a Patriot!

Angie Meyer, Assistant Principal

S P S Special Announcements

JEANS DAY-Friday, February 19th

Tomorrow, February 19th is a Jeans Day. Proceeds will benefit the scholarship fund for St. Stephen's School, our Central City Sister School.

SPS Auction

Many AUCTION volunteers are needed! It takes hundreds of helping hands to pull off our school's biggest fundraiser. This is a great way to get involved, and offers eighth graders and high school students the opportunity to earn those required service hours! We still need help with planning, set-up, and tear-down the week of the Auction. **To volunteer, contact Kim Coxé at kim.coxe@att.net or 816.333.9679.**

We hope everyone is having great success with their raffle ticket sales. **To reach our goal of \$10,000, we need 100% participation from all school families (if each family sells a minimum of 25 tickets, we will reach our goal)!** Of course, we would love to exceed our goal this year, so reorders of tickets can be obtained from the school office by sending in your yellow envelope that was included in your messenger envelopes—simply indicate the number of additional tickets you would like, or email Amy Faulkner at amyefaulkner@gmail.com or emilyzwilson@gmail.com for additional tickets. Good luck and keep selling!