

# St. Mary's School Newsletter

Catholic Schools - "Light the Way"

April 2009



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## Upcoming Events

- April 10 – Good Friday – No School
- April 13-16 ITBS Testing
- April 17 – NO SCHOOL Staff Retreat/Auction Set-up
- April 18 – 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Night of Knight's Auction
- April 20-24 Cog. Abilities Testing
- April 25 – Aluminum Can Drive & Spring Clean-up Day
- April 26 – First Communion at St. Joseph
- April 27 – School Board meeting

### Attendance:

Parents, *please* report a student absence or late arrival by calling the school office at 446-2300. Before school hours a message can be left on the answering machine.

## Administrator's Corner.....By Jerry Kent

We are closing in on the last two weeks of this Lenten season. I hope that this Lenten season has been a time for you to grow closer to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ so that on Easter morning you can truly rise and say Alleluia to our Savior.

We are now into the fourth and final quarter of the school year. Third quarter report cards will be sent home with students on Friday, April 3.

Thank you first to Mrs. Stacy Mulet for the hard work on the play that was recently completed. Along with Jennifer Schroepfer, they put together a fantastic performance. Thank you to all of the cast members as well.

We are quickly approaching the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual auction on April 18. This is always an exciting and wonderful time for the entire St. Mary's family to share this opportunity with the greater Owatonna community. In this month also, St. Mary's students in addition to completing auction projects will be busy taking the ITBS for all students' grades 2-8 and Cognitive Abilities tests for student's grades 3-5-7. We are presently researching a different tool that may be more effective in measuring student achievement with Steve Stansberry, who has been my assistant to not only myself but also the entire staff these last few months. We will start a new instrument soon. On April 20, St. Mary's 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be heading north along with their adult chaperons to the Environmental Learning Center for five days. This will truly be a wonderful experience for these students and parents.

On Saturday, April 25, St. Mary's School will be joined by Owatonna Healthy Seniors to provide assistance for raking of lawns not only for

parishioners from our parishes but also other individuals community-wide. *All volunteers should meet at Trinity Lutheran Church at 7:30 AM for a kick-off breakfast.* Please join in this citywide program to provide assistance to others. Please provide some quality time with your family to assist others in getting their lawns and yards ready this spring.

St. Mary's School will also be hosting a fundraiser for the St. Mary's Home & School Association through Elite Shredding. Watch for information in the parish bulletins as well as in this newsletter. This will be a time you can get rid of a lot of the paper you simply do not want to throw in the trash because of security & identity theft. This is a way for a small donation to St. Mary's School that you could have these papers shredded properly. The Sports Boosters will also be hosting their aluminum can drive that day as well. Please support these many projects and activities on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

In conclusion we know that we are going to be experiencing less students at St. Mary's due to families moving from Owatonna or leaving our school because of the cost of tuition. We urge anyone who is contemplating not being able to afford their tuition, to contact school administrator Jerry Kent for tuition assistance. We also need to make sure that we have good registration numbers as soon as possible as we anticipate that this may impact the number of employees and programs offered at St. Mary's School for the coming year.

## Kindergarten News ..... *By Mrs. Lambaere & Mrs. Wolfe*

We are very excited to begin the month of April. This is the time of the year when a lot of "blooming" takes place in kindergarten. Our themes for April are Easter and Plants.

In Social Studies we will participate in our Geography Unit. The children are naturally interested and excited to discover more about the world we live in. We will explore maps and the globe as well as the continents.

In Language Arts we continue to develop our sight word vocabulary with learning games and activities. We teachers are impressed with the children's developing writing skills.

The Easter story will be the main focus of our Religion study. We will also find time to read Bible stories. The children are always interested in listening to old favorites.

Both classrooms have been busy creating items for the school auction. This is a great event that celebrates

our school. We are happy to be a part of it.

A special celebration this month will be Earth Day. Each child will need a light colored t-shirt to paint. It need not be new. Watch your child for notes from your child's classroom teacher concerning this and other important events.

