



Saint Gabriel Pawprints

Consolidated School

From Mr. Epplen, SGCS Principal

One day recently I shared a new prayer with the school during our morning prayer that contains these words in the last line "and let us never forget that our job is to serve both You and others."

In essence this value is what we try to instill in our young people both as we teach and in participating in opportunities that demonstrate our willingness as a school and faith community to serve God and others.

We know that many of our efforts piggyback on the values that you have instilled at home. We are thankful for the support you give to your children when we help local food

banks, victims of weather disasters, and children in foreign lands. We are thankful for the support you give to your children in sacramental preparation, weekly mass attendance and daily prayer. Most of all we are thankful for the opportunity to be active participants in the growth of your children spiritually and academically.

Please continue to include our staff in your prayers as we continue to serve God and others. We promise to do the same for you.

Have a great Easter break, and we will see you April 16!

PTO President Sees Busy Spring at SGCS

March Madness may be behind us, but the action continues at SGCS! As we head into spring break, volunteers are wrapping up some activities, and others are working on an action-packed spring agenda. Our wonderful volunteers presented "Everybody Counts!" in March, helped our seventh-graders put on a hit play, Bad Hair Day, and oversaw wonderful spring assemblies. When school resumes, preparations begin in earnest for Funfest, a "don't miss" tradition for your entire family! This all-school fun day begins with an outdoor all-school mass followed by a variety of field games organized and played by grade level. Save the date ~ May 18 ~ and look for details in the Thursday envelope in late April. Also, it's hard to believe, but PTO has begun planning for the '07-'08 school year. Please consider getting involved. There is always a need for new friends with new ideas

to help make SGCS even stronger. If you are interested, please contact a board member, or watch for the volunteer sign up forms in your Thursday envelope. Please get involved, we have opportunities if you just have a little time to spare or if you have a lot of time to invest. Maybe a leadership role within the PTO appeals to you! Serving on the PTO board as an officer is a very rewarding experience, and all it takes to be qualified is enthusiasm and a commitment to helping make a difference for the students. If you think that you or someone you know would be a good fit for a PTO officer role for the '07-'08 school year, please consider sending the nomination. We are on the lookout for all good candidates! Hope to see you soon in and around the hallways, baseball fields, auditoriums, and wherever a Saint Gabriel event is happening. Happy Spring!!

Heartfelt Thanks From PTO VP!

Just a note of thanks to all of our hardworking volunteers! As it gets later in the year, sometimes it gets harder to find the time and energy to keep on plugging away, but PTO continues to be impressed by the commitment of so many parents and friends of SGCS. We appreciate your perseverance in all areas! A special thank you this past quarter goes to: Aimee D. and her team of volunteers for a wonderful Catholic Schools Week; Mike and Diane B. for the countless hours of preparation that went into producing the terrific seventh-grade play; Debbie F. for

coordinating the Race for Education; and Maureen K. and Teresa K. for our school-wide Everybody Counts program~ as well as all the parents and friends who presented the programs to our children! Check out our Volunteer Wall of Fame...we ran out of space for bricks because there are so many volunteers~ WOW! What a testament to the families of SGCS! An extra "wall" had to be created to accommodate all of our volunteers! Thanks to all for an awesome job, and let's keep that momentum going through the end of the year!

Timely Check Request Forms Appreciated

I would like to thank all of the Committee Chairs, parents, Teachers and Staff who have helped us with the process of creating an accurate picture of the PTO finances.

This process will help the PTO Board go into the future with better information for annual budgeting than was ever before possible. Spring is a busy time with field trips, Funfest, seventh grade play and ice cream socials, DARE Graduation, Teacher/Staff appreciation luncheon, classroom and education reimbursement, the eighth grade graduation party along with reimbursements

to room parents who have done such a fantastic job hosting parties for our kids this year. As we approach the end of the School year it is important that everyone submit Check Request Forms along with your receipts or invoices to me as soon as possible. The fiscal year for the PTO ends on July 31, however, we would like to know where we stand by the end of the school year so that we can make our donation to the school by the end of June. If you have any questions about the status of any budgeted accounts, please do not hesitate to contact me, Coreen B., at 851-3495 or cenb@one.net.

BIRTHDAY BOOK UPDATE from Maureen B.

Congratulations to the Students of St. Gabriel Consolidated School! They now have another 124 books in their library! That's on top of the 53 books from the first quarter. A total of 177 new books for this school year and we still have another quarter! Thanks to all of the parents and students who have donated a book this year and thanks too to those who will donate in the fourth quarter. It is your generosity that makes SGCS a great place to learn!

Excellence Abounds at SGCS!

WOW! What better testament to the excellent education our children are receiving at SGCS than to read through the abundance of academic accolades accumulated by our eighth grade students. This year, our graduating students have once again kept up the tradition of excellence - 16 of the 38 eighth-grade students have received multiple honors for their excellent performance on the Catholic high school entrance exams.

