

2010 2011



SSM

ST. STEPHEN MARTYR
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
Shaping Spirits and Minds



FAMILY FOCUS
September 28, 2011

St. Stephen
Martyr School
2931 Pindell Ave
Louisville, KY 40217
502-635-7141
E-mail:
school@ssmartyr.org

Dear Families,

I don't know if you are aware of this, but the Archdiocese of Louisville has been going through the process for the last 18 months to gain Accreditation for our Catholic Schools through an organization called Advanced Ed. A team of nine members from all over the country came to visit schools, conduct interviews, analyze data, and meet with Principals, the Superintendent, the School Team, and the Archbishop. At a meeting Wednesday afternoon it was announced that they would make a recommendation for accreditation of our schools. This is worth celebrating. This recognizes that our schools are trying to reach, uphold and continue to strive for excellence. As part of this process each Catholic grade school will be visited by a local team of educators to conduct the same process on a local level. Our visit will be November 17th and 18th.

I need to take a minute to explain the crazy October calendar. On Sunday, October 2nd, the faculty will be traveling to Columbus, Ohio, to attend the Ohio Catholic Education Association Convention. I have served on their planning committee as a representative for the Archdiocese of Louisville. Mrs. Mary Waskevich and Mrs. Diane Whoberry will be presenters at this convention. SSM received funding through Title 1 funds to cover the convention and hotel fees. We did not receive funding for meals or gas. The OCEA is trying a 'Sunday, Monday, Tuesday' format for the first time. That is why your children will be out of school on the 3rd and 4th. On October 11th, the Archdiocese of Louisville is hosting a National Speaker and Author, Rick Wormeli. He wrote the book, "Fair Isn't Always Equal." Our faculty read this for their book study. Mr. Wormeli will be conducting a workshop on differentiating instruction and how to make it work in the regular classroom. We feel this is a very important topic and is very worthwhile for our faculty. This is why your children will be out of school on the 11th. October 27th is our conference day. We will be having conferences from 7:30 in the morning until 9:00 pm. Each parent will receive a designated time for a conference. You are to bring your child with you for the conference. It is a time for goal setting. On October 28th, there is no school because we are tired!!!

I hope this explanation helps. I appreciate your understanding, help and cooperation as we continue to educate ourselves to better educate your children.

Mrs. Margaret Bowen



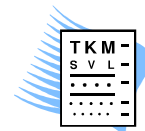
Weekly Calendar

Wed, 9/28
Thurs, 9/29 **Student Council sponsored
Skate Party at Skate World
6:30-8:30 pm**
Fri, 9/30
Sat, 10/1 & Sun, 10/2
Mon, 10/3 **NO SCHOOL**—OCEA Conference
Tue, 10/4 **NO SCHOOL**—OCEA Conference
Wed, 10/5 **5th gr Parent Lunch
Market Day Pick Up
Weiker Room—5:30-6:30 pm**
Thurs, 10/6
**Fri, 10/7 School Picture Day (K-8)
SSM Health Screening**



**October 7th
WOW — What a Busy Day!**

Friday, October 7th is picture day!
Order forms were sent home last week. Please return these with payment on Picture Day!!



SAY CHEESE!



Also on Friday, October 7th is SSM's School Health Screening Day from 8:15 am to 12:30 pm. Please call Mary Beth Wright if you can volunteer (629-7348).

Please send all Family Focus news items to Wendy Gerhard at wgerhard@ssmartyr.org by Tuesday at noon!!





KUDOS KORNER



Mrs. Donna Schall wrote, "Just wanted to say a big "THANKS" to four 8th graders that helped us at the Franciscan Shelter House reverse raffle. We couldn't have done it without all their help." We have great students with helping hands at SSM. Thanks to **Ryan Schmitt (8W)**, **Taylor Smothers (8W)**, **Hannah Fouts (8D)**, and **Kate Gemperline (8D)**.



Confirmation Service Project Reminder

Joey Sullivan, an SSM 8th grader, is working on his confirmation service project to benefit the Target House of St. Jude Children's Hospital in Memphis, TN. A list of items needed is available in the School Office (635-7141). Please send items to school to be delivered to Joey.

Thank you for supporting Joey and this worthy cause!

Market Day—Life Styles

Fall Fundraiser VIP Winners!!

Congratulations to **Gavin Metcalfe (K)**, our fifth VIP winner. There will continue to be drawings as long as we have prizes to give away.



Fundraiser Update

The Life Styles Market Day orders have been placed! You may continue to place Life Styles catalog orders online at any time during the year, **HOWEVER**, only those orders received by 9/29 will be included in the Life Styles prizes! The **tentative** delivery date for catalog orders is Friday, October 21st.

The cookie dough orders will be placed this week also and a tentative delivery date is pending for the last week of October or the first week of November. Confirmed deadlines will be published in the Focus online, the Daily School Bulletin on the SSM website, and also in the School Bulletin from your child's PowerSchool page.

Louisville coupon books will be available for sale for a couple more weeks. Call Wendy at 635-7141 if you need to purchase any!

THANK YOU to everyone who helped with this fundraising effort. More information will be published regarding the total outcome of our sale and to announce our winners and celebration date!



Thank you for remembering to call the office in the morning when your child will be out sick or leaving early. This is so helpful to the office staff for keeping track of attendance!! (635-7141)

Teachers' Corner...