## First Grade News.....*By Mrs. Connor, Mrs. Haarstad, & Mrs. Peterson*

March has flown by! We had many exciting things happening in first grade! Can you believe we are in the last quarter?! We have come so far in our reading, discussion, and comprehension skills! It was enjoyable sharing your child's growth with you at conferences. Thank you for attending.

In reading we have been adding to our comprehension strategies using questioning skills. Always ask your child what they wonder about as they read or after they read a story! You'll be amazed at the

thoughts they have!

We have kept busy this month preparing for our mass, making our instruments, celebrating St. Patrick's Day, learning about the Stations of the Cross, and having end of the quarter assessments.

We have begun our classroom auction preparations! We are writing amazing stories and creating wonderful treasures! We hope you are able to come and see your child's work at the auction in April. We will spend the next few weeks putting these together.

Keep reading with your child and having your child focus on fluency and voice! Enjoy your Spring! God Bless,



## Third Grade News.....*By Mrs. Chatelaine & Mrs. Johnson*

April brings a variety of learning experiences to the third grade classrooms, including the Iowa Basic Standardized Test (April 13-17) and the Cognitive Ability Test (April 20-24). It is particularly important for your child to get a good night of sleep as well as a nutritious breakfast during these weeks of testing. We would also appreciate if school day appointments could be avoided during these two weeks. Thanks for your help!

We continue with the *What's Cooking?* unit in Language Arts,

exploring ethnic food traditions in literature. Later this month, the third graders will bake panettone, a special bread that they read about in [Tony's Bread](#). In April, our writing will focus on the traits of Voice and Word Choice as we write descriptive paragraphs.

In religion, we will learn about the four marks of the Church – one, holy, catholic, and apostolic. This will conclude with the study of *The Apostle's Creed*.

Geometry, fractions, and multiplication/division will challenge the students in math during April. We

are very pleased with the third graders' grasp of math concepts and problem solving. Thank you for your diligence in practicing multiplication facts every evening with your child. You make a difference!

A special "thank you" to all of you who donated money and items for our auction baskets! Please check out all *eight* baskets – one for each of the eight different ways we are smart! Enjoy these beautiful days of spring!

## Fourth Grade News.....By Mrs. Gerdtz & Mrs. Wobschall

It's hard to believe that we are already starting the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of the school year. It seems like just yesterday we had 35 new fourth graders walking through our doorways.

Now they are getting very close to being 5<sup>th</sup> graders. What we are trying to say is that the year has flown by.

During this last quarter of school we have many topics to cover. There will be many novels read in language arts. In social studies we will be

studying the last two regions of the United States as well as preparing for the 50 state capitals test. The students will also be writing research papers and preparing power point presentations on their topic to share with the rest of the class. In science they will be studying the ocean and insects. They love the insect unit because they get to take care of their mealworms and watch them transform into beetles.

We are looking forward to our annual field trip to Farm America. This

is an awesome field trip the ties into our social studies curriculum. We look forward to the learning that will take place to prepare your child for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade News

By Mrs. Barnes & Mrs. Vieths

April will be a busy month in 6<sup>th</sup> grade! We are so happy to be enjoying the beautiful spring weather! The momentum of the end of the year is upon us! Hold on tight...June will be here before we know it!

Thank you to all who have donated to our 6<sup>th</sup> grade auction fund! We are excited to create something memorable for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade basket!

Writing had us scouring the Internet and library for information on diseases. It was research paper time! We developed our researching, note-taking, and organizational skills.

Using completed research papers, students

created a power point presentation highlighting details about each disease. These were presented to parents and classmates.

In math, we finished up Unit 6 with algebraic equations and inequalities. We have begun working on probability, Venn diagrams, and random number simulations.

Minnesota history is our theme in social studies. Discussions about "The Common Good" for all citizens has been our topic.

A Mystery Substance lab started off our physics unit in science. We used this substance to determine characteristics of liquids, solids, and gases. It sure was a sticky mess, but it was an exciting lab!

We look forward to seeing you at the Auction!

**PLEASE NOTE:** Any parent having a specific placement concern for a student for next year should call the school office. Forms are available for K-6 placement for 2008-09 and **MUST** be returned to the office by **MAY 1**.