- ◆ Nick A. has earned a full, one-year scholarship to St. Xavier High School.
- ◆ Five students have earned the honor of being admitted to St. Xavier High School as a St. Francis Xavier Scholar: Nick A., Alex K., Jeffrey M., Adam Y., and Stephen D.
- ◆ Bethany K. and Rebecca B. have both earned a \$5,000 renewable scholarship for 4 years to Mt. Notre Dame High School.
- ◆ Cami J. has earned a \$1,500 renewable scholarship for 4 years to Mt. Notre Dame High School.
- ◆ Five students have been recognized as Julie Billiart Distinguished Honorees by Mt. Notre Dame: Bethany K., Rebecca B., Alexa F., Gabby H. and Sarah B.
- ◆ Rebecca B. has earned a \$1,500 one-year scholarship to Ursuline Academy.
- ◆ Bethany K. has earned a \$500 one-year scholarship to Ursuline Academy.
- ◆ Brianna C. has been awarded a scholarship of \$500 annually from Roger Bacon.
- ◆ Tim S. placed in the Top 40 on Roger Bacon's placement test.
- ◆ Luke A. has received a \$5,000 renewable scholarship to Moeller High School.
- ◆ Seven students have been admitted with Academic Distinction to Moeller High School: Luke A., Nick A., Brenton C., Stephen D., Alex K., Jeffrey M., Carson Scheidler

SGCS Cubs Race, Learn, Help Elderly

Great things have been happening with the Cub Scout Pack. First, we welcomed our new Cubmaster, Ron R., new Assistant Cubmasters, Nancy S. and Cheryl S. & new Pack Secretary, Kara R.. January was busy with the Pinewood Derby. Last year we began a program to expose the Cub Scouts to food from different countries, and "held our race in Italy." This year? Mexico! We were honored to have SGCS Spanish teacher, Mr. Jonathan H., as interpreter for this year's race. Did you know Mr. Harris is an Eagle Scout?! Race winners: Tigers – Timothy N-D; Wolves – RJ R; Bears – David H.; Webelos I – Drew D and Webelos II – Jonathan B. Design awards were given to: Joshua S. for most creative design and Eric Y. for most unique design. On March 17, these Scouts participated in the Maketewa District Pinewood Derby where Timothy N-D came in 3rd place for the Tiger Dens and RJ R. came in 1st place for Wolf Dens.. RJ also came in 2nd overall among all 90 racers. In February we celebrated the anniversary of Cub Scouts with

our Annual Blue and Gold Banquet. This year's CSI theme included guest speaker Officer Dave LeCompte from the Glendale Police Department who spoke about gathering evidence at a crime scene. At our March pack meeting, a science fair, Scouts worked together on various science projects and then gave individual presentations to the Pack. March 31, the Pack participated in a food collection event at the Kroger in Woodlawn. All food items collected from this event were given to our "adopted senior citizens" at Friendship Plaza in Lincoln Heights. On April 20 at 7pm in St. Mary's Hall our Pack Meeting will include a Raingutter Regatta. This Pack Meeting will also be our Spring Recruitment night. Any new Scouts who sign up at the meeting will be eligible to attend the summer camps set up by the Dan Beard Council. If you cannot attend this meeting and are interested in Cub Scouting, please contact any of the Pack 260 Leaders listed on the School Website.

Big News Out Of The Closet!

Psst. Psst! Hey, over here! Know who I am? The PTO closet! You've probably passed by me a hundred times—that big, dark closet across from the cafeteria kitchen door. But did you know I am chock-ful of surplus PTO supplies? Plastic forks and spoons, cups, toothpicks, tablecloths, decorations, coffee service—all here, for your school or classroom events. If you anticipate shopping for a classroom event, just stop by before you buy to see if I have what you need, and if you need it

for a class event, take it! It might save you an extra stop at the store, and will save the PTO money! (PTO sees many duplicate purchases of such items this time of year.) You are certainly not required to "shop the closet," but you are encouraged to use what we have if it makes sense for your school or classroom function. See a PTO board member if you have questions, or need help finding me. Thanks for helping us consolidate! J

Many PTO Fundraisers Continue At SGCS

Since our two biggest fundraisers—CNO and M&M sale—are now in the same fall time slot, PTO fundraising has not received as much spring attention. Remember, we have a couple of fundraisers that are even ongoing throughout the summer! Please visit our school Web site, www.stgabeschool.org and click on PTO then fundraisers for a complete list. Click on Readers Digest QSP, for instance, for subscriptions to your favorite magazines online. Orders benefit SGCS. Your tapped out printer cartridges may be brought in to school in a plastic bag, and left in front of the computer room door, and they will be sent in for recycling-and cash for our school. Boxtops may be clipped, put in a Zip-loc bag, and sent in to the school office where

they will be collected for reimbursement. Same for Campbell's Soup labels and Tyson Project A+ labels found on Tyson Foods products. Mentioned elsewhere in this edition of Pawprints is Scrip, a way for our school to earn anywhere from two to 25 percent on certain purchases you make with gift certificates bought through our school. You've probably heard of Market Day—it is a wonderful program whereby you order delicious, restaurant-quality food and it is delivered to our school for your pickup. A percentage of your purchase is refunded to our school. Target has a great program; so do Kroger and Meijer. See our SGCS Web site for details!

