



LITTLE FLOWER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER February 2005

From the desk of Mrs. Marino:

Dear Parents,

I would like to begin with an overdue thank you to **Frank Payne** for his generous donation of the gate between the playground and the sidewalk leading to the school's front door. If you remember, there was a piece of white lattice leaning against the fence for quite a long time. Mr. Payne took the initiative to get measurements and order the gate, which certainly looks considerably more attractive!

February's Play Clothes Giving Day is February 8th. The donations will go to the Ronald McDonald House. This organization provides housing for families of children undergoing inpatient treatment, usually for various forms of cancer. In addition, there will be containers out for the month for Our Lady's Inn Penny Cup Challenge. Our Lady's Inn provides care for expectant mothers.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the tsunami victims' collection. Little Flower was the collection center for the schools in our region. These schools dropped their donations off at our school at the end of January. On February 3rd (at 10:15AM as of this time), Archbishop Burke will be at Little Flower to receive all the collected moneys on behalf of the Catholic Relief Services.

If you are in need of a tutor, give me a call. I can provide you with the names of individuals.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Blake Tivoli and Will Tipton**, the two winners of the Knights of Columbus poster contest. Each will receive a \$50 savings bond.

Catholic Schools Week begins Monday, January 31 and goes through Friday, February 4. The theme for this week is "Faith in Every Student." On Monday, our students in grades 5-8 will attend Mass at St. Luke's along with the students from St. James the Greater. Mass begins at 1PM. Thanks to those who have agreed to drive.

Each day during Catholic Schools Week each class will be studying a different country using materials we purchased from the Columbian Missions. We will again have our Mission Raffle each day. THANKS to all the parents who so generously donated prizes for the raffle. The money collected will be used to continue our adoption of Sandra from Honduras through Children International. We will also make donations throughout the year to other organizations in need of help. We attempt to provide both a local and global view of need to all our students.

Tuesday, February 1 is Teacher Appreciation Day. A special luncheon will be held in their honor from noon-1PM that day. Thanks to everyone for your donations to the teachers' gift and also to those who have volunteered to cover the classrooms so that all teachers can attend the luncheon together.

Wednesday is our Positive Action Assembly. Students will eat in the classrooms from noon-12:20 PM and all will then go to the school hall to play Bingo with their "families."

Thursday is Parent Appreciation Day. I can't tell you what we have planned, but try to bring your child to school in the morning. There will be a little surprise for you. There is no all-school Mass scheduled for that day, but there will be a Healing Prayer Service at 2:30PM in church. Please join us!

Friday is Student Appreciation Day. Students may wear play clothes that day and there are some surprises planned for them.

Your support of Little Flower makes it a joy to celebrate Catholic Schools Week. The entire community of parents, students, teachers, staff and parishioners, along with our pastoral team make Little Flower a place to truly celebrate! Happy February.

Mrs. Marino

PRE-KINDERGARTEN

The Pre-K has been busy learning about the season of winter. Some of our learning experiences related to winter include painting snowmen, enjoying stories about the winter, and learning about animals that hibernate.

Show-n-Tell for February will be Thursday, February 3 and Friday, February 4. The monthly faculty meeting is Friday, February 25. The PM class attends from 8-11:15. A BIG **WELCOME** to our new Pre-K friend, **Megan Kirby** and her family. Megan is in the 4yr. old PM class.

Mrs. Amy Mechler

KINDERGARTEN

The children are looking forward to listening to the guest readers in February. Anyone is welcome to visit and read a book to the class during "We Love to Read" month. Contact me for a time and date. The class will also be celebrating the 100th day of school in the first week of February! Extra practice in counting money is beneficial. Keep reading for the Six Flags Six Hours program! The Box Top Dress Down Day is Feb.24.

Mrs. Mary Collins

GRADE ONE

The children have done extremely well during their first month of homework. Thank you, parents, for your dedication to your children. Remember, the nightly reading is still very important, as well as learning the reading words, reviewing all papers that come home, and learning addition facts. Please check the assignment sheet in their folder to help them complete their work. Good homework habits start early! The first graders made cheery snowmen cards for the shut-ins. They are always very enthusiastic about making decorations for SSM Rehab and making cards for the shut-ins.

