



# Little Flower School

## Newsletter

### October 2003

#### **From the desk of Mrs. Marino:**

Dear Parents,

We have two important meetings planned. The first is the **Human Sexuality Parent Meeting** in the school hall on Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-8:30PM. I strongly urge all parents to attend and most especially, those of you with junior high age children. I think you will find the information extremely eye opening. I cannot think of a more important hour and a half to take out of your busy lives for your children's health and safety. Mr. Tom Lemp will be the facilitator. We will be showing a powerful video entitled "Sex has a Price Tag". We will have time for questions and discussion. Many of you have already RSVP'd on the flyer sent home a couple weeks ago. If you did not and are planning on attending, please complete the portion at the end of this newsletter and send it in so we can plan on sufficient seating and refreshments.

Many of you responded about the **Odd Girls Out book club**. On the responses, it was about half-and-half for Thursday and Friday. Unfortunately, when I sent out the first flyer, I forgot that my husband and I have tickets to The Lion King for Friday evening. Therefore, there will be a get-together on **Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>** for anyone who can make it and then another on **Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup>** for the rest. I hope those of you who indicated you could be here on Friday the 10<sup>th</sup> can make Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup> instead. If you have not yet responded but would like to participate, please send in the response portion at the end of this newsletter. I am looking forward to doing this, and am so pleased with the number of you who are going to be participating!

I am pleased to tell you that **Devin Wieprecht's** pathology report has come back "benign". She has a lot of healing to do, and it will not be clear for a few months whether there has been any nerve damage from the surgery. She will need ongoing evaluation. Thank you for your generosity to the Wieprecht family both financially and in prayer.

We had a wonderful three days at the **Leadership Camp** with the eighth graders. Mrs. Purschke, Mr. Clark, and I felt the trip was very successful...and fun! We had great weather. One of the activities that were new this year was the Underground Railroad. The class was told about the slave trade, packed in a very small space (to simulate the boat trip from Africa) and then lined up and sold to slave owners (Mrs. Purschke and I.) Mrs. Purschke and I then switched roles to become "conductors" who helped slaves reach freedom in Canada. The students walked in single file line and pretended to be hidden by various materials in a wagon. Whenever the wagon was approached by someone (friend or foe, we were not sure) they had to squat down and remain perfectly still and silent. We conductors were then questioned and had to create stories so that we could safely

*(Cont'd on page 2)*

continue our journey. When we safely reached Canada, the groups gathered with the lead counselor and discussed the experience. He did a great job of explaining how we often separate ourselves from others for shallow or use our power in a negative way, just as slave sellers and owners had done. It really reinforced our anti-bullying program. All the eighth graders agreed it was a very interesting and meaningful activity.

Please talk with your child (especially the younger ones) about what you expect them to eat in their lunches before they can purchase an ice cream. I do not believe in forcing children to eat, but I know that many are eating only their sandwich and then wanting to buy ice cream. They leave behind chips, vegetables, and fruit. Help them to understand what you want them to eat and then pack accordingly on days they buy ice cream. Thanks.

Hope to see you all on the 13<sup>th</sup> at the Sexuality Meeting. God bless you. Enjoy the fall weather.

*Mrs. Marino*

### **Pre Kindergarten**

The Pre-K classes enjoyed celebrating Johnny Appleseed's birthday by making a special apple treat for snack. A BIG thank you to Bea Pollard, Ann McDevitt, and Jim Rintoul for helping out on cooking day. Snacks for the month of October are due by next Monday, October 6. The monthly faculty meeting is Friday, October 24. The PM class attends from 8-11:15.

*Mrs. Amy Mechler*

### **Kindergarten**

Almost everyone knows how to tie their shoes and recite their addresses! The class is now writing their names using capital and lower case letters. They are using their senses in centers. Special thanks to Mrs. Huber and Mrs. Kiefer and Mrs. Bax for helping the children make their unique faces and to Ms. Coates for walking with the class to the library. Also, thanks to Missy Kern and Jenny Williams for their help.

Box Top dress down day is October 23. Please sign the magazine subscription forms and return ASAP.

