



# FYI *For Your Information*

## St. Croix Catholic School

621 South Third Street

Stillwater MN 55082

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[www.stcroixcatholic.com](http://www.stcroixcatholic.com)

JANUARY 14, 2010



### "Old Guys" Basketball

"OLD GUYS" basketball is open to any SCCS Dad, Men's Club member, or St. Michael's, St. Mary's, and St. Charles parishioner. "Old Guys" basketball will be each Thursday from 8:00 to 9:30 PM. Interested players should email Rob Gag at [robqag@tierneybros.com](mailto:robqag@tierneybros.com) to sign up for the email distribution list. We are looking for all shapes, sizes and abilities. It doesn't matter when the last time you picked up a ball. We look forward to seeing you each Thursday.

### From the Assistant Principal's Desk by Mrs. Novack Invasion of the SMARTBoards

SCCS is pleased to announce the addition of five new SMARTBoards!

In November, Tierney Brothers offered a deal too good to turn down, five brand new SMARTBoards at more than a 50% savings with free installation!

We worked diligently over the course of the next two months to secure donations to cover the cost of these new SMARTBoards and the necessary equipment. It was very important to us that funds to cover the addition of these new SMARTBoards would not come out of the schools budget.

Thanks to a few generous, anonymous donors and the additional funds from the Scrapping for Senteo sale we were able to purchase the five SMARTBoards! The SMARTBoards were installed

over Christmas break in Mrs. Hoppe's 1<sup>st</sup> grade classroom, Sr. Theresa Anne's 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classroom, Barb Wissink's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classroom, Gwen Buck's 4<sup>th</sup> grade classroom, and Erin Rustin's 5<sup>th</sup> grade classroom. These new boards plus our existing SMARTBoards in both kindergarten classrooms and three within the Middle School area (Math, Science, and History) bring our school total to 10 SMARTBoards!

Statistically speaking, 38.5% of all our classrooms are now equipped with SMARTBoards! If we look only at "homerooms" and take specialist out of the count, we are at 55.6%. According to Tierney Brothers, the Stillwater school district is reporting 56% of their elementary classrooms are SMART equipped and 10% of their secondary classrooms are SMART equipped.

The classroom teachers and their students have been very excited to "get to know their SMARTBoard". Please ask you children regularly about what they like about having a SMARTBoard in the classroom. You will be surprised by how their answers will evolve over the course of the year from "they are cool" to "they help me learn by..."



**Remember . . .  
No Bus Days**

Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup> and Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup> are days there will be no bus service in both the mornings and afternoons.

Parents will be responsible for transporting students.

As on past no bus days, students can be dropped off either in front of the school or in the back at the gym doors.

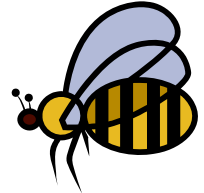
In the afternoon, families with last names beginning with A – K are asked to use the front of the school for pick-up and families with last names beginning with L – Z are asked to use the back parking lot. In the back, please enter from the north entrance and proceed to the gym doors to pick up your child/children.

Please be sure to communicate with your child and your child's teacher about your arrangements for picking them up on both of these days.

Thank you for your help in making these parent drive days proceed smoothly and safely.

## Spelling Bee

SCCS will soon be sending a student to the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Archdiocesan Spelling Bee. This bee is sponsored by Houghton Mifflin, a publisher of numerous educational materials and textbooks.



Students in grades 4, 5 and 6 have been busy as bees this month spelling words. These classes have held grade level bees to determine the top three winners from each grade. The representatives are:

Fourth grade:	Fifth grade:	Sixth grade:
Josie Wing	Tommy Steveken	Molly Frisch
Ben Ogren	Daniel Riehm	Andy Valerius
Kendra Middleton	Caroline Alessi	Matt Crea

Watch the school web site on Thursday evening to see who are school representative and alternate will be!