If your child is participating in the Six Flags Six Hour Reading Club Program, don't forget the deadline for turning in the signed and totaled forms is February 14. This is optional. Please feel free to use minutes from "nightly reading".

Book orders are due on Friday, February 11. Valentine Party, Monday, February 14. Box Tops Play Clothes Day will be on Tuesday, February 22.

Mrs. Sue Renz

GRADE TWO

Welcome to the month of February. We are learning how to borrow, so please practice those subtraction facts. The children are doing a good job with cursive. We will be starting to prepare for First Communion. When going to Mass, please sit so that you can see the back of the altar to see what Father does. I will see you at the meeting on February 2. Be sure to bring signed Valentines to school on February 14.

Tuesday, February 2 ---- First Communion Parent Meeting--- 7:00pm--- Music Room

Sunday, February 6 ---- Enrollment for First Communion --- 10:30 am Mass

Tuesday, February 8--- Play clothes for \$.50

Wednesday, February 9---- Ash Wednesday --- Mass at 8:15am

Monday, February 14--- Valentine's Day--- classroom parties at 2:00pm---Red and White Day

Wednesday, February 16--- Progress Reports

Monday, February 21--- President's Day --- NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, February 22--- Play clothes for Box Tops

Friday, February 25--- Faculty Meeting--- Noon dismissal--- SHOW AND TELL

Mrs. Megan Spies

GRADE THREE

Remember that the How-To Reports are due Feb. 8-11. Check with your child as to when his/her report is due. From February through May, the Third Grade will memorize the states and capitals. Using blank U.S. maps, the students will locate the 50 states. Each student will work independently at his/her own pace. Beginning Monday, February 28, the students will be tested every Monday morning. They may take the test as many times as needed. After locating all the 50 states successfully, the students will identify the state capitals. Again, each student will work at his/her own pace. The students work on these skills at home. Quiz them for at least 5 minutes daily. There is a generous supply of blank maps at school, or you may copy them yourself. In Science, we will grow our own germs. You should drill multiplication math facts (0-5's) with your child now. The Handwriting book will be completed soon. When we do completely finish the book, the students will write their assignments in cursive. For Valentine's Day, please have your son/daughter exchange valentines with each of the students in the class. There are twenty-one students in the Third Grade. Third Grade's Box Top Dress Down Day is Friday, February 25. Remember to play a game every month. As always, check and sign the assignment notebook daily. **MATH FACTS, MATH FACTS, MATH FACTS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Mrs. Elaine Kientzle

GRADE FOUR

Thank you to the many students who brought in money for the Tsunami victims. Our class raised over \$50.00. This is such a generous class!

In January, our class made bird feeder ornaments for the butterfly garden. We used bagels and pretzels for the base; added cornmeal mixed with shortening for the "glue," and topped them with birdseed and dried fruit. If you have time, please stop by the garden and take a look at them. The students did a great job.

The fourth grade has really taken an interest in Martin Luther King, Jr. During the week of his birthday, the students asked many thought-provoking questions as we learned more about the Civil Rights Movement and wrote thank-you letters to Dr. King. Please check with your child to make sure he or she has enough supplies at school. Many students are running out of glue sticks and erasers. Thanks for your help.

Play Clothes Day for Box Tops will be Friday, February 18.

Mrs. Julie Saeger

GRADE FIVE

The fifth grade students are studying verbs in English. They will soon be able to conjugate regular and irregular verbs in present, past, and future tenses. They are also preparing a choral speaking performance for their visit with the residents of Richmond Terrace on Valentine's Day.

In math they have started the geometry chapter and will soon be using their protractors and compasses for activities in both math and art. After finishing geometry, they will begin multiplying and dividing decimals.

In science the students are investigating electrical energy. They will first discuss and experience static electricity. Then they will study current electricity and review the many uses of this energy in our world.

Play Clothes Day for Box Tops will be on Friday, February 18.