## What's Happening In Physical Education

By Ms. Grose

Kindergarten: We have been working on a juggling unit. After juggling, we will jump rope, work with hula hoops and work on some basketball skills.

Grades 1-4: We are working on a basketball unit. After basketball we will work on some dances and then work with parachute.

Grades 5-8: We are finishing up a basketball unit. We will be starting a dance unit in which we will cover square, ethnic, and social dances.

## Mrs. Nylund's News

### 200 Club

The Junior High Responsibility Point system works to help students stay responsible and organized. The students in the 200 Club stayed perfect all quarter, turning in every assignment on time and always being prepared for class! The following junior high students were members of the 200 Club for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. We thank them for their hard work.

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Erin Abbe  
Lisette Betti  
Jordan Borchert  
Anna Rahrck  
Nicole Sedivy  
Josi Segner

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Michael Evans  
Katy Schroeppfer  
Katie Willinganz

### **Language Arts**

What would we do if an epidemic like yellow fever hit Owatonna? We have explored this and many other topics while reading our novel Fever 1793. Our class blog has been a great venue to chat about topics such as this that the students have really seemed to enjoy. Students have also been learning about the late 1700's by looking at the fashions and jobs that people had during that time.

### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Math**

Our present chapter is so relevant to everyone's every day lives as we learn about computing percents, sales tax, tips, and commission. One activity we did was to take restaurant menus and place an order. Students were then responsible for figuring out the tax on their bill and what a 15% tip would be. Ask your child to figure the tip for your family the next time you go out to eat – and don't let them use their cell phones to do it!! The next unit we will be doing gets into geometry topics, looking at points, lines, and angles.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math**

I am so proud of the hard work the 8<sup>th</sup> graders have been putting into understanding the algebra concepts we have been learning! We did a lesson in class one day about maintaining a growth mindset and never saying, "I am not good at that so why should I even bother putting forth any effort to improve." I really see in this 8<sup>th</sup> grade group an open-minded approach to every topic we look at, no matter the level of difficulty. They work extremely hard every time they set foot into my classroom and are finding success because of it!

Right now we are working with solving systems of equations. This chapter has given the students an opportunity to get more comfortable with using their graphing calculators and we also did a short lesson on solving a system using an Excel spreadsheet. Our next chapter delves into the world of exponents and polynomials.

## From Mrs. Slotsve

### **8<sup>th</sup> Language Arts**

In April the 8<sup>th</sup> graders will begin reading The Giver by Lois Lowry. This work of fiction has won numerous awards including the American Library Association Best Book for Young Adults and *School Library Journal* Best Book of the Year.

At the beginning of the novel, Jonas is torn by internal conflict as he dutifully accepts his training for Receiver of Memory but yearns for his childhood and the normal lives his friends lead. Throughout the novel, the reader will be discovering a new world where everyone is safe and comfortable. Is this the most important element for human life? We will discover family; love, individual differences, and freedom to make choices are essential elements to a worthwhile community.

### **7<sup>th</sup> Social Studies**

In April we will continue our study of Ancient Greece. The Greeks made many contributions to the world. We

will discuss some of the great thinkers – Socrates, Plato and Aristotle – as well as mathematicians and scientists of the time. Like the ancient civilizations before them, the Greeks will decline and eventually be taken over by Philip II of Macedonia. We will explore the reasons for their decline as well as the reasons for the success of Philip II and later those of his son, Alexander the Great.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Social Studies**

During April, students will discuss the Reformation and how differences in religions led to religious wars. Students will understand that people can stand up for their beliefs; therefore, creating changes in the world around them.

Later in the month, we will concentrate on the Explorers from European countries. Students will summarize the principal European voyages of discovery from the 1400s to the 1600s.

## Mr. Smith's News

### Junior High Religion

Students will continue their study of Sunday scripture and its link to Church teaching. The Gospel readings for April are as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Readings</u>	<u>Theme</u>
4/5/09	Mark 14:1-15:47	Hosanna to the Suffering Son of God
4/12/09	John 20:1-9	Witnesses to the Empty Tomb
4/19/09	John 20:19-31	We Believe, though We Have Not Seen
4/26/09	Luke 24:35-48	Recognize the Risen Christ in Word & Breaking of Bread
5/3/09	John 10:11-18	Known by the Good Shepherd

7<sup>th</sup> grade students will continue their study of Catholic Social Justice teachings, focusing on poverty. 8<sup>th</sup> graders will continue their study of prejudice and discrimination by finishing the book, *Witness* and completing their discrimination documentaries.

