

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRINCIPAL

April 11, 2014

GREETINGS

The early part of the week was rather cool, but the temperatures warmed up each and every day even though the week ended with rain. Recess time on Wednesday and Thursday was fantastic. But as always, April continues to be a very unpredictable month. It continues to make life interesting. Yet, study and activities remain on track and were very productive. The All-School Mass on Wednesday was wonderful. Ms. Diekemper's 7th graders did a good job as they assisted with the liturgy. It was also our Volunteer Appreciation Mass. We had lots of guests. Msgr. David did an excellent job reminding all of us to place our faith in God and to always be as honest as possible. It was a very nice message. Wednesday also saw our 8th graders off to Busch Stadium for the annual AAA Safety Patrol Game. They had beautiful weather and a fun time. Unfortunately they did not bring home a Cardinal victory. The Book Fair has been in full gear all week long. Monday night was Family Night and we had a very nice crowd. Every class had an opportunity to check out the books and make purchases Tuesday through Thursday. It was a great monetary deal, buy one and get one free. It was very well received by parents and students. Thursday was dominated by the arrival of our new principal for 2014-2015. Mr. Birdsong addressed parents at 7 p.m. and did some heavy duty handshaking at the close of his presentation. He made a very nice impression on our families. His enthusiasm is rather contagious. He will also be bringing his three younger children with him next year to St. Teresa. He will add a 6th grader, a 3rd grader, and a 1st grader to our St. Teresa Family. Today is scheduled to close on a deeply religious note as the entire school will attend the "Living Stations of the Cross." This will be presented in church by our 8th grade class. Mrs. Klaus, Mrs. Dedmon, and the students have been practicing hard to provide a faith-filled and memorable performance. We hope that everyone remembered after school today to pick up their goodies (Pizza and Cookie Dough) from the STAA Spring fund-raiser. Thank you, Cindy Voss. The PTO will also be hosting their Adult Fall Social at the Winegarten this evening. They have some very fun activities scheduled. Try to come by and join the festivities. It was a great week as we close in on Holy Week and the Easter break next week. Don't forget to stop by and check out the items at the Everything Under the Sun Sale tomorrow morning to see if there are any treasures you might want to make your own. It was a great week. At school, academics, as always, remained the #1 priority in terms of effort. It was a great week as we close in on Holy Week and the Easter break next week.

VOLUNTEER MASS

As mentioned, the Volunteer Mass on Wednesday was a ton of inspiration and activity. It was a near-perfect program put on by our 6th graders and Kindergartners at the morning Mass. The introduction was beautiful as the Kindergartners spelled out a big "VOLUNTEERS" for all of our parent helpers. Father David's Homily tied in beautifully, and the poem read to open the ceremony was inspirational. The volunteers enjoyed tasty snacks at a reception in the Parish Center after church. A token of our appreciation was sent home to all volunteers via their children at the close of the day. Thank you for all that you do to serve our students. We could not survive without our volunteers.

A LENTEN THOUGHT

Just as a quick reminder, during the remainder of Lent, give yourself three minutes of quiet every day. Don't think about what you should do to be a better person or a more loving parent. Instead, be gentle with yourself and list the small things you do with great love all of the time. Don't write them down—you don't need more paper about. Tuck them into your soul and know that, like Mother Teresa, you gave witness to the world of the great love of Jesus.