Sister Jane Schaper

GRADE SIX

In Religion, the class will be beginning their 4th unit, which focuses on the prophets of Israel both before and after the Exile. During Catholic Schools Week we will be studying the country of the Philippines to see how children their age live. In Math class, the students will be finishing their chapter on measurement and then beginning chapter 8 on ratios, proportions, and probability. We have started the FAST I textbooks in Science and have already finished two labs dealing with the concept of buoyancy. As always, the students really enjoy the hands-on approach and of course the use of the Alpha Smarts in typing their labs.

The students, Sr. Janet, and I are looking forward to the Bishop DuBourg math contest on Saturday, February 5th. Thank you for the overwhelming response to carpool the students to the contest. As always, we wouldn't be able to do these wonderful things without your help. THANK YOU!! February Box Top Play Clothes is Friday, February 18th.

Mrs. Rose Duncan

GRADE SEVEN

In social studies class the seventh grade is studying the cultures and geography of Europe. In religion class the seventh grade continues to learn what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. The sixth grade continues their studies of ancient cultures by studying the early African civilizations of Ghana, Mali, Songhai, Aksum, and Zimbabwe. Eighth grade history classes leave the ruins of the Civil War and the trials of Reconstruction to the reshaping of the nation in the settlement of the west and growth of industries and cities.

February 14th is the date for the next service project. We will need drivers to accompany students in the afternoon. Please consider volunteering to drive, and send a note to school. If I can have a commitment from a number of drivers before the permission slips are sent home, it helps in organizing the projects. The Play Clothes Day for Box Tops will be Friday, February 18th.

The 12th annual News Bowl State and National Contest will be held in March. The contest is a 50-question multiple-choice test that assesses student knowledge of the news over the first 59 days of each year. Each grade level is a separate contest division. More details will be in the March Newsletter. Just remember to make watching, reading, and discussing the news part of your child's education.

Sr. Janet Vietor

GRADE EIGHT

Catholic Schools Week, Eighth Grade Mass on Ash Wednesday, Valentine's Service Project, Confirmation preparation! We are a busy bunch! Thanks to all who drove us to bowling and thanks to **Kathi Saeger** for planning the fun day! High School acceptance letters are scheduled to be mailed on Friday, February 4th. Don't forget the Confirmation Enrollment Mass on Saturday, February 5th at 5:00p.m. and the Candidate and Sponsor meeting on Wednesday, February 23rd at 7:00p.m. The Eighth Grade Retreat has been scheduled for Tuesday, April 5th; it will be an all day retreat at the Paul VI Pontifical Institute on Morganford. The Play Clothes Day for Box Tops will be Friday, February 18th. Thanks for all of your support throughout this school year! It's been fun!

Mrs. Margaret Lucier

COMPUTER NEWS

Students are currently working on a variety of Valentine activities, scavenger hunts and word searches.

Kindergarteners are using the Three-Letter Carnival in Bailey's Book House to associate pictures with printed words and to spell and sound out words.

1st graders have started using Kidspiration to categorize ideas using the Super Grouper tool.

2nd graders are using Kidspiration to work with ideas in the Writing View tool. They are also using Math Baseball to work on problems with addition.

3rd graders are learning about the parts of the computer and the function of the keys on the keyboard.

4th grade is learning about some external storage devices such as floppy disks, zip disks and (CD-R) compact disk recordable.

The upper grade students continue to learn keyboarding and advanced word processing. The 8th graders are also leaning the basics of a spreadsheet.

Jacqueline Campbell-Lawrence

LFPE

Thank you from the 6th, 7th and 8th graders to all the parents that provided transportation to the Bowling Alley last month. Your time is very much appreciated!! Ages 10-14 competed in the Knights of Columbus Annual Free Throw Championship during our PE classes. Total of participation was 61 students, grades 4-8. The following students made it to the finals:

	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>
AGE 10	CHRIS SCOLES	MEGAN BEAN
AGE 11	MARK GOULD	ANNIE STOREY
AGE 12	RYAN BURKE	MARY ELLEN POWERS
AGE 13	CHRIS MORAN	MICHELLE GUENTHER
AGE 14	ROBBY CONNELLY	CATHERINE GOULD

The top shooter will advance to the National Competition. The results are not final at this time... Good luck, boys and girls!

I will be going to a PE workshop this month and hopefully with our equipment and weather permitting, we will have some new games to play. "Jump Rope for Appalachia" training begins later in February for the March 23rd activity outside. Stay warm!!

