

SMCS VIKING VINE



Nurturing all children and achieving academic success in the Spirit of Christ.

"Catholic Schools: Faith, Academics, Service" September 30, 2011

Principal's Corner

"Achieving Academic Success in the Spirit of Christ"

Each day in our classrooms, academics are the focus. We believe that education is one of the most important ways that the Catholic Church fulfills its commitment to the dignity of the person and the educational mission of the Church. Our graduates proceed on to high school well prepared for the journey ahead. SMCS consistently scores above the National Average and at or above the Diocesan level on the EXPLORE Test and the SAT (Stanford Achievement Tests). Our certified faculty and staff are dedicated to providing a well rounded curriculum enriched with extracurricular activities and enrichment classes. We strive to provide educational activities to benefit the wide range of learning styles of our students. Programs such as SPARK, Speech and the Mobile Classroom are provided through Calcasieu Parish Schools to further

meet the needs of our students.

The mission statement is as important to our school today as it was when designed in 2005 and we are confident that it will continue to speak to others of the commitment we have at St. Margaret Catholic School. Have a peace-filled weekend!

Yours in Faith,

Merci Beaucoup!

A great big SMCS thank you goes to the following people for helping make the 2011 CalcaChew Festival such a stellar success:

- PTC President DeAnn Rosteet and her amazing PTC Board for all their organization
- Room Mother coordinators Lisa Sanders and Cherie Trahan and their fabulous team of room mothers who so skillfully coordinated the games and had so many creative baskets
- The teachers who ladled out Mr. Jeff Manuel's mouth watering etouffee
- The parents that worked all the games/fun jumps and provided healthy fun for our students

- Science Club members who manned the Basketball and Soccer booth. Also the students who helped in the gym with recycling.
- Mrs. Mary Rothermel for her tireless efforts to put on the CalcaChew festival each year
- Richard Rowland and his cooking crew for the yummy hot dogs and hamburgers

This was an incredible TEAM effort and one that makes our school proud!!

Sally Foster News

A great big thank you to all who sold and purchased items during our **Sally Foster** fundraiser. Here is a list of the contest winners: Pre-K-2 **Peyton Hensgens** and **Eian Dowden**, 3rd-5th—**J'Allen Manuel**, had pizza with Dufrene. 6th-8th - **Joseph Bang** had lunch from a restaurant of his choice. The teacher selling the most was **Mrs. Kayla Booth**. The class selling the most was **Mrs. Pam Rusnak's** Pre-K. The winner of the Family Night is **Alyssa Lyon**.

Events

Saturday, October 1, 2011
"Making Strides" Breast Cancer Walk

Monday, October 3, 2011
3:30 - 4:30 pm - Altar Server Training

Tuesday, October 4, 2011
7:50 am - "Blessing of the Pets"

Friday, October 7, 2011
8:40 am - Mass

Club Meeting Dates

Monday, October 3rd
3:00 pm - Math Counts

Tuesday, October 4th
Noon - Beta Meeting

Thursday, October 6th
3:00 pm - 4th gr. Art Club
3:00 pm - Chess (Beginners)

Lunches

Monday - October 3rd
Beef/Cheese Nachos

Tuesday - October 4th
Salisbury Steak

Wednesday - October 5th
Hot Dog/Chili


Thursday - October 6th
Pork Roast/Rice & Gravy

Friday - October 7th
Pizza/Corn

Choice of Milk Daily

Things to Remember

Birthdays this week are:
Noah LeJeune, Aiden McDonald, Michelle Mallett, Jared Landreneau and Mrs. Judy Reeves.



Tuition Due
15th of
every month
(Late fee of \$25.00 after the 25th)

HALO of the Week!

This week our HALO of the week was Mrs. Pam Rusnak, our PreK teacher. Thank you Mrs. Rusnak for helping to shape and mold our future President, Teachers, Doctors, Nurses, Moms or Dads.

Viking Lagniappe

Counselor's Corner

Don't overlook Bedtime Habits

As we all know, attention problems are very common with school children these days. We wonder why? Here is one important reason that many parents overlook.