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

It is a pleasure to report that the Scholarship Committee has reviewed the applications for the Bruce K. Young and Faculty Scholarships for 2014-2015. We had the largest number of applications ever filed this year. We had a total of 24 applications for the 4 scholarships (2 Bruce K. Young/2 Teacher) available for next year. This made the selection process on the part of the committee very challenging. Each of the recipients will receive \$500 to be applied towards their tuition for the 2014-2015 school year. There was a possible maximum of 51 points that could be accrued by an applicant. This is based upon nine criteria.... Grades, IOWA Scores, Narratives, Participation, Need, References, Character, Leadership, and Service. Each of the students selected are near the top of their respective classes academically and are involved in a myriad of school and church activities. The Faculty Scholarship winners are ...Sophia Koesterer, daughter of Tom and Julie Koesterer, and Lauren Cerbin daughter of Michael and Gillian Cerbin. The Bruce K. Young Scholarship winners are... Erick Gosebrink, son of John and

Janine Gosebrink and Miles Wilhelm, son of Brent and Erin Wilhelm. The number of applications was so large this year and the competition so close that the committee asked the faculty and staff if they could come up with additional scholarship monies. Based upon the tremendous parental support for the annual Trivia Night and the concern and generosity of the teachers and staff, they agreed to fund the next three applicants who by the numbers, missed the top four scholarship winners by only one point. The Bonus Scholarships winners are...Olivia Crader daughter of Jayne and Matt Crader, Hope Reeves, daughter of Bridget and Chuck Reeves, and Kyle Sullivan, son of John and Sharon Sullivan. Congratulations. They are all wonderful students and great individuals and this year we were fortunate to be able to award seven scholarships.

THE ANNUAL FUND

The Annual Fund drive still continues to move forward. Check your white envelopes this week for a special letter from the Annual Fund Co-Chairs. They are proposing that you remember your mom (grandmother) in a special way this year. A donation can be made in their name to the annual fund and they will then be remembered at Mass on Mother's Day. It is something entirely new and it is easy to do. The information is self explanatory and simple to process. Make it so. Honor your loved ones and help the school. What a nice gesture to make on Mother's Day. If you need additional information please contact the co-chairs, Mrs. Sara Whitener or Mrs. Julie Massie.

LENTEN PROJECTS

Today marked the official closure of our three Lenten Projects. We know that the students and their families, as always, responded with a great deal of generosity. We will try to generate some numbers to verify our successes. These might not be available until after Easter. We feel generally good about the results. A big thanks goes to the three respective Scout Troops that headed up the projects. We are very proud of you.

Dates To Remember

April 12	- Everything Under the Sun Sale	April 16	- Talent Show
April 13	- Palm Sunday		Spring Dance (6-8 Grades)
April 14	- Men's Club	April 17-21	Easter Break
	PTO Teacher Grants Due	April 24	- Confirmation Retreat
April 15	- School Board		@King's House
	Chrim Mass @ the Cathedral	April 25	- Field Day
	Dino Day (2 nd Grade)		Bee Bop and Boogie

School Board Vacancies

We still need additional parent candidates. Please talk to anyone who is a St. Teresa parishioner who might be interested and have them contact the school or Msgr. David. We need three names for the lottery. Grandparents are always good. Perhaps a parent that has their final child graduating this year would be a good candidate. We need team-oriented, hardworking, clearheaded, and caring individuals to step forward. That would be your mom or dad or a close friend! The selection of parent names will be made at the April meeting and the non-parent in May.

Closing

It has been a great week and we hope for more of the same next week. The end is getting closer. You as parents always make the difference. Talk to your student. Keep them on task! It has been a great school year and we expect more of the same over the last weeks. The weather has been unusual. Don't forget as you set your summer vacation calendar that except for Pre-K, Kindergarten and 8th grade, we will close on May 29th. This is an extension of six days to allow for the six days missed due to snow. This Saturday also marks the beginning of the St. Teresa Spring Track season. The both the girl's and boy's teams will be in action at Belle Valley starting a 10 am. Come out and watch the action. Next week looks to be very exciting with Easter Break on the horizon. Not far down the road is Field Day and Bee Bop and Boogie, plus the Mid-Term of the 4th Quarter. Wow! Don't forget to get your registration paperwork in for next year. Please take note that if the tuition itself is a factor in terms of continuing at St. Teresa, please complete the Tuition Aid Analysis on-line through FACTS. Please contact me, and we can discuss any other issues. We want you to return!