Students need to continue to serve others by completing 8 hours of community service by 6/1/09. Last quarter, students performed 1,067 hours of service! This month, the 7<sup>th</sup> graders plan to visit Countryside and the 8<sup>th</sup> graders plan to visit Wee Pals.

Catholic Boot Camp continues with a focus in 7<sup>th</sup> grade on Old Testament prophets and on the Mass in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Students should also be able to recite the Nicene Creed by the end of the month.

### Youth Ministry Events

- 4/8/09 EDGE Parent Night- learning more about Easter 6:30-8:00 PM @ SMS Cafeteria
- 4/15/09 EDGE Club & Praise & Worship 7-8<sup>th</sup> grade 6:30-8:00 PM @ SMS Gym
- 4/22/09 EDGE Service Night- Earth Day Project- watch for more details 6:30-8:00 PM
- 4/29/09 EDGE Social Night 6:30-8:00 SMS Gym (last one of the year!)

## Athletic Banquet

The annual Athletic Banquet for grades 6-8 will be held Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM at Sacred Heart Parish Center.

The Sports Boosters will furnish plates, silverware and beverage. Each family is asked to bring a small dessert.

The banquet is open to all students in grades 6-8 who participated in floor hockey, volleyball, basketball, cheerleading, softball, or baseball. Due to space limitations, we ask that it be limited to athletes and their parents. Hope to see you there.

### Softball Schedule

- April 16 vs. Holy Cross (Webster) B/A 4:45 PM
- April 27 vs. Kids First , Owatonna B/A 4:15 PM
- April 28 vs. Faribault Bethlehem Academy, A 4:30 PM
- April 30vs. Randolph, B/A 4:30 PM

### Baseball Schedule

- April 16 vs. Holy Cross (Webster) B/A 4:45 PM
- April 28 vs. Faribault Bethlehem Academy, B/A 4:30 PM
- April 30 vs. Randolph, B/A 4:30 PM



## Aluminum Can Drive

April 25<sup>th</sup> is the St. Mary's Aluminum Can Drive. This will be the last pick up this school year. All the money collected goes towards St. Mary's Sports programs. Please drop your aluminum in the St. Mary's School parking lot on April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Remember you can also:

**SAVE YOUR ALUMINUM CANS ALL YEAR.**

Owatonna Metal Recycling -1210 Industrial Road  
Owatonna, MN 55060 (across from the Waste Treatment Plant) 451-1470 will collect aluminum cans for St. Mary's Sports Boosters all year. All you have to do is turn your cans in there and take the slip into the office at the recycling center. At the end of each month they will send St. Mary's a check for the cans collected.

## Umpires Needed

We are in desperate need of umpires for softball and baseball. This is a paid position. Any question please contact Terri Grose at St. Mary's School.

## Auction Committee Update

We hope you are planning on joining in on all the fun and excitement on **Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at the Night of Knights Auction**. Our **Fiesta** theme is making a comeback, margaritas included!! We have a special evening planned filled with sensational items, raffles, food and beverages. The doors will open at **4:00 p.m.** Come before 5:00 to be eligible for our free **"Early-Bird Drawing"**. The silent auction and "Buy It Now" areas will be clearly

marked with their respective closing times beginning at 6:00.

At 7:00 all the activity moves upstairs to the Live Auction area. We will offer plenty of opportunities to purchase tickets for our three raffles. The "Bucket Raffle" offers unique merchandise, the "Split the Pot" will win you cash, and our "Mystery Raffle" promises to be something really neat! We'll also draw for our "Staff Appreciation" Raffle. At **10:00 p.m.** we will draw the three winners in our

**"Car and Cash" Raffle.** Be sure to get your chance at winning a 2009 Ford Fusion or \$10,000 cash, \$1000 or \$500 prior to Sat., April 18<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are available in the school office, Owatonna Shoe, Committee Members and at Kristin Haberman Law office. **"Car and Cash"** tickets will NOT be sold at the auction.

