

# HEART TO HOME SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

March 12, 2015  
Newsletter #24



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## PreK & K Roundup

Our Preschool and Kindergarten Round Up will be held March 24<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 - 7:30 in the school gymnasium.

Please help us reach out to new families from our neighborhoods by spreading the word about our school. We invite parents with children from ages 3 to 5 years to attend this event.

## Principal's News from Jim Opelia, Principal

### What's Up with Roundup?

This year's preschool and kindergarten roundup is less than two weeks away (March 24<sup>th</sup>). If any of your children will be of preschool or kindergarten age next fall, be sure to spend this evening (6:30-7:30pm) with Ms. Rinke and Ms. Jonckowski, as they familiarize families to our kindergarten and preschool programs. Our students in these classrooms are excelling socially, spiritually, and academically. Come and see what the secret of our success is. One attributing factor is the collaboration between these teachers in meeting the needs for, and having background knowledge of, each individual student. Our faith based, family oriented atmosphere is certainly another factor. Our school is a great environment for students to grow, learn, and be formed into happy, successful people. As a parent of SHAS students myself, I say this from positive experience. We would love to see all our current families, preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade to stay with us until middle school.

### Continuous Improvement

At the last school advisory board meeting, the board (our parent representatives) officially adopted the Marzano "Art and Science of Teaching" program, providing ownership in it for the whole school community. Our students and staff continue to move forward with it. Through collaboration, practice, and hardwork from the faculty, we see our opportunities to better ourselves and our students increasing. Some of the new practices in the classrooms this year are; posting scales for students to be self-aware of their learning, and encouraging higher level thinking, posting learning targets to create a more goal oriented atmosphere, and planning lessons that meet the intellectual needs of each individual. The goal for the school with this training is to provide the roadmap for all of us as students and staff to succeed at our highest level possible in learning and teaching. We are still new to the program and are learning as we go, but we are serious about continuous school improvement. To learn more, ask your child's teacher, board members, or the principal.

### Playground Improvement Planning

Thanks to the Dollar a Day Playground Fund donors, nearly \$12,000 have been raised so far for playground improvements. If you are interested in being a part of the improvement planning process, the first SHAS Playground Committee meeting is scheduled for March 26<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30pm.



### Family Fun

We are so grateful to our school families for all they do. It takes the efforts of all to make this a great school for our children. People pull together for the good of all. This alone is a great lesson in life for the students.



On April 24<sup>th</sup>, at 6pm, in gratitude for the SHAS families' hard work throughout the year, the school is hosting a family appreciation dinner, with complimentary pizza made by Giovanni's Pizza. We hope you can make it! The dance and slumber party will immediately follow, as rewards for the students' success with the carnival raffle.



Warmer weather is here (for now), and we are all excited! But the kids still need to be wearing boots and snow pants. The snow is gone but the mud puddles are here.



- Mar 13 Fish Fry 4:30-7:00
- Mar 16 Spring Pictures
- Mar 18 School Dance
- Mar 20 End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter
- Mar 20 Fish Fry 4:30 – 7:00
- Mar 23 No School
- Mar 24 Preschool and K Roundup
- Mar 27 Fish Fry 4:30 – 7:00
- Apr 2-6 Easter Break
- Apr 10 2 Hour Early Out
- Apr 18 Spring Blast
- Apr 20-24 Iowa Basic Testing
- Apr 24 Mid Quarter 4
- Apr 24 Family Appreciation and Slumber Party
- Apr 27-29 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Audubon Trip
- May 1 First Holy Communion
- May 4-8 Scholastic Book Fair
- May 4-15 NWEA Testing
- May 4-6 AAA Week
- May 6 Parents Night and AAA Performances
- May 7 Field Trip to Twins Game
- May 8 2 Hour Early Out
- May 22 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation
- May 25 No School
- May 27 Last Day Of School ½ Day

# SPRING BLAST



**Saturday, April 18, 2015**  
**At Sacred Heart Area School**  
**Mass 4:00 PM**  
**Social with Open Bar 5:00 PM**  
**Buffet Style Dinner 6:00-7:00 PM**  
**Silent Auction starts at 5:00 PM—**  
**Live Auction will follow dinner**  
**Limited seating so purchase your tickets now!**  
**Individual tickets are \$30 per person.**  
**Tickets are available to purchase at Sacred Heart Area School!!**

**We are asking parents to donate items to our liquor and garden wagons, each year these 2 raffles raise over \$1,000 each so please help us out!!**



Mark your calendars and get ready for Picture Day on **Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015.** Spring pictures work a little different, no money needs to be sent the day of pictures. Instead, all children are photographed and packages are sent home with your child and you can then decide if you would like to purchase them. Class pictures will also be taken that day so unless your child is sick, please try to have them here that day with their smiles ready!



The Spring Blast committee is in search of denim pockets. If you have any you would like to donate please drop them off at the school. Thank you!!



Who's loving this week of amazing weather?!? I know the kindergarten is! It's amazing that a little over a week ago we had a snow storm drop a good 5 inches of snow on us and now we are out enjoying this spring warm up (even if the playgrounds are icky). Even though we are enjoying all this warm weather, we are still working very hard in the kindergarten class. In math we have been working on addition and subtraction. These chapters can be a bit tricky, but the students are doing a great job and working very hard on these concepts. In reading we have added a handful more of words to our word wall. We work on these every day and the class is recognizing these words in the signs we see, books we look through or the worksheets we complete. They are becoming great readers, and we continue to work very hard on our weekly decodable readers. We are slowing making it through our lower case letters in handwriting, and I'm very pleased with the penmanship this class has. All are focused on doing a good job writing. When they take their time it's neat to see their personality shine in their handwriting, let's keep up the good work! In social we have been talking about rules and how important they are to have and to follow. It was even great to see one of our religion lessons link to that, and how it is important to follow God's laws, the 10 commandments. Time continues to fly this year and we continue to get in as many activities, crafts and learning experiences as we can. Let's continue to reach for the stars and make these last few months the best yet!!



## 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.*



The food drive is ending on March 20<sup>th</sup>! Please help feed the hungry and send your donation to the school and we will do the rest of the work!!