

February 2010

Parent Club Newsletter

ST. JUDE SCHOOL GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND

Parent Club Officers

Kim Watson	President	284-6680	Laura DeVengencie	Treasurer	748-4930
Elaine Perkins	Vice President	458-6659	Michelle Gutierrez	Marketing	453-9128
Tina Rankin	Secretary	366-5740	Rozann Swanson	Principal	366-1681

School website: www.stjudeelyria.org

Parent Club email: www.sjsparentclub@gmail.com

MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of St. Jude Parent Club is to enhance the educational experience of our children by supporting the school financially and through coordination of parental participation to reflect the ideals of St. Jude School and our Catholic faith.

FROM THE DESK OF OUR PRESIDENT

Hi Everyone!

I don't know about you, but my family thought Catholic Schools Week was a smashing success! My kids really enjoyed having Mrs. Swanson & Mrs. Lester as substitutes on Monday while their teachers had a short break in the faculty lounge. The volunteer tea on Tuesday was beautiful thanks to the hard work of Mrs. St. Marie. The teachers provided yummy treats for all of us which were such a nice touch as well as the hand made thank you cards we received. The scavenger hunt was equally as fun and the doughnuts seemed especially delicious. Then to wrap up the week with a movie and a special liturgy, who could ask for more? A special thanks to Jill Carmichael and over 50 volunteers who made this year's Family Fun Night the success that it was! You all did an amazing job.

Now that we've enjoyed a snow day, it's time to start planning February's activities. On Friday the 12th the Junior High students enjoyed a fast food lunch from Chipotle while the other grades enjoyed a Valentine's party. Monday the 15th we enjoyed another day off for President's Day followed by Tuesday the 16th which kicked off the Mardi Gras celebration with Fat Tuesday. The Liturgy Team had been hard at work planning a parade with a "rolling" mascot from each class. Be sure to ask your students what their "float" looked like. This fun dress down day in purple, green and yellow ended with a special ceremony burying the Alleluia for the Lenten season. It was nice to have several parents join us for Mass with their students on Wednesday the 17th for Ash Wednesday, a holy day of obligation. Thursday the 18th was an early dismissal day for a faculty meeting and interims come out already on the 19th. Whew! Another busy month!!!

At our last Parent Club Meeting, we voted on a new mission statement. We hope that this statement reflects your ideals as well:

The mission of St. Jude Parent Club is to enhance the educational experience of our children by supporting the school financially and through coordination of parental participation to reflect the ideals of St. Jude School and our Catholic faith.

Just a reminder that registration forms for next year are due by March 1st. Believe it or not, planning for next year is already underway and enrollment numbers are a critical piece of information needed for this process.

In closing, my wish for you is that your families get some down time during this snowy month to reconnect, snuggle, and enjoy each other!

Blessings,

Kim Watson, President

FROM THE DESK OF YOUR PRINCIPAL...

Dear Parents,

Catholic Schools Week was a wonderful success beginning with our Sunday Open House and concluding with our Friday Liturgy! We are glad that you participated in whatever way you could. Thanks for helping to make our week a success.

Traditionally, our Catholic Schools Week Open House kicks off the week's celebration as well as registration for the upcoming year. Just a few reminders! The cut-off date for enrollment is March 1. Enrollment numbers hugely impact the number of classrooms per grade and also class sizes. It is difficult today to know at this time what each grade will look like next year. **Please help us by registering for next year on a timely basis by March 1.**

Mrs. Lester and I have assembled an advisory group consisting of both faculty and parents to look at issues and to make recommendations about class sizes and the number of classrooms per grade. We will be looking at numerous possibilities looking to make the best choices possible as we move to the next school year.

Besides Mrs. Lester and me, members of the Advisory Committee are:

- Tony Cuevas
- Laura DeVengencie
- Betty Fisher
- Brenda Karlinchak
- Debbie Norris
- GiGi Novak
- Kim Watson
- Cindy Griffiths
- Cindy Kozma
- Christine Malone
- Julie McFarland
- Mary Primm
- Jen Rowe
- Terry Ziegelmeier

Members of this group were carefully selected to include parents and teachers from all levels, from split and larger classes and representing a variety of differing perspectives. There is an important balance that should make for some interesting conversation!

We encourage communication and welcome your insights! Please keep us in thought and prayer as we begin the important work ahead.

Yours in Christ,

Mrs. Rozann Swanson

EVENTS & INFORMATION

2010 Mardis Gras Celebration

Students at St. Jude celebrated Mardis Gras on Tuesday, February 16. The day closed with a wonderful Mardis Gras celebration followed by a prayer service in preparation for Lent.

Students began with a parade of homeroom floats led by our school Alleluia banner. The children in grades preschool through grade 3 were waiting to see the floats in the gym, while students in grades 4 through 8 lined the junior high hallways! The Parade of Floats made its way down to the gym where the entire school participated in a Lenten Prayer Service.

