



## LITTLE FLOWER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2004

**From the desk of Mrs. Marino:** Happy New Year to all of you. I hope you had a wonderful Christmas. I want to **thank you** from the bottom of my heart for your amazing generosity. The gifts I received from individuals were so thought-filled. I continue to be overwhelmed by the gifts I was presented at Mass on the Friday before Christmas vacation. The new Palm Pilot is great and truly needed. My old one had definitely reached the end of its life. The gift certificates to Galleria provided a very enjoyable day of shopping. I purchased a winter coat and some other goodies that I would never have been able to buy without your gift. Thank you, thank you, thank you!!

Fr. Benz also sends his thanks. He writes: *I want to thank you for your Christmas gifts of the very fine luggage and the travel money. Whenever I use them, I will think of your overwhelming kindness and thoughtfulness. I hope that you all had a very nice Christmas holiday and that you are all ready to begin this New Year with a renewed commitment to the God who is so committed to us. Gratefully, the Word made flesh, Fr. J. Benz*

**My sincere apology to Michael Dryden and Ryan Burke.** Both boys participated in the Bellarmine Speech Meet here at Little Flower and earned a blue ribbon. I forgot to include their names in last month's newsletter. Congratulations to both of them for a job well done!

**Catholic Schools Week...**Catholic Schools Week takes place at the end of this month. We are in need of donations for the Mission Raffle held during this week. Sports items, tickets, gift certificates, books, games, etc. etc. would be greatly appreciated. If you can make any donations by January 15<sup>th</sup>, we would be grateful. All proceeds go to various mission causes including our yearly adoption of Sandra, from Honduras, through the Christian Children's Fund. Thanks you any help you can provide.

Wishing you a happy and **healthy** new year!

**Mrs. Marino**

### **PRE-KINDERGARTEN**

Happy New Year! The Pre-k class is busy talking about the season of winter. The children will be learning about the coldest season by taking a look at winter clothing, changes that occur during this season indoors and outdoors, and winter sports. Weather permitting; we will be going outside each day. Please continue to send warm accessories with your child to school so we can be prepared to enjoy the cold- hats, gloves/mittens, and scarves.

Show-n-Tell for January will be Thursday, January 8 and Friday, January 9. Each child can bring in a special gift that he/she received for Christmas to share with the class. The monthly faculty meeting is January 16. The AM class attends and the PM class has the day off.

**Mrs. Amy Mechler**

## **KINDERGARTEN**

The kindergarten will start off the New Year with many fun learning experiences. Everyone is doing a great job completing the weekly homework. We hope you enjoyed the recipes! Special thanks to Mrs. Marino, Ms. Rosie, Ms. Ginny, and Ms. Margaret for the help with the holiday projects.

The class will be going to Florissant Civic Center for the St. Louis Family Theatre production of "Snow Queen" on January 22. Box Top dress down day is Jan. 20.

***Mrs. Mary Collins***

## **GRADE ONE**

Happy New Year!

The first graders love recess and when the temperatures allow, they go out to play. Hats and gloves or mittens are important for them to have at school as well as a jacket that they can zip or button.

Please continue the good habits of nightly reading and studying the reading words. This is so important for your children's success. Written homework begins soon with the start of the second semester.

Catholic Schools Week begins on January 25. During that week, each class at Little Flower studies a mission country. The first graders will study Korea. If anyone has any information, artifacts, or knows of a speaker that would enhance our lessons, please call. Box Tops play clothes day will be on Tuesday, January 13. Book orders are due on Friday, January 16.

***Mrs. Sue Renz***

## **GRADE TWO**

Happy New Year! We're all back and ready to work. We will continue to practice regrouping and learn to borrow and carry in Math. Expect some sore fingers and arms as we continue to learn cursive writing. Please check your child's supplies: pencils, glue, erasers, and control paper.

Tuesday, January 13----- Report cards

Friday, January 16 ----- Faculty meeting. Noon dismissal, Show and Tell

Monday, January 19----- Martin Luther King holiday--- no school

Tuesday, January 20---- Play clothes – box tops

Monday, January 26---- Catholic Schools Week begins

Play clothes day to be announced

Charity for January is the Missions

Six Flags Reading Club will begin this month. The deadline for your child's reading log will be Tuesday, February 17.