Mrs K. Saeger



LEARNING CENTER

Six Flags 600 Minutes Reminder for students in K-6: The deadline is approaching... February 14, 2005! Get your Six Flags Six Hour Club forms in to your homeroom teacher by the deadline to be eligible for a free admission ticket to participating Six Flags. Tickets will arrive by the end of April and can be used from June 27-August 7, 2005. Each form needs a parent's signature to be valid.

Mrs. Janet Mohler & Mrs. Pat Bubash

PRE-K THROUGH 4TH GRADE MUSIC

The fourth grade is beginning work on their rain sticks. A note was sent home explaining what is required, as well as a request for parent volunteers to help with the paper mache and painting of them. Hopefully I will get enough volunteers to make this project work! The end result is always awesome!

The rest of the classes continue to work on learning and feeling rhythm, going over theory terms that we use in the games we play (please review these terms with your child if he/she tends to have problems with them), and learning new songs. The 2nd to 4th grades will be having a test after Catholic School's Week.

Mrs. Lisa Vonder Haar

MUSIC 5-8

8th grade has begun work on the Spring musical, "Use Your Imagination". **Tod Mueller**, director of the Little Flower Theater group, will again be head director of the performance. Many thanks to Tod for his hours of work and dedication! Also, the 8th grade will be preparing for the Elementary Song Festival in March which this year will include both grades 7 and 8.

7th grade is learning currently about popular music and folk music, including how the two styles are often mixed. We also had a lesson on the guitar and some students brought in guitars, helping us learn about the basic components of playing. The 7th grade will be preparing for the Elementary Song Festival in March.

6th grade has been learning about the various keyboard instruments: how they're played, their construction, and their repertoire and uses. We even took a field trip to the church to look at the pipe organ and the organ chamber. We will be using the musical "Boomwhackers" as the year goes on.

5th grade has been learning about the basics of the diatonic and major scales through exposure to the different musical styles. We had a lesson on percussion instruments and focused on the timpani (kettledrums) and learned how they are played.

All students' grades 5-7 will begin work on the music for the Spring Musical "Use Your Imagination", with performances on Thursday, May 12 at 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM. ***A reminder that all students in grades 5-8 must be in attendance and participate in both these performances to receive a passing grade in music class for the fourth quarter.*** Also, as stated above, the 7th and 8th graders will be participating in the Elementary Song Festival on Thursday, March 17, 2005. The Festival begins at 1:00 PM and ends at 2:15 PM at Assumption School in South County. ***The Catholic Education Office has stated that no picture taking or video recording is allowed during the festival. Pictures opportunities will be available during music classes on Tuesday, March 15. Also, the Education Office asks that parents and family stay for the entire performance period, out of respect for other schools performing.***

Mr. Barreca

pbarreca@little-flower-parish.org

314-781-4995 ext 36



THE BUTTERFLY GARDEN

Even though it is winter, the butterfly garden is still busy. Mrs. Renz suggested that each class provide food for the birds and place the various handmade feeders/hangers on a recycled Christmas tree. This activity would present a "Christmas" for the birds. Each class is responsible for a certain week to feed the birds. Some of the feeders have been bagels, pretzels, toilet paper rolls, and string. If you have time, please visit the garden to see the birds' Christmas tree. A butterfly garden section in the school library is beginning to form. So far, field books for butterflies and birds, flower books, gardening books, and butterfly videos are located in the section. It is only the beginning.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE FEBRUARY 2005 LADIES CLUB MEETING

WHEN: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2005

Time & Location: 7:00 p.m. – Pray the rosary in the School Hall

7:15 p.m. – Welcome in the School Hall

7:30 p.m. – Meeting begins

Our February meeting promises to be an exciting one!

The Little Flower Theater Group will be presenting a scene from their upcoming play, "Our Town."

Pot-of-Gold, attendance prizes, refreshments, baby-sitting, fun and laughter for all who attend!
Invite a friend!

Please note that beginning this month we will begin
praying the rosary in the school hall instead of in the church.

Also, the date for our Progressive Dinner has changed.

Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 2nd.