Five Lenten resolutions, each taken from a balloon that was popped, will guide our Lenten journey as a school this year. Our resolutions are:

- Take care of all school property
- Attend Mass every weekend
- Be attentive and participate at Mass
- Attend Eucharistic Adoration, Stations of the Cross and Reconciliation
- Be respectful in class and outside of school

At the conclusion of the prayer service, all Mardis Gras beads and masks along with our Lenten resolutions and our Alleluia banner were “buried” in a special box which will emerge again at the conclusion of Lent with the celebration of Easter. Students left the gym in silence as a sign that Lent was about to begin.

Market Day Bites

Remember to help support the on-going Parent Club Fundraiser through Market Day sales. The profits we make from Market Day go directly to the bottom line for fieldtrips, in-house programs, classroom materials, etc. Did you know that Market Day has items that are not more than 300 calories and items that have no preservatives, artificial flavors or colors and have 0 grams trans fat? They even have items for individuals on special diets such as gluten free and msg free. Check out this month's order form. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Angi at 346-6097 or Barb at 309-7943.

Cluster Update

Our Elyria cluster continues to meet on a regular basis. Schools in the cluster are St. Jude, St. Mary and Elyria Catholic. As the cluster continues to discuss the importance of maintaining Catholic education in Elyria, many different alternatives are being considered. On Sunday, March 7th at 1:30 in the Family Center, there will be conversations about the direction of Catholic Education in this area and what changes are being explored. Please come and join us in these important discussions. A few committees are being formed to explore these alternatives and we encourage your participation.

Dibels Information

DIBELS- What are they?? If you are a parent of a child in grades K-6, you have heard the term and received the graphs, but what is it? DIBELS stands for Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills. Still not sure? It is a new assessment tool that teachers administer in the fall, winter, and spring. We know that the development of early literacy skills is important for reading success. The probes are designed to readily and reliably determine student progress in early reading proficiency. Grades K-1 measure phonological awareness, letter-sound correspondences and blending. Grades 2-6 measure accuracy and fluency with connected text, comprehension and oral language. Teachers use the assessments to guide instruction so each student can reach their full potential in reading. If you have any questions about the assessments or with how to read the graphs please feel free to contact your child's teacher. We are happy to walk you through it. Sincerely, Diana Kirkpatrick- grade K

Campus Outfitters

As mentioned in the last newsletter, we had a meeting with Campus Outfitters this month. I would like to especially thank the three parents who took the time to write their comments about service and quality regarding our uniforms. It was helpful information to have for our discussion. The following information is what I have to share:

- On our original uniform order with Campus Outfitters, we did not have long sleeve, banded bottom shirts on the order form. This has been added and they now have these shirts in stock for junior high students.
- The fleece pullovers have been added as part of our approved list of uniform clothing. Youth sizes are now in stock.
- They do have a 90 day replacement policy for pants that have issues with the knee area. There are two brands of pants you can choose from and both have reinforced knee material. Both brands have a flat front and a pleated front to choose from.
- They are looking into the fabric for the skirts. We explained that the previous material held the pleats after washing and that the button holes were more reinforced.
- In lieu of parents having to contact customer service or their warehouse, we now have a direct contact person. Her name is Molly Bublik and her number is 216-583-5058. Please use this contact person for all orders to alleviate any confusion. If she is not in, please leave a message.
- Campus Outfitters will be in the library again for ordering for next year on Fun & Field Day, Thursday, June 3rd.
- Campus Outfitter hours are: Tuesday 10-7 and Wed-Sat 10-5.

Praise Apella

Congratulations to Mrs. Griffith's 4th grade class that won a dress down day for selling the most tickets. Those of you who were able to attend would agree that this was a wonderful family friendly event.

Blood Drive Update

We have some exciting news!!! We collected 12 units at the Family Fun Night. Cumulatively we have 38 units that have been collected with two blood drives left to go. So far, St. Jude has earned one \$500 grant and we need only 12 more units for another grant. Way to go everyone!!!! Our next drive is scheduled for March 5th during the fish fry from 4:00 – 8:00 pm in the preschool room.

Family Fun Night

A special thanks to Jill & Don Carmichael and over 50 volunteers that made such a fun night for all!

Winners of the baskets were:

Kindergarten Family Night – J. Riley

1st Grade Scrap Booking – Paige Hoagland

2nd Grade Money Tree – Sue Ferritto

3rd Grade Pamper Yourself Basket – Laura DeVengencie

4th Grade I Live For Chocolate – Ivana DeVengencie

5th Grade Dinner On Us – Mary Primm

6th Grade Aeropostale – Ziegelmeyer

7th Grade Teen Theme – Flanagan

8th Grade Family Game & Movie Night – Raquel

Faculty Lottery Tree – Amanda Gunter

50/50 Raffle \$135 – Karl Koch

Winners of the lip sync contest were:

Originality – Grace Davis & Eva Berndobler

Lip Sync – Danny Gutierrez

Choreography – Abigail Palmer

Abitibi Paper Program

Congratulations to St. Jude on collecting 89.851 tons of recycling this past year. Money received for this effort is donated to the building fund.