## Time to Sign Up for February Parent-Teacher Conferences

We are already approaching the middle of the second trimester of the school year. If you have a student in grades 3 – 8, we encourage you to be looking at PowerSchool to check on your child's progress. PowerSchool logins and passwords for each child were included in your registration packets at the beginning of the school year. If you have forgotten or misplaced your information, please call the school office or email Diane Polley at [dpolley@stccs.com](mailto:dpolley@stccs.com). If you have immediate concerns about your child's progress, please call your child's teacher.

We are beginning to schedule Parent-Teacher conferences for the second week of February (February 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>). This is a good time for parents and teachers to share information about the academic, social and spiritual progress of your child.

Conferences on Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup> will be from 3:45 until 8:00 pm and will be scheduled 15 minute conferences for grades, K – 5 and scheduled 10 minute conferences for grades 6 - 8. Middle School parents can choose to meet with as many teachers as they would like.

Middle School conferences on Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> will be walk-in only. The teachers will be available from 8:00 am until noon. Mrs. Thompson will only be available on Thursday evening. K – 5 conferences on Friday will still be scheduled times.

Please complete one Conference Request Form for all of the K – 8 children in your family and return it to the teacher of your youngest child at SCCS by Friday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Confirmation of your conference times will be sent home on Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup>. The Conference Request Form can also be found at [www.stcroixcatholic.com](http://www.stcroixcatholic.com).

## School Participation Masses

**Saturday, January 23 and Sunday, January 24, 2010**

Participation Masses are coming up soon on Saturday, January 23 and Sunday, January 24. Student volunteers are still needed. Students will be reading the petitions, bringing up gifts and handing out bulletins. Students who participate are expected to be in uniform; however, they will receive a no-uniform pass to be used on a school day.

Please complete and return the form you received with a previous FYI or print one from the school web site by tomorrow, January 15.

*Glenda Houle – St. Michaels and St. Marys; Jerome and Geri Wasinger – St. Charles*

**What to do if a  
Parent Drive Day  
is a bad  
weather day?**

During unpredictable winter weather, we have a plan in place should a Parent Drive Day such as the next two Mondays have conditions making the closing of school necessary.

Since Stillwater schools will not be having classes on January 18<sup>th</sup> and January 25<sup>th</sup>, the decision to close school will be made by our own administration. Should that happen, the decision will be made by 6 AM and will be communicated by:

- *An email to all parents on our FYI email list.*
- *A posting on the Home Page of the SCCS web site.*
- *A call to TV Channels 5 and 9. Watch for St. Croix Catholic School to be listed. Ark of Angels Preschool will do the same as SCCS.*

## Upcoming Enrollment Events at SCCS – Help Us Spread the Word to Friends and Neighbors

During the month of January many local schools will be holding Open Houses. SCCS is also geared up for this recruiting season, and we need YOU to help us spread the word to prospective families.

### Middle School Information Fair

Thursday, January 14

6:30 p.m.

Middle School Commons

Parents and students currently in grades 5 – 7 are invited to come enjoy a dessert bar, hear from recent SCCS graduates, gather with other Middle School families, visit interactive stations and displays, and learn more about the Middle School experience. This is for currently enrolled families as well as any new families.

### All-School Open House, Pancake Breakfast and School Participation Masses

Sunday, January 24

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 pm

*Home and School sponsored Pancake Breakfast in St. Michael's Social Hall, SCCS open for classroom visits; Scholastic Book Fair, the entire St. Croix Valley community is invited. This event is a kick-off for Catholic Schools Week.*

### Prayers and a Quilt for Zach Sobiech, SCCS 2009 Graduate by Jeanne Crea

As mentioned in last week's FYI, Zachary Sobiech, a 2009 SCCS graduate is battling cancer.

Recently, all of Zach's SCCS classmates and SCCS teachers signed quilt squares that were made into a beautiful quilt for Zach. The quilt was presented to Zach last Sunday. The project was organized by Eileen Douglass who had many helpers in getting this quilt to completion. The quilt is for Zach to throw over his shoulders to remind him of all the prayers and support from his SCCS classmates and teachers.

Please keep Zach and his family in your prayers. To follow his progress, visit <http://www.caringbridge.org> and type in zacharysobiech.