Our Silent and Live Auctions have been receiving fabulous donations for many weeks now. There is something for everyone and something for every budget!! We've planned an entertaining evening for all, so please invite your friends and families to join us for some great food, socializing and all the excitement that comes with an auction – all in support of St. Mary's School!! You must be 21 years old to attend and for a nominal admission of \$5 per person, it is sure to be a fun night out!

**Thank You** to all who have donated time, talent and items for this year's auction. We look forward to having you join us at the auction – Come early and stay late!!

### Auction Committee

Lori and Barry Butler [loributler1@charter.net](mailto:loributler1@charter.net)  
 Nic and JoAnn Matejcek [jomat@smig.net](mailto:jomat@smig.net)  
 Patrick and Kristin Haberman [Kristin@rconnect.com](mailto:Kristin@rconnect.com)  
 Todd and Kris Wishy [tkwishy@charter.net](mailto:tkwishy@charter.net)  
 Dave and Cathy Effertz [ceffertz@gmail.com](mailto:ceffertz@gmail.com)  
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 Bryan and Bobbi Shaver [bdscca@charter.net](mailto:bdscca@charter.net)

## From The Social Worker's Office

By Gina Pohlen, LSW

In April, the 5<sup>th</sup> grades, 3<sup>rd</sup> grades and Mrs. Peterson's 1<sup>st</sup> grade will be finished with the Second Step Lessons. They are still continuing in Kindergarten and Mrs. Haarstad's 1<sup>st</sup> grade.

Mrs. Kasper's Fifth Grade Class was asked to summarize their thoughts on their Second Step Lessons. Every Student completed the following five Sentence Starters and then small groups summarized the entire class' responses.

*Emma, Ethan and Brennon summarized the sentence starter--- **In Second Step I was surprised to Learn...** "most of the people in our 5<sup>th</sup> grade class were surprised about the amount of bullying that goes on. Some people were surprised to learn about anger and emotions and others were surprised to learn about how to deal with hard situations."*

*Mattie, Ryan, Eli and Hannah summarized the sentence starter--- **What stands out for me is...** "Things that stood out were how to solve problems and making good decisions. Most of the fifth graders talked*

*about problem solving but some really remembered some other things we talked about like anger management and peer pressure."*

*Grace, Reed, Katie and Jacob D summarized the sentence starter--- **My First Impression was...** "My first impression was would any of this stuff work? What does this have to do with 5<sup>th</sup> grade? Kids were also wondering what are we going to do with Second Step? What is bullying? How can I stop this?"*

*Aaron, Danika, Mark and Jacob summarized the sentence starter--- **But then I thought...** "This was fun and cool because we can use these skills in our social life, with friends and our family."*

*Abbie, Jonny, Luke and Zoe summarized the sentence starter--- **Something that really made me think is...** "that we have calming down strategies. What really stood out the most to kids in the class was how to come up with good solutions."*

I really appreciate the opportunity to go into the classrooms and strengthen these important social and emotional skills. Thank you to parents and teachers who constantly reinforce these skills in your discussions with children. Have a wonderful Spring!

## From the Library....*by Mrs. Berg*

### **Maud Hart Lovelace**

Many students in grades 3-8 read three or more Maud Hart Lovelace books this year. Our ballots for this MN State Book Award have been tallied and sent. The MN Youth Reading Association will announce the winner from each of two divisions on April 25<sup>th</sup>. On Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> **The Scholar's Club** (those who have read six or more nominated books) will meet for lunch in the library. New this year is **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Scholars**, students who have read 4 of the selected titles. These readers will be ready to discuss this year's winners and hopefully share an opinion or two.

### **Why We Must Help Our Children Become Readers**

\*Kids have to love reading to become excellent readers. Only if they love reading will they spend lots of time reading. Practice is everything.

\*Avid readers acquire a more complete sense of language. They speak better, write better, and deal better with complex ideas.