Parish Updates:

- February 27th & 28th Introduction to stewardship renewal.
- March 6th & 7th Lay Witness Talks
- March 7th Town Hall Meeting regarding Catholic Education at 1:30 in the Family Center
- March 13th & 14th Commitment Weekend
- May 22nd after 4:30 Mass – a Celebration for Father Kosem who is celebrating 40 years as a priest and 25 years at St.Jude.

Do YOU Know Someone Who Would Make a FABULOUS Volunteer????

Parent Club is looking for several volunteers for the following positions. We're going to try something a little more "creative." If you know of someone who would be GREAT at one of these positions, please submit an **anonymous** recommendation to the office in care of Parent Club so that we could "invite" them to help us!

1. Newsletter – If you have a computer at home and would like to practice your journalism, please contact Tina Rankin @ 366-5740.
2. Parents Night Out – help us to plan an evening of mingling and fun.
3. Playground Coordinator – This could be a wonderful service project for any group or family who would like to be in charge of maintaining the playground.
4. Hospitality Sunday on May 2nd – pick up the doughnuts, set up and clean up.
5. The Primary Level (K-3) is looking for a parent volunteer to help revise the primary handbook. Please contact Kathy Tollett (2B) if interested.
6. The Primary Level (K-3) is looking for a volunteer to help run copies on Thursday or Friday on a weekly basis. Please contact Kathy Tollett (2B) if interested.
7. Fundraising opportunities
8. **Ideas are always welcome so come to our meetings and bring your ideas and your positive energy.**

If you can fill these open positions or know of someone, please contact us at www.sjsparentclub@gmail.com.

Parent Club Budget

See attached.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Parent Club Mtg 8:00 am	3/3
Dollar Dress Down	3/10
Early Dismissal/Faculty Mtg	3/11
Reconciliation 3-5; Father's Day Mass 4-8	3/12
No school – in-service day	3/22
Early Dismissal/End of 3 rd Quarter	3/26
Palm Sunday	3/28
Early Dismissal 1:00; Lenten Retreat Day; Report Cards	3/31
Spring Break	4/1-4/11

**St. Jude Parent Club
Profit & Loss
July 1, 2009 through February 2, 2010**

	Jul 1, '09 - Feb 2, 10	Jul 1, '08 - Feb 2, 09	\$ Change
Income			
Box Tops for Education	1,335.82	1,738.60	-402.78
Dividend	13.79	25.08	-11.29
Donation Fund			
Dress Down Day	1,354.31	1,735.85	-381.54
Ink Jet Cartridges	324.60	88.20	236.40
Donation Fund - Other	0.00	-1,564.80	1,564.80
Total Donation Fund	1,678.91	259.25	1,419.66
Early Dismissal Lunch Fundraiser	1,682.42	1,610.39	72.03
Basket of Blessings	0.00	-7.96	7.96
clings	79.00	0.00	79.00
Fall Sale	13,062.62	13,830.00	-767.38
Family Fun Night	345.00	0.00	345.00
Gym Bags	150.00	128.20	21.80
Halloween Dance	217.15	349.45	-132.30
license plates	20.00	5.00	15.00
Macy's shop for a cause	0.00	65.00	-65.00
Market Day	2,095.45	3,657.20	-1,561.75
Poinsettia Sale	33.03	235.25	-202.22
Santa Secret Shop	2,528.01	2,894.34	-366.33
Spring Flower Sale	30.00	0.00	30.00
Thrift Shop	563.50	1,330.50	-767.00
xmas fun day	0.00	188.33	-188.33
Total Fundraiser	19,123.76	22,675.31	-3,551.55
Service			
Supply Sale			
calendar/directory	-182.22	913.50	-1,095.72
Gym Uniforms	158.00	512.00	-354.00
imprinting	12.00	0.00	12.00
sweatshirts	609.53	875.14	-265.61
Total Supply Sale	597.31	2,300.64	-1,703.33
Total Service	597.31	2,300.64	-1,703.33
Total Income	24,432.01	28,609.27	-4,177.26
Expense			
Classroom Enrichment	850.00	800.00	50.00
Copy Machine Contract	0.00	2,500.00	-2,500.00
Donations			
Teacher Wish List	481.45	735.03	-253.58
Total Donations	481.45	735.03	-253.58

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July 1, 2009 through February 2, 2010**

	Jul 1, '09 - Feb 2, 10	Jul 1, '08 - Feb 2, 09	\$ Change
Events			
Grandfriends Day	89.50	85.23	4.27
Hospitality Sunday	12.00	0.00	12.00
Total Events	101.50	85.23	16.27
Field Trips	1,050.00	7,900.00	-6,850.00
Miscellaneous			
Returned check	0.00	5.00	-5.00
Miscellaneous - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Miscellaneous	0.00	5.00	-5.00
School Supplements			
Diocesan Assessment	3,370.00	3,530.00	-160.00
Teacher In-Service/ Reimburse	67.50	1,300.00	-1,232.50
Total School Supplements	3,437.50	4,830.00	-1,392.50
Total Expense	5,920.45	16,855.26	-10,934.81
Net Income	18,511.56	11,754.01	6,757.55