Invitations will be coming soon.

Please call Amy Shumate at 781-9089 if you'd like to volunteer to host a cocktail party or dinner.

E u c h a r i s t i c A d o r a t i o n

Little Flower offers opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration on Fridays. If you would be interested, please take a few moments, perhaps before you pick up your child at dismissal, to spend some time in the chapel. If you do, please sign in so Mary Janet Kinsella, coordinator of Eucharistic Adoration can see that the times have been covered. Thanks.

OFFICE NEWS

- We would like to welcome two new families to Little Flower School. Derrick, Angela, and Megan Kirby. Megan is in the pre-four p.m. program. Also, John, Shannon, and Anna Sadlo. Anna is in the pre-three a.m. program. **WELCOME!**
- Please add the following to your buzz book:
Derrick and Angela Kirby
1507 Bellevue
St. Louis, MO 63117
645-8325
John and Shannon Sadlo
6641 Pershing
University City, MO
- All school play clothes giving day: February 8 for the Ronald McDonald House
- Box Top play clothes dates: Kindergarten: February 24
1st grade: February 22 5th grade: February 18
2nd grade: February 22 6th grade: February 18
3rd grade: February 25 7th grade: February 18
4th grade: February 18 8th grade: February 18
- **Lenten Pizza:** February 9, February 11, February 18, February 25, March 4, March 11, and March 18
- **Thursdays Hot Lunch Menu:**
February 3 - Toasted Ravioli (5), spaghetti sauce for dipping, carrot sticks w/ranch, dessert
February 10 - Pasta w/spaghetti sauce, salad w/ranch, Italian bread, dessert
February 17 – Hamburger, Chips, Celery sticks (3) w/ranch dressing, dessert
February 24 - Chicken Tenders (2), rice, applesauce, and dessert
- We have extra yearbooks (2003-2004 school year) available for sale. If you would like to purchase one, please contact the school office, 781-4995 ext. 21. The cost is \$12.00.
- **REGISTRATION UPDATE:**
 - In-school registration for the 2005-2006 school year begins March 1st and ends March 7.
 - Registration opens to new families beginning March 15.
 - Registration packets will go home with the oldest child in each grade February 28.
 - If you have a child in the pre-k three-year-old program you may come to the office on February 28 to pick up a registration packet. Registration will not be accepted until March 1.
 - Registration packets are dated as the school office receives them.
 - If you have any questions contact Mrs. Robin Kern, 781-4995 ext. 21.

I HAVE READ THE FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

FAMILY NAME (please print) _____

PARENT SIGNATURE _____

Little Flower Weekend at Holiday Inn by Six Flags

(Ramada Inn)

February 25 and 26

Rooms \$50 each

Come for one night or both nights

Call Bill Dauer for Reservations at 855-5500

Or

Mary Sullivan at 645-0202

Or

Joanne Shelton at 647-5807

FINANCIAL AID FOR THE 2005-2006 SCHOOL YEAR

Applications for the Archdiocesan Grant in Aid program are available in the school office. **The deadline is April 1, 2005.** This application is required for those seeking aid from the Archdiocese **and** Little Flower. You can stop by the office or send a note to school and a form will be sent home with your child.

SUMMER BOWLING

This summer I will not be able to organize the Summer Bowling League. If anyone is interested in running this program please contact Joan Provaznik at 645-2479. The job consists of sending out sign-up sheets, organizing teams and collecting money and turning it in to the bowling alley. The alley takes care of all the scorekeeping, averages and trophies.



**Attention!
Got Ice Cream?**



Don't know what to bring in for your birthday treat?

Well, guess what?

The eighth graders are offering a great deal!

You can buy ice cream for you and your class!

Just call in advance to place the order!

For any questions or more information,
contact our class president - Amanda Tivoli.

Home phone: 314-644-2772

Email: princesstivoli@msn.com



GIRL SCOUT TUTORING

Tutoring will be available for students grades Kindergarten to Eighth on Tuesday, February 8 from 3:10 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. Please contact Brittany Ponzer at 644-0791. Please consider taking advantage of this wonderful program. We are very lucky to have such dedicated students/scouts that are eager to volunteer their time and talents to our school.