\*Reading helps children to be compassionate. The essence of compassion is the ability to understand another's viewpoint. Reading brings children into thousands of different lives, allowing them to understand these lives in all their complexity.

\*Avid reading develops critical thinking skills. Rather than hearing information only in sound bits, avid readers learn to follow complex arguments and remember multifaceted plots.

\*Reading gives children wide-ranging frames of reference, which make all learning easier. Even children who read only fiction will pick up facts about history, geography, politics and science.

\*Avid reading gives kids a sense of perspective. After seeing life described through the eyes of hundreds of different narrators, they see that there are many ways to look at situations; there are many sides to most issues.

Our **Owatonna Public Library** will soon offer another wonderful summer reading program. Look it over and find ways to involve your child. The many interesting activities might light a spark and have your child asking, "How can I find out more about that?"

### **TumbleBooks**

Be sure to check out the **TumbleBooks** link on our school library website ([stmarys-owatonna.org](http://stmarys-owatonna.org)). You can access the

**TumbleBookLibrary** collection with just the click of a button. **TumbleBooks** is an online collection of animated, talking picture books which teach kids the joy of reading in a format they enjoy. **TumbleBooks** are created by taking existing picture books, adding **animation, sound, music** and **narration** to produce an electronic picture book which you kids read, or have read to them.

### **Grade 5 Podcasts**

5<sup>th</sup> Graders are currently creating book talk podcasts to be posted on our library website. This might also be a useful resource as you help your child find novels that might be of interest to them. Nothing like a peer review to jump start interest in a book!

### **Scholastic Book Fair**

Many volunteers helped make our book fair a success. Thanks to families who stopped by to browse the collection, have a snack or sit down for the craft. We were able to purchase close to \$1,500 in books for our library and classrooms based on book sales.

Our school has been offered an extra incentive to host another book fair before the end of our school year. This fair will be quite different. Instead of the school receiving the profit the value goes to you. During this book fair you can buy one book and receive one of equal value or less free. This might be a good time to find some good summer reading titles – and a bargain at that!

Look for this fair during the elementary spring concert week in **May**. It will be set up in the main school hallway right outside of the gym.

Happy Spring!

## Beginning Band

There will be an informational meeting for 4<sup>th</sup> grade parents about band on Tuesday, April 7 at 7:00 pm in the St. Mary's cafeteria. At this meeting, parents will receive information about the process for beginning a band instrument. This will include how instruments are demonstrated to the classes, the individual sign-up meeting, summer lessons, and other parent information.

They will also be checking out a copy of a wonderful parent resource book "Growing Your Musician: A Parent's Guide to Band and Orchestra Students." The St. Mary's Home and School has purchased a set of these books for parents of beginning band students to read. The book contains information on how to choose an instrument, practice tips, and other help for parents.

The timeline for beginning band sign-up is as follows:

April 7	Parent Information Meeting
April 20-27	Instrument Demonstrations to 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Classes
April 27-May 1	Individual Meetings with Parents & Students
July 13-August 6	Summer Band Lessons

If you cannot make the meeting, please contact Mrs. Kuklok to check out a book and sign-up for an individual meeting time.

### Growing Your Musician Practice Realities

*Misconception:* It's boring.

*Reality:* It's only as boring as you make it

*Misconception:* It's punishment.

*Reality:* Practice should never be used as punishment.

*Misconception:* It's repetitive.

*Reality:* Repetition, when used properly, is one of the key elements to improve. The more you repeat the right exercises, the more you will improve.

*Misconception:* You need to practice six hours a day in order to be any good.

*Reality:* For most musicians, twenty to thirty solid minutes of practice is adequate to gain a moderate level of success.

*Misconception:* I can do it alone.

*Reality:* Although you should practice by yourself, you need focus and guidance. If you hope to be first chair or to create music effortlessly, then a private teacher can be very helpful.

*Misconception:* It can be done anywhere.

*Reality:* You can practice in many different places; however, a special place like a practice room, complete with a light, a chair, a music stand, and a pencil, is ideal.

*Misconception:* Practice should be done every day.

*Reality:* It is good to practice regularly because muscle strength, coordination, and confidence will improve, but a break for a day or two is often necessary to maintain mental and physical health.