***Mrs. Megan Spies***

## **GRADE THREE**

This month, the students will bring home a supply list. Please check it. They will check over their school supplies and cross out the ones that they have. Make sure your child brings to school the needed supplies. While you are checking school supplies; check supplies at home. A few students are completing homework assignments in pen (red/blue) or colored pencil (red/blue), and on paper torn out of a notebook. This work is considered unacceptable. Please provide pencils, loose-leaf paper, and crayons at home. Folktale diorama is due Wednesday, January 7. We begin multiplication this month. Once multiplication has begun, you need to work on the multiplication facts every night. **MATH FACTS! MATH FACTS! MATH FACTS!** Also, this month, they will complete the handwriting book. When the book is completed, they will write assignments in cursive. Box top play clothes day is Friday, January 16, 2004. As you can see, January is going to be an exciting month!

***Mrs. Elaine Kientzle***

## **GRADE FOUR**

In math, the students are continuing to work on two-digit times two-digit multiplication. This requires a lot of concentration and accuracy of facts. Please monitor their progress in this difficult task. They are trying very hard, I know!

The students have been reading their Biography book sent home with them over Christmas break. The completed report is due January 16<sup>th</sup>. Our play clothes day for box tops will be Friday, January 9<sup>th</sup>.

***Mrs. Christine Wright***

## **GRADE FIVE**

In January the fifth grade students will complete their study of verbs. They will be able to conjugate verbs in the simple tenses of active voice. Following this, they will continue their study of paragraph and report writing.

The reading theme for January will be "Voices of the Revolution" which will supplement their social studies investigation of the American Revolution.

At the end of the month, the students will participate in the "Build Up" program sponsored by the Magic House and the builders in the area. This program will include eight activities and a visit to a construction site. It will teach general construction principles and develop skills in math, science, and language.

Box Tops play clothes day will be on Friday, January 23.

***Sister Jane Schaper***

## **GRADE SIX**

During the month of January the students will be studying the Golden Age of Israel, focusing on King David and King Solomon in Religion class. Towards the end of the month, they will begin their study of the prophets. In Math class, the students will continue their work on multiplying and dividing fractions and eventually start the chapter on Standard and Metric measurement. The class is finished with the book on Earth science and will begin the FAST I program during the third quarter. The program's main focus is physical science and some ecology. It is a hands-on program consisting of written labs and actual lab work.

Recently, I spoke with a police officer from Richmond Heights Police department by the name of Officer Wolf who will be the sixth grade's D.A.R.E. officer. It is a new program that will be only ten weeks long instead of the seventeen-week program. Hopefully, the program will start sometime in January. I am sure we will have more information for when the program begins. JANUARY BOX TOP PLAY CLOTHES: Friday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

***Mrs. Rose Duncan***

## **GRADE SEVEN**

### **2004 Geographic Bee**

The school level competition was held at Little Flower on December 11, 2003. Thirty students from Grade 6-7-8 participated in seven rounds of questions. The thirty participants were: Charlie Backus, Austin Brauer, Ryan Burke, Mary Ellen Carmody, Ben Clark, Robby Connelly, Charlie Connolly, Michael Dryden, Amanda Elliott, Timothy Gallagher, Pauline Gibbons, John Gibbs, Catherine Gould, Jim Hoel, Andrew Ilges, Ben Klapp, Ashley Matula, Collin McCabe, Sam McCabe, Brittany Ponzer, Steve Portnoy, Richie Proznik, Helene Sargent, Ashley Slatinsky, Jessica Slattery, Kelley Storey, Matthew Storey, Nick Troll, Patrick Ward, and Mary Watkins. Our School Champion is Ben Clark with 2<sup>nd</sup> Place going to Ben Klapp. Ben will take a written qualifying test on Tuesday, January 13, 2004. In March we will be notified if Ben Clark qualifies as one of students with top scores. If he qualifies, he will be invited to compete at the state level on April 4, 2004. Congratulations and Good Luck!

Box Tops play clothes day will be on Friday, January 9.

***Sr. Janet Vietor***

## **GRADE EIGHT**

Happy 2004! Hope your holidays were full of many happy blessings and peace! I hope you received my parent letter sent home the week before break. I congratulate the 8<sup>th</sup> graders on doing such a wonderful job serving their parish and school community! Over \$185 was raised through the Christmas raffle to buy bikes for the boys of our adopted family! We also filled stockings and boxes with food, candy, and toys. Thank you to all those who donated blankets—over fifty were delivered to Energy Care to keep needy elderly and sick children warm this winter!

Our Box Top dress down day will be Jan. 9, but please send more in as we haven't been collecting many. Students have been given guidelines for their Confirmation saint project—please check with them on the due date and on their progress. Confirmation will be April 27 at 7:30 p.m. at Immaculate Conception. This month we will also be working on essays for the Pro-Life Essay Contest (due in early February). Our Peace & Justice Mass will be Jan. 15—please join us! We are working on developing short story elements for their best short story. For Catholic Schools Week, 8<sup>th</sup> graders will run the raffle to benefit the missions. All contributions for raffle items would be greatly appreciated!

