

ST. GABRIEL

Centered in Jesus, St. Gabriel Catholic School is committed to excellence in developing our faith, academics and service.

NEWSLETTER



UPCOMING EVENTS...

March

...3—Preschool Story Hour from 1-2:00 p.m.

...4—Counselor at SG

...5—Author, Chester Jensen, visits SG and shares his book, *Princess Kate's Carousel*

...8—Grade 5 Forensics at SMC after school

...9—School Liturgy planned by Grade 4 at 8:15 a.m.

...9—Field trip to the play, *Seussical, the Musical*, at the PAC for kindergarten and grade 1

...10—Movie Night sponsored by the PTO (info already sent home)

...12—Living Stations of the Cross beginning at 2:00 p.m. in the church; everyone invited

...14—PTO-sponsored Pancake Breakfast, 9-noon in the cafeteria

...15—PTO Meeting at 7:45 a.m.

...15—Grade 3 Field Trip to the PAC to hear the Fox Valley Symphony

...16—School Liturgy planned by Grade 3

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK... TCCES adopted the theme of Catholic Identity for the 2009-2010 school year. The particular part of Catholic Identity we are reviewing for March is Social Justice. This theme fits into our Lenten project this year as we collect money for the Fox Valley Warming Shelter to build a permanent place for the homeless to stay and for the homeless of Haiti and Chile. Our school total as of today is \$260.18. *The community of believers was of one heart and mind. And no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common. With great power the apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great favor was accorded to them all. There was no needy person among them, for those who owned property or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds of the sale, and put them at the feet of the apostles, and they were distributed to each according to need.* —ACTS 4:32-35

SURVEY RESULTS... Thanks to everyone for taking part in the recent TCCES on-line survey on how the schools are doing. We appreciated all of your positive comments and suggestions and we will continue to work with you to provide the best Catholic education possible to our students.

MARCH IS ST. JOSEPH'S MONTH... St. Joseph, the husband of Mary and foster father of Jesus, is the role model for dads and workers around the world. We celebrate his feast day on March 19, but the entire month is placed under his care. In morning and evening prayers, we ask St. Joseph to intercede especially for fathers, who are looking for work.

CONGRATULATIONS, MRS. BENRUD!!! We have been notified that Mrs. Benrud has been selected as a 2010 Kohl Fellowship recipient. She along with other teachers from Wisconsin were chosen from many fine candidates because of her skills as a leader and agent for positive change, and her superior ability to inspire the love of learning. In the last three years, Mrs. Benrud has made dramatic changes and improvements to our science curriculum. St. Gabriel is very proud of Mrs. Benrud and her honor. She is our third Kohl recipient...in the past five years Miss Vancil and Mr. Arboleda have also received the award.



Twin City Catholic
Educational System

FOR THE BIRDS... February was National Birdfeeding Month. Jesus referred to the "birds of the air" as a way of showing us how much God loves and takes care of us. At this time of the year, birds in northern climates are often hungry. Put out suet and seed for your winter visitors and pray with the Psalmist: "You wild beasts and all tame animals, you creeping things and winged fowl. Praise the name of the Lord, for His name alone is exalted; His majesty is above earth and heaven" (148:10,13).

GRADE 5 END OF THE YEAR PLANNING MEETING...

Pam Seidl, Kathy Knott, and Mary Kegley would like to invite all the 5th grade parents to an informational meeting regarding the **5th Grade Celebration**. We will be discussing details of the event based off survey results, and asking parents where they would like to help. **Date: Sunday, 3/28/10**

Time: 6:30 P.M.

Location: El Azteca, Fox Point

THANKS FOR THE MEALS... The staff of St. Gabriel School thanks the following people for furnishing meals during the Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences. Everyone appreciated the meals. The group included Jessica Koshollek, Lisa Olson, Missy Rosiejka, Natasha Dunlop, Stephanie Kramer, Mary Kegley, Paula Heimerman, Trudy Long, Jacqui Brown, Sheri Peitersen, Kat Vitale, Linda Wintheiser, Anne Ledwith, Karen Miller, and TerriBoccheciamp.

NEWS FROM PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLASS... St. Gabriel students are currently learning about and experiencing the Winter Olympics during their physical education classes. We began our St. Gabriel Olympics with the running of the torch - each student had the opportunity to carry and pass it on. All students then took the athletes oath and the Olympic creed was read at our Opening Ceremony. Each class (kindergarten through 5th grade) represents three different countries and are competing in the following variations of Olympic events: 2 and 4 person bobsledding, a biathlon, ski jumping, luge and skeleton races
The 4th and 5th grade students at St. Gabriel School were introduced to cross-country skiing as part of their physical education class on Feb. 15th. Mrs. Heather Higgins, Mrs. Carol Morley, & Mrs. Molly Griffin taught the students basic classic cross-country ski skills and were assisted by several parent volunteers. The students first learned how to put on and take off their skis and then were instructed on balancing, gliding, using their poles, and the best way to get up from a fall. The students then put these skills into practice as they skied around the groomed trails at Smith Park in Menasha.

Where man sees but withered leaves, God sees sweet flowers growing. Albert Laighton

TCCES Presents "Celebration of the Arts" on March 17th at the Fox Cities PAC... Parents, grandparents, alumni and friends are invited to the 5th annual TCCES "Celebration of the Arts" at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center on Wednesday, March 17th. The evening will feature student musicians and singers from the elementary, middle and high school levels along with a wide range of visual art created by students from the five TCCES schools – St. Gabriel, St. Margaret Mary and St. Mary Elementary Schools, Seton Catholic Middle School and St. Mary Central High School. This event is open to public and free.

The evening will feature performances by the St. Mary Central High Schools and Seton Catholic Middle School bands and jazz bands, the elementary band from St. Gabriel, St. Margaret Mary and St. Mary Elementary Schools and SMC and Seton's Show Choirs.

Celebration of the Arts is on Wednesday, March 17 at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center. The event will begin with a reception and visual art display at 5:30. The concert will begin at 6:30 and admission is free. Bergstrom Automotive is the sponsor for this event.

Please R.S.V.P. to Ann Engelhard by March 12 if you are planning to attend the reception prior to the concert. You may R.S.V.P. via email to aengelhard@tcces.k12.wi.us or 722-7796 ext. 201.

A SPECIAL AFTERNOON... Officer Pete Ehlert, our DARE officer, along with four Saint Mary Central students visited the fifth grade on Monday, February 15. The purpose of the visit was a follow up to the DARE program that he taught in the first semester. Students were treated to pizza for lunch! Following that, students played several games with the high school role models to try to build trust and friendship. The final activity was a question and answer session in the classroom where fifth graders could ask the role models questions about middle school and openly discussed drug, alcohol, and smoking situations that might arise in the future. Students were very open and responsive to the Saint Mary students. We are grateful to Officer Pete and the students for sharing their knowledge and experiences with us.

ANNUAL SPELLING BEE RESULTS... Every year the 5th graders participate in a spelling bee to determine who will represent St. Gabriel School in the Neenah Grade 5 Spelling Competition. The student body and faculty enjoyed the activity last Wednesday afternoon. Congratulations to Sam Knott for winning the competition and Michael Konz for being the runner-up. The city contest will take place On Friday, March 12. Good Luck, Sam!!!