*Mrs. Mary Collins*

### **Grade One**

The first graders will begin attending the weekly 8:15 a.m. school Mass on Thursday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>. They will have a special part in the entrance procession. Please join them for this celebration; it will be angelic.

The children will start "nightly reading" on Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. This consistent activity will help build their sight word vocabulary and establish good study habits. More information will come home in the class newsletter.

October book orders will be sent home this week. Please return by October 6. Please send checks made out to each book company, no cash. Box Tops play clothes day will be on Tuesday, October 21.

*Mrs. Sue Renz*

### **Grade 2**

We are continuing to review. Please work on Math Facts, especially subtraction through 20. Also, continue to read 15 minutes every night. We will begin preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation in a few weeks. There will be a meeting for parents on Tuesday, October 7, at 7:00 PM, in the Music room. At least one parent should be present.

October 3 --- NO SCHOOL

October 8 --- Parent Reconciliation meeting

October 16--- Mass honoring Mothers and Grandmothers prepared by the second grade class

October 18--- Reconciliation Enrollment Mass--- 5:00PM Mass

October 21--- Play clothes day for Box Tops

October 28--- M D A Playclothes Day

October 31--- Halloween Party

*Mrs. Megan Spies*

### **Grade Three**

Standardized testing is now behind us, and we are ready to work hard at being Third Graders. This month, the students will be working on two important reports, the Patron Saint report and the first book report. In fact, included in the book report information is a list of the year's book reports and the due dates.

On October 30, we celebrate our saints' mass. Remember, the Third Graders are dressing as their patron saints for the Mass. Please mark your calendars. In Math, we will be working on problem solving skills. Each student should bring in a clean egg carton (dozen size) and 50 buttons. The students will make their own mancala game.

Please look for the Third Grade Highlights in the Monday folder. Remember to check and sign the assignment notebook every night. Box Tops play clothes day will be on Friday, October 24.

*Mrs. Elaine Kientzle*

### **Grade Four**

The 4<sup>th</sup> grade is looking forward to their 4-week art program at S.L.A.M. The class dates are Oct. 23, 30, Nov 6 and 13 from 12:30 – 2:30. We will be able to have 3 chaperones each date and more parent drivers. A sign up list will go home with your child today.

After we wrap up this reading unit we will begin reading as a class the book Hundred Dresses by Eleanor Estes. This wonderful story is about a poor girl, Wanda, who is picked on and bullied by her classmates. It will be the focus of many class discussions and activities. We will also examine many Scripture passages that give advice and wisdom about how to use our gifts and talents and to value our own self-image

Our class masses for the year are on Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>, March 19<sup>th</sup>, and April 22<sup>nd</sup>. October 2<sup>nd</sup> is the feast of the Guardian Angels and will be full of special activities centered on this theme. Then on March 19<sup>th</sup> we will host the St. Joseph's Day Mass for all fathers and grandfathers. We are very excited about these liturgies. Please join us and show your support and commitment to our faith. Our 4<sup>th</sup> grade Box Tops play clothes day will be Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>.

*Mrs. Christine Wright*

### **Grade Five**

As October begins, the fifth grade students will study the sacraments, signs of God's life and love. In English they have started their investigation of pronouns and will follow that by studying paragraph writing. They are adding and subtracting whole numbers and decimals in math. The history part of social studies has begun, and the students are finding out how our land was settled by natives from Asia. In science, they are studying plant and animal life including heredity. Play clothes day for Box Tops will be October 17.

*Sr. Jane Schaper*

### **Grade Six**

What a great start to the new school year! The sixth grade students have completed their standardized testing, working very hard to do so. I think they have done a great job in adjusting to the departmentalized schedule. They are using their homework board and the testing board in the hallway to plan their study time. Encourage them to keep up the great work.

During the month of October, the students will continue their study of the Old Testament, focusing on the second creation story, Cain and Abel, and Noah. In Math class, the students will be working on division of whole numbers and decimals. They will also begin their chapter on using data and statistics. The sixth grade students will be studying earthquakes and volcanoes in Science class.