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Literature & English:** We are finishing the chapter on adjectives and have published our first books! (Pop-up storybooks, which we will share with the younger students). Students are keeping a reading response notebook as we read our new novel *A Day No Pigs Would Die* by Robert Newton Peck.

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Literature & English:** We are also finishing our adjective chapter. The personal challenge narratives are due Jan. 14 (rough draft due Jan. 8). This month we will begin our new novel, which I've ordered (*Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry).

Congratulations to the following students whose essays were chosen to be submitted for the County Library "Dreamweavers" Essay Contest: Collin McCabe (6<sup>th</sup> gr.), Kathleen Adams (7<sup>th</sup> gr.), Jessica Slattery (8<sup>th</sup> gr.)

\*\*\*Helpful websites:

[users.erols.com/saintpat/ss/ss-index.htm](http://users.erols.com/saintpat/ss/ss-index.htm) (index of saints for 8<sup>th</sup> grade saint project)

[www.caughtinthemiddle.org](http://www.caughtinthemiddle.org) (help with adolescent issues)

[www.bigchalk.com](http://www.bigchalk.com) (homework help & more)

[www.whitebarnpress.com](http://www.whitebarnpress.com) (publishes student writing)

[www.fanfiction.net](http://www.fanfiction.net) (students can submit writing about novels they've read and read other students' writing)

***Mrs. Julie Purschke***

## **COMPUTER**

Students are currently working on a variety of Advent and Christmas activities. 4<sup>th</sup> Grade is learning about the basic steps of how information is processed in a computer, as well as some of the types of input, output and storage devices used.

The upper grade students continue to learn keyboarding and advanced word processing. In word processing 8<sup>th</sup> graders are learning character and paragraph formats and how to set up individual tab stops in tables.

Have a wonderful and prosperous New Year.

***Mrs. Jacqueline Campbell-Lawrence***

## **Six Flags Six-Hour Reading Club**

All students in grades K through 6 are invited to participate in the Six Flags Reading Club to earn a free admission to the Six Flags theme park. The ticket is valid from June 19, 2004 to August 8, 2004. To earn a free ticket your child needs to complete six hours of reading and keep track on a record sheet given to him/her by the homeroom teacher. Any reading material will count toward their goal; magazine reading, newspapers, books, and even comic books. Younger children can also count any material read to them or material read to a parent. What is not valid is reading that is assigned as homework. Parents need to initial each entry on the record sheet. All forms are due to the homeroom teacher by TUESDAY, FEB. 17th. No late entries will be allowed. This is an optional program. Free admission tickets will be distributed in May.

***Mrs. Janet Mohler***

## **LFPE NEWS**

On Monday, December 15 we had a PE uniform sale. We still have many items left in our stock. This is your last chance to purchase PE uniforms at a much lower price than that of Catholic Supply where you will be required to purchase future PE uniforms once our stock is depleted. If you would like to purchase any of the items below, please send a note to me, with a check made out to Little Flower School. Reminder: Grades 3-8 are required to wear PE uniforms.

### Little Flower School price list and availability

<b>Prices:</b>	Adult: T-Shirts-\$6.00	Shorts-\$9.00	Sweatpants-\$10.00	
	Youth: T-Shirts-\$5.00	Shorts-\$8.50	Sweatpants-\$9.00	
<b>Adult: T-shirts</b>	<b>Sweatpants</b>	<b>Youth: T-shirts</b>	<b>Shorts</b>	<b>Sweatpants</b>
Small-4	Small-2	Small-2	Small-2	Small-3
Large-1	Large-2	Medium-2	Medium-4	Medium-1
		Large-1		

As we begin our new year in PE, I would like to remind you that as of January 15th, 2004 you would be able to buy your child's LFPE uniform at the Catholic Supply Store, across from Ted Drewes. I'm sure this cold weather will have us indoors most of January (sure wish we had a Gym!). We are looking at innovative type games along with The President's Challenge sometime soon. Below is the price for PE uniforms thru the Catholic Supply of St. Louis. Their phone number and address is 644-0643, 6759 Chippewa Street, St. Louis.

### Catholic Supply of St. Louis price list-available 1-15-04

<b>Prices:</b>	Adult: T-Shirts-\$9.25	Shorts-\$16.50	Sweatpants-\$20.00
	Youth: T-Shirts-\$8.75	Shorts-\$15.50	Sweatpants-\$17.50

***Mrs. K. Saeger***

## **PRE-K THROUGH 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE MUSIC**

All the students worked very hard preparing for our Christmas Concert. This is the first year that 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> did all of the songs together for our "main" program (the Tiniest Christmas Star). In the past, different grades did different songs, making it a bit boring for the grades that were not participating at the time. This year we tried to get all the children involved to enjoy it more. Unfortunately, that also meant a lot more words to learn! Hopefully you agree the end paid off in a wonderful production.

