

HEART TO HOME SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dec 3, 2014
Newsletter #11

Principal's News from Jim Opelia, Principal



Sacred Heart Area School
324 4th St NE
Staples, MN 56479

Phone:
(218) 894-2077

Fax:
(218)-894-2994

E-mail:
SacredHeartAreaSchool@
Arvig.net

Web Address:
SacredHeartAreaSchool.org

Christmas Craft Fair

Don't forget to stop by the school this Saturday, December 6th, to check out our Craft – Bake – Vendor sale. Now is the time to get those special Christmas gifts for everyone on your list. The event will be from 9 am – 2 pm in the school gym. Please help spread the word. The school will be hosting a bake sale as well as a concession stand.

Preparing for Christmas at SHAS

Thank you to all of you who plan on supporting or attending the Sacred Heart Area School Craft Fair this Saturday! This event should be a lot of fun. The students and staff at SHAS continue to celebrate Advent this month in preparation for Christmas. Save the date of December 17th, as the students of SHAS will have two performances of their annual Christmas program at 1:30 “Super Gift from Heaven” (1st-5th grades), and 6:30pm “Christmas All Around” (preschool-Kindergarten) followed by the evening showing of “Super Gift from Heaven”.

Playground Improvements

The “Dollar a Day” Centennial fund drive is still going strong. Participants will be asked to turn in their cans/boxes to the school by the end of January. This money will be used to improve our school playgrounds. A committee will be formed to include parent, parish and alumni representation to determine the details of playground improvements. In the near future this committee will provide a survey for all stakeholders interested in giving input. Thank you for your participation in the fund drive, and keep collecting! If you want to learn more or participate in this drive, call the school at 894-2077.

Making the Best of Lunch Time

SHAS students enjoy lunch each day in the school gymnasium. This is a great time for children to socialize and refuel for a great afternoon of learning. As a staff we recognize the importance of this for our students. We have also noticed with many children that too much time is spent visiting and not enough time eating. Because of this, lot of food gets wasted and students don't get the refueling they need. In response to this, the past two weeks we have asked the students not to visit for 5 minutes of their 20 minute lunch period to focus on their meal. We have found this to be very beneficial to them. This is experimental and we will adapt as is needed. If you have any concerns please bring them to the attention of the principal.

Your Concerns

If school families have concerns, please bring them to us considering the best channel to take. If you have a concern about your child's well being or education, please contact his or her teacher. If there is a health concern for your child(ren) please contact Sandy as our school health aide. If there are any

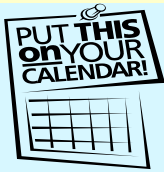
school-wide concerns, concerns that have not been addressed appropriately, financial concerns with school enrollment, or concerns for a staff member, be sure to discuss this with the principal. If we do not take proper channels with our concerns, it can be detrimental to individuals and/or the school as a whole. It can also make for a very poor culture and climate in this place where so many take refuge, in a warm, safe, caring environment. Concerns left unshared are equally detrimental. Please help keep healthy lines of communication alive. Your cooperation is important.

Scholarships

Our goal is to make our school available to all children in our parish communities that want a faith-based education, regardless of financial status. The Sacred Heart Area School Scholarship has helped many families over the past few years. We will continue to ask for support for the scholarship fund in our school and parish. The two ways you can help are to either become a sponsor and / or spread the word, sharing our need with others. Thank you!

We are Excited

As stated in a previous newsletter, the Sacred Heart Area School teachers continue their work on the theories and practices of Dr. Robert J. Marzano's “Art and Science of Teaching”. Classroom teachers are now posting daily learning targets in grades 1-5 in classrooms, and discussing with them what their objective for the day is. In the next week we will expand to posting scales for students to reflect on what level of learning they are at. Teachers will refer to the scales throughout the day, continually making them self-aware of their learning, and encouraging higher level thinking. The Marzano training and implementation will provide a great deal of accountability for teachers and students to perform at higher levels and continually grow as individuals and a school. We're excited!



- Dec 5 Mid-Quarter 2
- Dec 5 2 Hour Early Out
- Dec 6 Craft Fair
- Dec 17 SHAS Christmas Program
- Dec 19 Apple Pies
- Dec 20- Christmas Break
Jan 4
- Jan 5 School Resumes
- Jan 9 2 Hour Early Out
- Jan 16 End of 2nd Quarter
- Jan 19 Teacher Workshop
No School

for eating...shopping...or filling your tank
Order Scrip Gift Cards!



We will put one last Scrip order in before Christmas. The order will need to go in by Friday, December 12th to ensure it is here by the student's last day before Christmas break. Get all of your Christmas shopping done in one place!! See attached order form for all of the different merchants.



It is hard to believe that Thanksgiving has already come and gone!

It has been an exciting couple of weeks here in Second Grade. This week we were in charge of the Mass parts for the first time this year. The students really enjoyed this, and did a great job reading! As we head into the Advent season, the second graders are also preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. They will be receiving this next week. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers as they get ready for this important and exciting experience! We are also beginning to learn about plane shapes in Math which the students are really enjoying. In Reading we have been working with the long a, and long e sounds. We are also learning about consumers and producers in Science, and the students are working hard to understand food webs. I hope everyone had a fabulous break!

Mrs. Detloff



The kindergarten class is collecting food for the food shelf during the first 2 weeks in December. Let's get into the Christmas spirit and help put food on the plates of those who may need it in our community this holiday season. Thank you!



Look at the good that you can do, and praise God with deeds of kindness.

*"If anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things."
Philippians 4:8*



Mission Statement

In sharing our Catholic faith in Christ, we foster spiritual and academic formation in a positive, welcoming atmosphere that reflects love and respect for all.



CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR
STUDENTS OF THE MONTH!

- K - Isabelle Becker
- 1 - Isabel Cole
- 2 - Joe Zimmermann
- 3 - Leo Mathews
- 4 - Corrine Japke
- 5 - Chad Dickey



Children's Christmas Program

The Sacred Heart Area School Christmas program will be held Wednesday, December 17th at Sacred Heart Church. Performances will be at 1:30 and 7:00. **There will only be 1 Pre-K and K performance and that will be at 6:30 p.m.** Hope to see you all there!