October 9<sup>th</sup> is the Liturgy the sixth grade is planning and participating in; please plan on joining them at Mass. October 31<sup>st</sup> is the day for upper grade service projects. This is a Friday afternoon this year and we will need drivers to and from the designated places for them to go. More information will be sent home shortly, but please check your calendars to see if you would be available to drive and stay as a chaperone. October Box Top play clothes day is October 10<sup>th</sup>.

*Mrs. Rose Duncan*

## Grade Seven

In religion classes the 7<sup>th</sup> grade is continuing to study the life, values, and teachings of Jesus and is being challenged to live a Christian lifestyle. One activity this month was to view the film Romero. This film documents the struggles for political freedom in Central America and more importantly the inner struggle of Archbishop Oscar Romero as he fought to know what Jesus was asking him to do with his life. Students were able to appreciate the difficulties of making good, moral decisions and the importance of prayer in their lives. In social studies, they have completed the first two introductory chapters. They have begun their study of Canada. This, like all chapters to follow, presents the physical geography including major landforms, the climate, and resources of the region. They also will study the cultural geography, including the major groups of people, languages, religions, government and economy.

On September 19, while the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class was at leadership camp, the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade classes had an afternoon on News Bowl Trivia. They challenged themselves to recall the week's news while enjoying popcorn and soda. Thanks to those 7<sup>th</sup> graders who contributed the snacks. October play clothes day for Box Tops will be Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup>.

*Sr. Janet Vietor*

## Grade Eight

This past month was a very busy and important one for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade as they prepared to take on the leadership role for the rest of the school. Our Leadership Mass was a great way to begin this journey! The students have fulfilled many leadership roles already through patrol duty, helping with special lunches and ice cream, and babysitting or working at parish and school events in the evenings and on weekends. Leadership Camp provided them with wonderful opportunities to work together and experience the gifts and talents of others as well as their own. I really enjoyed getting to know the students and their many strengths during those three days! Their spotlights were well done (and can be seen in the halls) and students will begin presenting their personal narrative speeches the first week of October.

We met our Box Top goal for September (thank you!) and only need 30 more for October. The Box Top play clothes day will be Oct. 17. High School Night, Oct. 6; High School Open House, Nov. 2.

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade English & Literature:** Students worked hard on their personal narrative writing and we will have our first noun test soon. We have begun a Native American literature unit and they will write original legends. As part of this, students are reading *Walk Two Moons* and learning to respond in writing to what they read. Native American book projects are due Oct. 8 (rough draft due Oct. 2; guidelines were given out and explained).

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade English & Literature:** "Summer Shoes" writing projects have been graded and returned; some very creative and marketable shoes! These will be put into their writing folders. We are reading *Island of the Blue Dolphins* and keeping a reader's response journal. Newbery book projects are due Oct. 10 (rough draft due Oct. 6; guideline rubrics were given out and explained).

**For further information, log on: [www.expage.com/mrspurschke](http://www.expage.com/mrspurschke)**

*Mrs. Purschke*

## Computer

Kindergarteners are becoming familiar with using the mouse to get into a program on the computer. They are currently working their way through the Baileys Book House and the Sammy Science Programs.

Grades 1-4 students are doing quite well learning the Kidspiration program in organizing information as well as creating stories. They are also learning the formatting tools on the various screens.

Fifth, Sixth and Seventh graders are doing well with their keyboarding and I am impressed with the speed that some of my six graders are attaining.

Please remember that students must always have a good posture when using the computer for keyboarding as well as other activities. A good site to view with your students is <http://www.cbs.state.or.us/external/osh/cergos/whatodo.html> Students can also use the Internet to practice keyboarding at <http://www.typingpal.com/Exercises/> and the older students can test their typing speed at <http://blackdog4kids.com/games/word/typing.html>

*Jacqueline Campbell-Lawrence*

## LFPE

We have just ended our soccer unit with K- 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The students have shown great interest in learning basic soccer techniques that they practiced in games and relays, since the beginning of school. The younger classes did exceptionally well and hopefully it will be reflected on the field. We will continue to get great exercise by playing team games for a few weeks, then into the volleyball unit, and finish out the year with all kinds of basketball games.

\*\*To the Coaches and Little Flower Soccer Players: GOOD LUCK this season!

