

Pawprints

December 2006 edition

From Mr. Epplen, SGCS Principal

In recent weeks, our newspapers and other media have contained stories about the internet exposure which our children have through Myspace.com, Facebook.com, etc. Often times our young people, especially those in grades five and beyond see this opportunity to chat with friends or to make new friends as a means to broaden an ever expanding circle of acquaintances. And, while we talk to our children often about safety issues, we also know that we need to monitor the activities of our children especially at times when they think that they are invincible.

Our own school has seen circumstances which have led to discussions with students and parents regarding the safe use of technology and the need to provide continued monitoring of technology use. Remember also, that firewalls limit the access to websites at school. To this end, we are attempting to pull together a program for

parents and students after the first of the year to acquaint everyone with the up side and the down side of particular web sites toward which our young people tend to gravitate. Please watch for an upcoming announcement in the Thursday envelope after the first of January.

High schools in our area have been having programs or have made announcements, which highlight cautions for the student use of MySpace and Facebook. An announcement made at St. Xavier on Monday, November 27th is an illustration of the concern school administrators have for the use of these websites. It is reprinted for you here. "Over the past year, word has been conveyed to school counselors, administrators, and librarians that college admissions staffs and employers are starting to check websites such as FACEBOOK and MYSPACE, for students' pages. Anything you post on one of these types of sites

could have a possible negative effect for you on college admissions, graduate school admissions, and opportunities for employment. These entries are archived for years. BE SMART and AVOID posting anything that could be interpreted negatively about you. If you have posted anything that could be unflattering or defaming, you are strongly encouraged to delete that material from your page, if you have one.

As we continue to become more technologically savvy, let us be sure that our purpose is noble and our attitude remains positive regarding its use."

LOOK!

Next PTO
Mtg. 1/10
7pm

§ SGCS students are divided into Angels and Saints. Each group attends mass on alternate Thursday mornings at 8:20. You are invited! See SGCS Web site for schedule.

§ Library books are due Fridays. Please help your child remember.

§ Volunteers, if you can't make your assigned shift, please arrange for a substitute. We need you!

§ Thank you for choosing SGCS!

Catholic Schools Week January 28-February 3, 2007





[Did you know](#) that in the 1920s and '30s, our school was "U-shaped," and students played handball where St. Mary's Hall is now! Learn more about our school's history at www.stgabeschool.org

Cash & Carry Scrip Available at Market Day Pickup This Wednesday!

Melinda Y. will have "cash & carry" scrip available for purchase at this Wednesday's Market Day pickup. Scrip will NOT be available over Christmas break, but will be back in January when Melinda places her next order January 12. Try the program soon and keep using those Kroger cards! As of today, scrip has earned almost \$2,500 for SGCS. Thank you!

From Maria L., PTO vice president

This school year began with a bang and continues to flourish thanks to a tremendous amount of volunteer activity in so many capacities! A huge effort by so many makes our school a terrific place for our children to learn and grow. From the work of countless parents and friends before and during the first days of school (to make the first days and weeks welcoming to all), to the recent efforts by the many committees to carry out the various fundraising opportunities that help support our school, we have been blessed with a great network of volunteers. You who

donate your time and talents are truly a blessing, and you are the bricks upon which our children's success and future are built. We appreciate your efforts!!!!

Please check out the new "Volunteer Wall of Fame" that adorns the walls outside the cafeteria, and the Kudos section of our school Web site to see the long list of people who have volunteered, and to see all the different capacities in which a person can volunteer. (If you have volunteered on behalf of the school, and do not see your name in a brick on the wall, please let me know so I can add you!!!!)

If you are new to the school or now able to offer your time and energy in some way, please consider volunteering. We can help you find an area that would match your commitment level and ability, and you will find that helping, even in a small way, is very rewarding to both you and your child!

Keep up the great work, everyone!

Busy SGCS Cub Scouts Welcome Newbies

Cub Scout Pack 260 is proud to welcome 15 new Scouts and new Tiger Den leaders Chrissie N. and Mike D.

The Scouts have been very busy earning their badges and pins, and now they're earning money by kicking off a brand-new fundraiser, discounts at a local car wash just in time for Christmas gift giving! A flyer on the car wash discounts went home in last Thursday's envelope. If you would like to order, or need more information, please call Coreen B., the scouts' committee chair. One of the most fun events each year is Turkey Day, aptly celebrated around Thanksgiving time, and this year's topped them all. The Scouts and their siblings made pinecone

bird feeders and Thanksgiving cards for their parents. They also made Christmas ornaments to give to their Turkey Day dinner guests, senior citizens from Friendship Plaza, a senior citizen apartment complex in Lincoln Heights. (Pack 260 "adopted" the Friendship Plaza residents as part of a service project, and they continue to help stock the residents' common pantry, celebrate monthly birthdays with them, and invite them to special Scout events.) Jonathan B. did a fine job calling for the flag ceremony and saying the prayer before the outstanding Thanksgiving dinner and then he, and his fellow Webelos, Drew D., Michael F., Ben B., &

Hunter M. helped their Friendship Plaza guests heap their plates with delicious Thanksgiving food.

Coming up next on the agenda, the ever-exciting Pinewood Derby in January.

Be sure to check out the SGCS Web site, www.stgabeschool.org, to see the full Scouts schedule for this year and to see pictures of the Scouts in action!