THANKS to all the 4<sup>th</sup> graders and Mrs. Wright who put in many extra hours to help with different aspects of the program, including helping to get all the stars ready; folding the programs; learning instruments and speaking parts; and learning to square dance! Thanks, too, to Mrs. Osterman who helped to work on the speaking parts some of the days that I was not there. A final thank you to the 8<sup>th</sup> graders and Mrs. Oligschlaeger who helped cut out all of the stars! Thanks, too, to Mr. Barecca for playing the accompaniment to some of our songs, and to Mrs. Kern for typing up our program. A reminder to save any "thick" wrapping paper tubes for our 4<sup>th</sup> graders (if the cardboard isn't thick enough, it falls apart when we paper mache it). May you all be blessed with a wonderful and healthy new year!

***Mrs. Lisa Vonder Haar***

## **MUSIC 5-8**

### **8TH GRADE**

8th grade just completed the Unit 2 test and has been studying compound meters including 3/4 and 6/8 - Also, they continue the study of some famous classic tunes and their stories. Work on the spring musical "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" will begin a couple times a month after Christmas break.

### 7TH GRADE

7th grade has just completed their Unit 2 test. They have been studying syncopation and identification of musical phrases in any piece of music. They continue to work hard at the Music Ace Software program.

### 6TH GRADE

6th grade has just completed their Unit 2 Quiz. They have been studying the C major scale and how to identify whole steps and half steps. They will continue to learn to read music by playing boom whackers once per month.

### 5TH GRADE

5th grade has just completed their Unit 2 Quiz. They have been studying syncopation as well as dotted rhythms and ties. Also, they are learning about how to identify the tonal center of a piece of music. They also continue to work hard at Music Ace. New Year's blessings to all!

*Mr. Barreca*

## **OFFICE NEWS**

**PRE-KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION DATES HAVE BEEN CHANGED....** Pre-K registration for the 2004-2005 school year has been changed. **It begins today, Monday, January 5, but will now end on Monday, January 12 instead of Friday, January 16.** If you are interested in enrolling your child in Pre-K, please call the school office to pick up a registration packet or have one sent home with an older sibling. **You must have your registration packet, with the registration fee, to the school office by Monday, January 12 to secure a spot.** Due to the large number of children on our wait list there will be no letter to remind you that we have not received your registration packet. We will begin to take registration **for new families on Tuesday, January 13.** If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Robin Kern, at the school office, 781-4995. Thank you.

- All-school play clothes giving day: January 27
- **Box Top play clothes dates:**  

Kindergarten: January 20	
1 <sup>st</sup> grade: January 13	5 <sup>th</sup> grade: January 23
2 <sup>nd</sup> grade: January 20	6 <sup>th</sup> grade: January 23
3 <sup>rd</sup> grade: January 16	7 <sup>th</sup> grade: January 9
4 <sup>th</sup> grade: January 9	8 <sup>th</sup> grade: January 9
- **Thursdays Hot Lunch Menu:**  
 January 8- Taco Boats and 2 cookies  
 January 15- Toasted Ravioli (5), sauce for dipping, carrot sticks (3) w/ranch, brownie  
 January 22- Mozzarella Sticks (4), sauce for dipping, salad w/ranch, Italian bread, 2 cookies  
 January 29- Chicken Tenders (2), chips, carrot sticks (3) w/ranch, brownie

Hot Lunch reminder: Orders will not be accepted after the due date unless a child is absent the day the order form is due. Any orders turned in late to the school office will be returned.

- **January Field Trips:**  

<u>Date</u>	<u>Grade(s)</u>	<u>Place/Event</u>
January 15, 12:30 p.m.	7 & 8	<i>St. Louis Family Theatre/"Freedom Bound"</i>
January 22, 10:00 a.m.	Kindergarten	<i>St. Louis Family Theatre/"Snow Queen"</i>
January 23, 2:00 p.m.	3	<i>St. Louis Science Center/"Shakelford" film</i>
January 30, 9:30 a.m.	K-8	<i>School Hall/Carol Kaminsky, storyteller</i>

**Thank you to all of you who sent in Band-Aids, q-tips, Dixie cups, Baggies, and ketchup packets!! Except for ketchup packets (we will always need more of these) we are fully stocked for the school year. Your help and consideration are greatly appreciated!**

---

## **I HAVE READ THE JANUARY NEWSLETTER**

FAMILY NAME (please print)\_\_\_\_\_

PARENT SIGNATURE\_\_\_\_\_