*Mrs. Kathi Saeger*

## Music Pre-K through 4<sup>th</sup> Grades

We have been busy reviewing our music theory terms through papers, games, etc. (each child has a theory study guide which he/she should be reviewing at home). Fourth grade has already had a test, and the majority did very well on it. If a child gets below an A on a test, he/she needs to make the corrections and turn it back in so that I am sure that he/she is reviewing to understand the material better. Once a child gets two 100%'s on TESTS, then he/she does not have to take any more for the rest of the year. Each test reviews the same material, just in different formats. Second and Third Grades have tests coming up the beginning of October.

Every class enjoyed music outdoors today, which was a wonderful change for everyone. The weather was beautiful, and we were able to play our music baseball game with extra room to truly RUN the bases. They had a lot of fun, and it was great for them to get out since this was one of their standardized testing days.

The recorders are in, so they will be distributed to the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes. Each class will spend at least one day on them now; but third grade will concentrate on them 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. Many third graders are struggling with their theory; and until they understand these concepts, it is hard to learn the recorder. Shortly into October, the younger classes will be learning several songs for Halloween. I hope that your child will share some of these with you. ENJOY this glorious time of the year!!

*Mrs. Lisa Vonder Haar*

## Music 5-8

Students in grades 5-8 music are working hard!

8<sup>th</sup> grade are continuing the discussion of the different musical styles – like reggae, calypso, African, Japanese, and a more in-depth look at Western Music (music from Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and 20<sup>th</sup> century eras.)

7<sup>th</sup> grade continues to look at popular music, examining some examples of musical theater, and unity and variety with musical compositions. In addition, we are studying form in music – how it is put together with themes and sections. We will hopefully begin the Music Ace computer program in a few weeks!

6<sup>th</sup> grade continues to study different kinds of musical groups and ensembles – the basic forms of music, like verse-refrain, ABA form, march form, and others. We also are doing non-pitched and pitched instrument play-a-longs to keep developing music-reading ability.

5<sup>th</sup> grade continues to study various concepts on melody, rhythm – figuring out what goes up, and what comes down! Also, we are learning about African-American spirituals and music of Africa. These involve the study, too, of the first three notes of the musical scale. We will begin the Music Ace computer program hopefully in a few weeks! **5<sup>th</sup> grade parents please remember to sign and return the acknowledgement portion of the music classrooms expectations that I sent home at the beginning of the year!** THANKS!

All students continue to work on their ability to read music at sight – (i.e. sight-reading) through mostly singing and some playing of simple instruments. We keep working on this!

The Little Flower Choristers (Children's Choir) holds its first rehearsal on Wednesday, Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>. Thank you to all the kids who have tried out! It should be a very exciting year!

*Mr. Barreca*

*Please join us for our October*

**LADIES CLUB MEETING**

*When: Monday, October 6th*

*Time & Location: 7:00 pm - Pray the rosary in the church*

*7:15 - Welcome - in the School Hall*

*7:30 pm - Meeting*

*Our October guest speaker is Mr. David Morris. We are honored to have Mr. Morris with us this month; David has his degree in Microbiology and has served in the food and wine industry for more than 10 years. He currently works for a wine import company called Paterno Wines International. They have more than 44 wineries from 8 countries and own 4 wineries in California.*

*Mr. Morris will be introducing us to the world of wines, giving everyone a chance to sample several types of wines of various flavors and uniqueness. We will learn about their origin, how to select wines for individual meals, search for aromas, etc. If you like wines and would like to learn more about them, this is a meeting you will not want to miss.*

*We will also be hand painting wine glasses!! Do not forget; free babysitting by our 8<sup>th</sup> graders, and as always, lots of socializing and fun. Please bring a friend; everyone is welcome!!!!*

# **I HAVE READ THE OCTOBER NEWSLETTER**

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

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

## **HUMAN SEXUALITY PARENT MEETING**

I/we will be attending the parent meeting on October 13:    Yes     No     \_\_\_\_\_ number attending

## **ODD GIRLS OUT BOOK CLUB**

I will be attending the book club on:    Thursday, October 9     Friday, October 17