Healthy bedtime habits are extremely important in the daily function of our children. We all know that the quantity of sleep they receive is important for their physical growth and function. But, do you know how important the "quality" of their sleep is??

If a child gets into the habit of falling asleep with music on or the TV playing in their bedroom, this can adversely affect the quality of their sleep. If the TV or radio is left to play after the child is asleep, the flickering lights from the TV and the music and voices of the TV or radio continue to stimulate the child's brain, even if they fall asleep. This alone can prevent their brains and bodies from entering the REM phase of sleep and thus, reduces the restfulness they experience.

After a night of the TV playing all night, of

sharing a bedroom with older siblings or even parents, and being exposed to outside movement, light sound, TV, etc., the child's behavior and ability to focus will be greatly compromised. Some the behavior can even present as clear cut symptoms of ADD or ADHD.

Please check your child's sleeping environment and arrangements and make sure he or she is provided with a quiet, darkened, peaceful space where they can receive the "rest" they require. If you have any additional concerns or questions, please give me a call and I can provide you with more information on the subject.

Kimberly Ardoin

SMCS Counselor



News from Religion Coordinator

Tuesday, October 4th is the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. We will have our annual Blessing of the Pets prayer service in the church parking lot. Parents of students in grades 5th - 8th grade may bring their pets. Elementary students may bring a picture of their pets or stuffed animals. All students report to class to drop off their book bags. The teachers will escort the students to the parking lot. Parents will meet us in the parking lot with the pets. Please make sure pets are contained in a cage, on a leash, etc.

Mary, our Blessed Mother, is our perfect model of life and respect for human dignity. October is the month of LIFE and the Rosary! Our **Living Rosary** will be in the church on Friday, **October 28th @ 8:40 am**. We will meditate on the Sorrowful Mysteries. Remember: **the family that prays together, stays together**. Our Living Rosary will be a **Family Rosary** lead by our 4th grade students and their families. Please send a rosary with your child to school that day. Join us, the family of SMCS, as we pray together.

Extra! Extra! Read all about it!

Vote for iPads!

Mrs. Pam Williamson, third grade teacher, is participating in the Albertson's Community Partners Challenge. She has written an essay on reading comprehension and is hoping to win \$5,000 for the purchase of iPads for the classroom. She needs everyone to vote for St. Margaret on the website. Directions are: go to albertsonscpchallenge.com; login with your email address; enter charity code 0183 in the upper left corner, then click go; when

you see the entry St. Margaret, click vote. **You can vote 5 times per day per email address from Oct. 1-15**. Spread the word to family, friends, co-workers, Facebook & Twitter friends. Thanks so much!

Pam Williamson

Third Grade Teacher



October Junior High Viking Citizens

- 6-1 Nick Spain
- 6-2 Noah Comeaux
- 7-1 Jaina Ange
- 7-2 Wyatt Mallett
- 8-1 Julia Boult
- 8-2 Strack Brown

Congratulations to All!

Announcements

Awesome Art!

Congratulations to Mrs. Rachel Rougeau for being awarded the Artsonia Leadership Award and SMCS was named #5 in Louisiana. Artsonia honors teachers who go beyond the classroom walls to encourage family and community to be involved in Art Education. This award signifies achievement in the area of technology integration within the school Art program. St. Margaret has over 2,27 pieces of artwork published with a fan club membership of 269.

Way to go Mrs. Rougeau

Congrats!

Congratulations to seven of our 7th graders who qualified for the Duke University Talent Identification Program. Students are selected based on scores from their standardized tests. They have the opportunity to take either the SAT or ACT test as a 7th grader. SMCS students include **Zoe Boudreaux, Wyatt Mallett, Paige Parrish, Joseph Bang, Layla Jones, Jim Vanchiere and Solomon Arceneaux**.



8th Grade News

Our 8th grade students are learning about Louisiana Government and participated in an online state mock election. This mock election is through the Youth Leadership Initiative Program.

Chess Club News

The SMCS Chess Club will be participating in their first Chess Tournament for the 2011-2012 school year. The tournament will be held at OLI in Jennings on **Saturday, November 5th**. There are 34 chess members between 1st and 7th grade.