*Taken from Growing Your Musician: A Practical Guide for Band and Orchestra by Tony Bancroft. Parents, if you wish to read the book or order a copy, contact Mrs. Kuklok*

## Music Booster's.....By John and Dawn Carlson

It was a busy month for the Music Boosters at St. Mary's. On March 5<sup>th</sup> was the Pop Fiesta Concert with walking tacos and pop served beforehand. Students, parents, and friends were able to chat and enjoy a taco before going up to the gym for the concert. Thanks to those who helped serve and cleanup. Then on March 8<sup>th</sup> was the Music Boosters Pancake Breakfast served by the Knights of Columbus. Thank you to the KC's for their continued support of the Music Boosters Program. Special thanks go to Mrs. Kuklok and the band students who provided entertainment during the breakfast and all the students and parents who helped with the breakfast. The money raised from the 2 events totaled \$1400. which will be used for rhythm and band instruments in the future.

### DVD's of Junior High Pop Fiesta

We are very happy to have Leanne Alt videotape our concerts this year. A DVD copy of the Pop Fiesta concert that was held in March is available for \$17.95.

Please send your check to: The Third Hand, Inc.  
1130 North Elm  
Owatonna, MN 55060

Include with your check a note that you want a copy of the St. Mary's Pop Fiesta concert and it will be mailed directly to your home.

**Nurse's Notes.....***By Mary Herzog RN*

Welcome back from spring break! I hope everyone had a good time and is well rested.

Scoliosis screening has been completed on all 5<sup>th</sup> grade students, 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls and 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys. If you did not receive a referral letter in the mail, then your child's test was negative.

A reminder to all 6<sup>th</sup> grade students: tetanus boosters and a second chickenpox and MMR vaccine (if needed) are required before entrance into seventh grade in fall. I have received a few records from those who have already gotten their shots. When your student receives their vaccinations, please have an extra copy of the shots they got printed for you at the Clinic and turn it in to me.

**Liturgy Schedule**

- April 1 8:10 AM All School Mass at Sacred Heart
- April 7 8:05 Jr. High & REP Mass at St. Joseph
- April 15 8:20 All School Mass at St. Joseph
- April 22 8:05 Spirit Groups
- April 29 8:10 All School Mass at Sacred Heart

Parents and Guests are always welcome.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report Cards**

Report cards will be sent home with students on Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>.



**School Board Positions**

St. Mary's School will be looking to fill one school board position from Sacred Heart and St. Joseph Parish. Elections will be held at the respective parishes in late April/early May. If you are interested in serving a three-year term on St. Mary's School Board or have questions, please contact Jerry Kent at 446-2300.

**School Board Members**

**Sacred Heart**

Mrs. Carla Kern	455-1544
Mr. David Mulert	451-3550
Mrs. Cheryl Rohwer	451-5449
Mr. Rich Gerdts	835-3283

**St. Joseph**

Mr. Chris Herzog	451-2890
Mrs. Dawn Ritter	451-8199
Mr. Jed Ebner	455-2876
Mr. Jon Hanson	455-1689

**Volunteer Coordinator ....** *By Connie Lembke*

On May 20, St. Mary's will go to St. Joseph to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary for May Crowning. Parents of 8<sup>th</sup> graders are needed to drive 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to Nursing Homes and Assisted Living facilities after the prayer service to deliver flowers. Those of you who can volunteer your time please contact Connie Lembke at 446-2300 so we can make this a special day. Hope to hear from you soon. Thanks again to all who help in the lunchroom, playground, on the auction committee, and all other volunteer opportunities.

**Home & School Fundraiser**

*Document Shredding by Elite Shredding of Owatonna*

- When – Saturday, April 25
- Where – SMS Parking Lot
- All items will be weighed and donations to SMS are appreciated. This service is provided to individuals – NOT businesses. Clean paper only such as tax papers or information, bank statements, or other papers that contain personal information. Paper clips and staples do not have to be removed. Not for heavy metal binder clips, plastic, cd's, film, magazines, newspapers, or cardboard.

Thank you very much for your support!