Next PTO Meeting
May 9
7 PM
St Marys Hall

Save The Date! CNO November 10, 2008

Cougars' Night Out is set for Saturday, November 10, 2008, at St. Max, said Tiffani W., CNO Chairperson. Most needed right now? A co-chair! PLEASE consider this wonderful opportunity to help guide us through one of our most profitable PTO fundraisers! Not able to co-chair? Tiffani says

any and all volunteers should please step forward; your help would be much appreciated—just ask anyone who helped last year! Speaking of last year, here is a final financial report from our PTO Treasurer, Coreen B., detailing CNO finances.

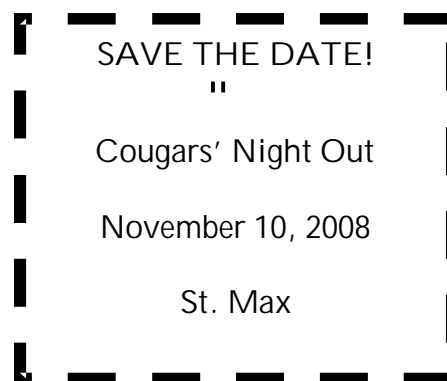
CNO Fall, 2006 Financial Report Adjustments eff. 3-8-07

Event	Expenses	Income
Basket Raffle	\$73.42	\$2,436.00
Donations		\$550.00
Games	\$45.00	\$744.00
Grab Bags	\$19.22	\$860.00
Live Auction	\$56.60	\$2,035.00
Silent Auction	\$2,076.30	\$10,259.00
Split The Pot	\$244.50	\$423.00
Tuition Raffle*	\$2,815.08	\$3,095.00
General Operations	\$5,130.60	\$5,282.00
Totals	\$10,460.72	\$25,684.00

Net Profit*
\$15,223.28

**Actual Tuition Payment Due to St.Max \$2,800.*

Do you want to volunteer? Do you have any ideas for next year's CNO? A theme? A new game? Perhaps you have an idea for a new moneymaker! If so, please take a moment to e-mail your idea(s) to reminders@stgabeppto.org While not every idea can zip from e-mail to implementation, we want to capture all new ideas so we can keep this the fun fundraiser so many of SGCS families look forward to each year.



Scrip Winter Giveaway Winner Announced

Congratulations to Gail M.! She was the winner of the \$40.00 Grand Prize in the Scrip Winter Giveaway. Thanks to all who entered the contest. Our March Madness grand prize winner will be announced soon.

If you shop at Kroger, please order a Kroger card. Four percent of your reloaded value comes back to PTO. You only need to order a card once. From then on, you recharge the card using a credit card, cash or check, before the cashier rings up your purchases. The Kroger cards can be used at the Kroger gas stations as well! Families using the Kroger cards have already earned more than \$2,000 for PTO from August until February! I'm anxious to see what our final

May Crowning May 1

May Crowning is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 1. A special day to honor Mary, May Crowning has also been an exceedingly important day for our eighth-grade students, who take an active role in the celebration. Given good weather, May Crowning is held outside and everybody is

Funfest Scheduled For May 18

It's almost time for you and your family to have a "field day!" Our SGCS Funfest is scheduled for May 18. The day will commence with our traditional outdoor Mass at 10:00 a.m. You will receive much more information as we get closer to the event, but get it on your calendar early, so that your whole family might enjoy this day of games

Caution Urged Around School

Mr. Epplen mentioned in his March 29 note the need for extra caution during morning dropoff. He said speeding drivers in the lot, and dawdling students exiting cars, could be a dangerous mix, and urged caution. Also, Bill Lovatt, the crossing guard stationed at the busy Sharon/Congress intersection in front of our school, said that crossing at the corner is a much better idea than trying to beat the traffic by jaywalking. Bill said that he has

numbers will be...keep up the great job in this incredibly easy fundraiser.

The final Scrip order for the year will be placed on Friday, May 18 and delivered on Thursday, May 24. Scrip is great for Mother's Day, graduation and teacher gifts. Remember to order enough Scrip to get you through the summer, too!

Please remember the Scrip program will be unavailable now through April 19. The first order after Spring Break will be placed on Friday, April 20.



invited—parents, grandparents and friends. It matters not if you have an eighth-grader in your family, or as a friend—it is a day you should not miss at SGCS. Please mark it on your calendar.

and events. Events take place in our SGCS ball field, and at Lake and Washington Parks in Glendale for the seventh- and eighth-graders. Again, the whole family is invited!

seen some close calls during his 12-year crossing guard career, and many of them take place in the spring, when the weather is nice.