First graders have a lot to look forward to this year, and they have already been working hard on some of the things they'll need to know for second grade! This year first graders will work on reading more independently, working with a second grade partner during Team Time, and practicing math by adding, subtracting, counting money, and telling time. Your children are learning about God and His son, Jesus. We are talking about the heroes of the Bible and the children are learning how much He loves us all. First graders spend time with an eighth grade buddy working on sight words, math facts, and reading. We will even go on a couple of field trips with our buddies! First grade will be a fun and exciting learning year.

Mrs. Carol Carter

SSM ONLINE

www.ssmartyr.org



Daily School Bulletin, Family Focus
 Parish information & forms
 Athletic information & forms
 Market Day order forms
 Lunch Menu, School Handbook
 PTO/SAC Board Information
 PE uniform info (form coming soon!)

Did you know? You can sign up in PowerSchool to have the School Bulletin sent to you via email. Using your parent logon and password, access your child's PowerSchool page. Click the Email Notifications tab at the top and then click the information you want delivered by email including grades and/or school announcements. Use the drop down menu to select "How often?" you want the information sent, and then enter your email address. Don't forget to click "Submit!"

Please check the website every day! If you are having trouble viewing or finding online items, please call Wendy at 635-7141.

SSM continues to collect SMALL ink jet cartridges and gently used cell phones for recycling! Send these to school with your child. Each classroom has a recyclable bag to hold these items.



**PLEASE DO NOT
 SEND LARGE
 TONER
 CARTRIDGES!!**

Also, there is a recycling bin on the Greenup Road side of our school for paper recycling. Feel free to drop your papers in the bin for recycling. Please though, do not put cardboard in this bin!



CONGRATULATIONS TO SHEA CLARK (1C)! SHE WAS THE WINNER OF THE FIRST BOX TOPS CONTEST.

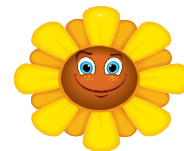


WHO WILL BE NEXT? NEW CONTEST INFORMATION IS IN YOUR CHILD'S WEDNESDAY FOLDER TODAY.

Let's Skate!!
Thursday, 9/29
Skating Party at Skate World
 6:30—8:30 pm



Parents—please remember that breakfast is an important meal and shouldn't be missed! Start your child's day off right so they can focus and feel confident in school. A bowl of cereal, a granola bar they can carry in the car, juice, fruit, etc. It's a great way to start their day!



**Please help the 2011-2012
 Reverse Raffle**



Items needed immediately for class projects are **end tables** and **small outside bistro-type tables**.

If you can donate any of these items, please contact Lisa Swikert at veigl-swikert@hotmail.com or Karen Frey at 417-6349.

Mark your calendar for this fun event! The 2011-2012 Reverse Raffle will be on Saturday, February 18th!

THANK YOU!!



SSM Health Fair

October 2, 2011
 12:30—3:30 pm

FREE admission,
FREE door prizes,
FREE give-aways!!

Finger Painting
 Face Painting,
 snow cones, frog
 pond, exercising
 area, coloring,
LOTS OF FUN ,
LOTS OF
INFORMATION!

Flu shots for ages 3 or older for \$29.99 (free with Medicare B, file insurance with Walgreens; cash payment accepted).

Norton Cancer Van will participate again. Call 899-6842 to make an appointment for mammogram (free but file insurance) or prostate exam (free).



FOLLOW UP: As mentioned in last week's Focus (still available online via the SSM website), Boy Scout Troop 67 recently helped families find and shade their relatives names at the Vietnam Veteran's Dignity Memorial Wall. Three members of that troop are pictured above. They are: **Isaac Fouts (6A), Derek Cornwell, (6S), and Zach Wright (7H).**

"Managing the Stress of Having School Age Children"

For children in grades 1-8
Cost: \$5 6:15-8:00 pm

Parent Support Group for families dealing with learning differences or ADHD. Groups are meeting on 10/18, 11/15, 12/13, 1/17, 2/21, 3/20, 4/17, and 5/15. 7-8 pm

Support Groups are available at the dePaul School, 1925 Duker Avenue. Contact www.depaulschool.org for more information.



Presentation Academy Trivia Night

Saturday, 10/8. \$120 per table.
Doors open at 6 pm.
Play begins at 7 pm.

To reserve a table, contact Dee Asher at dthomasher@aol.com. Evening cell for questions is 502-468-1679.

Send checks in advance to Kathy Sutton at Presentation, 861 S 4th Street, 40203.

TOSS MEETING
Sunday, October 9th
at 3 pm
Trip to Deere Farms!



Join your 6th, 7th, & 8th grade friends for this event. Check the SSM website and your child's Wednesday folder for more information. Additional transportation per parents may be needed depending on the number attending.



We wish to remind all parents and grandparents that if you wish to be involved in school activities (field trips, volunteering, assisting at classroom functions, etc.) you must have the Criminal Background Check. The teachers will be given a list of those for whom we have the Criminal Background Reports on, to make sure you are able to participate. If you did not submit the form for the Criminal Background Check at the beginning of the year, these are available from the school office (635-7141).



Dance the night away!

Father/Daughter Dance
11/19, Marteen Room
6:30-9:30 pm



Thank you for sending in Coke bottle tops & 12-pack rewards! You can enter these online yourself at www.mycokerewards.com! If you enter codes online, you don't need to send the bottle tops or 12-pack rewards to school. Select SSM as your school and we get the credit!!