Ronald McDonald House Donations Deeply Appreciated

Connie M. and Kathy C. thank all those who this November donated so generously to provide dinners for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House. Kathy and Connie help provide hot, delicious meals for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House during a family-member's hospital visit. They thank all of the following people, and send a special thank you to Katie K., Sue K. and Maggie E. for joining them

at Ronald McDonald House, and for providing a special craft project for the kids.

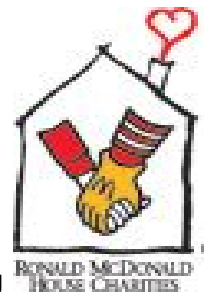
Thanks for all your donations:

Heidi K.
Patty H.
Mary McD.
Bridget McD.
Kathy U.
Pam M.
Debbie F.
Sue K.
Debbie T.
Carla Z.

Kathy also thanks the very

kind person who handed her a donation of shrimp scampi at Market Day pickup!

Kathy and Connie will be serving dinner again in the months of February and March; please, if you can, be on the lookout for the flyer and consider donating to this very worthy cause.



SGCS Girl Scouts Serve Their Communities

Troop 470, sixth-grade Juniors, decorated wooden Christmas trees kindly donated by our newest custodian, Mr. F., to bring along Christmas caroling. On December 7, the girls attended Alterra Nursing home in Springdale to sing holiday songs for the residents. The troop gave trees to the residents to help decorate their rooms. The Scouts also wrapped purchases at Borders Books in Tri-County December 8 and 17, to help raise money for an upcoming trip this

summer.

Fifth-grade Juniors, Troop 6840, made fleece blankets for Project Linus, a non-profit organization providing love, security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized or otherwise in need of new, handmade blankets or afghans. The girls' blankets will be distributed to children in hospitals, shelters, social service agencies, or anywhere that a child needs a big hug.

Second-grade

Brownies are busy, too; one troop is working on the Family of God medal, and is making fudge for the holidays.

Kindergarten Daisies are hard at work learning the Girl Scout promise. Their troop is now 10 scouts strong! Interested in joining? Please call Teri D. to register.

SGCS PTO Treasurer Closely Watching PTO Financials

Coreen B., SGCS PTO treasurer, reports that, thanks to you, the new check request procedure is working well and it's paying dividends of more accurate financials.

"When people fill out check request forms, it gives us the data we need to more accurately account all spending," said Coreen. "PTO has a budget of more than \$100,000 per year, and we want to be able to accurately account for

every penny.

"Families work very hard to earn money on behalf of PTO. From the Board to committee chairs to parents, we all should remember to be careful when we spend PTO money."

Coreen reminds those who seek reimbursement to please submit their check request form and receipts within 30 days of expenditure. Quick turnaround helps PTO to

have an accurate snapshot of its expenses; keeps closer tabs on if we're on budget; gives us time to catch and correct errors; permits us to adjust the budget if necessary; and lets us process your reimbursement faster.

Check Request Forms are available at the flag door entrance of school, or online at www.stgabeschool.org

CNO Winners "Basketing" In Their Glory!

Tuition Raffle – free
SGCS tuition for one
student!

John C. Family

Split the Pot

- 1- The C. Family
- 2- Mike L.
- 3- Alan Y.

BASKET WINNERS

1-Spa/Pampering - Pat & Ted L.

2-Newport on the Levee - The M. Family

3- Movie/Family Game night - The R. Family

4-Car/Gas - The W. Family

5- Christmas/Holidays - the M. Family

6- Fab Five Food and Fun - The R. Family

7- All About Cincinnati - Karin Z.

8-Gift Card Tree - The S. Family

9-Cincinnati Bengals - The H. Family

10-Keebler Good Eats - Maureen B.

11-St. Xavier - The S. Family

12-Moeller - The C. Family

13-Mt. Notre Dame - The E. Family

14- Ursuline Academy - The C. Family (parents of mom Ginger A.)

15-Fenwick High School – The K. Family

16-Roger Bacon High School- The U. Family

17-St. Ursula Academy- The K. Family

18- Mystery Basket - The DeM. Family

How did CNO do financially?
We will know exactly once all payables & receivables are accounted for and posted.
We plan to have this information by January.

Please Don't Forget Other SGCS Fundraisers!

While PTO spent the first half of the year concentrating on its two biggest fundraisers, CNO and M&M sale, there are many other ways we make money for SGCS PTO. 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 like the one you see on the left 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 earlier 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 Web site for details!

#



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Saint Gabriel Consolidated School PTO Board



Saint Gabriel Consolidated
School
PTO

18 West Sharon Ave.
Glendale, OH 45246
Phone:
(513) 771-5220
Fax:
(513) 771-5133
Web site:
www.stgabeschool.org
E-Mail:
reminders@stgabeppto.org

Cut and save!



Fifth-grade Sarcophagi

Say that five times fast! Fifth-graders, deeply ensconced in the study of ancient Egypt, made sarcophagi—plural of sarcophagus, a layer of protection for a royal mummy—in art class.

Rt. 747 Road Work Complete...For Now

Merry Christmas from the road construction crews on Rt. 747. Glendale Village administrator Wally Cordes reports that the road work clogging traffic around our school is complete, for now.

The project, a deal between Cincinnati Water Works and Butler County, will provide water to Butler County through new, 36-inch transmission lines that run beneath Glendale's streets, which are already crowded with utilities. Crews began work in late July and expected to be finished before school started; however, there were delays. But Mr. Cordes said temporary pavement was applied and leveled, on Monday and the project is finished for now. This spring a more permanent road surface is scheduled to be put down with minimal disruption. II