Zach receiving the quilt and the classmates who delivered it on January 10, 2010

## Healthy Habits Vikings Visit

On January 20, 2010, SCCS will be privileged to have a visit by a member of the Minnesota Vikings Organization.

A 45 minute presentation will take place sometime between 1:30 - 3:30. The Viking Organization member will address the *whole school* on the importance of physical activity and moving during daily activities. They will also be promoting good nutrition, especially the benefits of fruits and vegetables.

This is a Mass day, so uniforms are required in the morning; however, following Mass, students will be permitted to wear a jersey or sweatshirt with Vikings colors or logos. So bring your Vikings colors and enjoy the afternoon.

**Eat Right and  
Stay Healthy!**

## Eighth Grade Basketball Boys Win Third Place Trophy

The 8th grade boy's basketball team participated in the St. Patrick's tournament this weekend and captured 3rd place (out of 8 teams) after defeating St. Bridget's of River Falls and Hill Murray. Coaches for the team are Dennis Anderson, Jim Purdie and Rich Bushman.



*Eighth grade players included Cole Anderson, Nick Brevitz, Patrick Bushman, Lucien Lemanski, Henry Luloff, Nathan Purdie, and Ollie O'Keefe.*

## Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest

The annual Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest was held last Sunday in the SCCS gym for boys and girls ages 10-14. The event was organized by Knights Terry Poirier and Steve Deimler. The first place contestants will move on to the next level competition on Sunday, January 24. Congratulations to all who participated! 1st place winners for each age group include Mason Schwerzler (10), Peter Hill (13), Tim Koenning (11), Gavin Stachyra (14), Matthew Crea (12), Courtney Diemler (11) and Kendra Anderson (10).



## Dairy Queen SCCS Family Night

Our next Dairy Queen SCCS Family Day is Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup>. With the winter months, the Dairy Queen has shortened hours. They are now open from 11:30 am until only 6:00 pm each day. The hours in support of SCCS will now be from 3:00 pm until 6:00 pm.

Why not plan to stop by right after school or before evening sports for a fun DQ snack!

Hope to see you there.

## Middle School Winter Dance



**Friday,  
January 15  
7:00 – 9:00 pm  
in the SCCS gym**

Admission is \$5.00. The night will include Mr. Slaikeu as the DJ, along with plenty of snacks, pop and fun.

## Herberger's Community Day Event

Thank you to all who participated in the Herberger's Community Day Event last Fall. Through the sale of \$5 coupon books, we earned over \$475 for our school!

St. Croix Catholic School's Home and School Association has again joined with Herberger's for a wonderful opportunity to go shopping and support SCCS at the same time. Each \$5 coupon book purchased contains one \$10 off coupon to use on a single regular or sale price merchandise item of \$10 or more throughout the store. You're getting paid back twice the amount of your \$5 donation! Also included are six 20% off coupons and one 30% early bird coupon (good from 6:00-9:00 am on Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>). If you plan to purchase more than one item, you can purchase multiple books (however, only one \$10 off coupon may be used **per** item). 100% of the \$5 for each booklet sold is ours to keep. We're hoping for another successful event!

Watch for an order form to come home with your child this week. Books may also be purchased through the school office, at the Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, and during conferences on February 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your continued support of SCCS Home & School!

## Wall of Courage – an Upcoming Catholic Schools Week Event

We owe a huge debt to all those who serve us! SCCS will honor these courageous men and women on Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup> as part of our Catholic Schools Week celebration. We will create a "Wall of Courage" in our cafeteria to honor your family members, both living and dead, who have been, or currently are, in the Armed Forces, Police, Fire Department or Emergency Medical services.

Please send pictures of any family members you would like honored. The pictures will be displayed on the "Wall of Courage" through the end of Catholic Schools Week. On Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, the people displayed will be honored in a special way by each grade. In addition, each classroom will send thank you letters or pictures to those in an area of service they choose.

Please send your pictures to your child's homeroom or advisory teacher. If you want the picture returned, write your name on the back. Since the pictures will be displayed in a public area, we cannot guarantee they will be returned, so please copy any valuable pictures.

While it is impossible to repay the sacrifices these men and women make or have made, our hope is that this day of honor and recognition will remind them of our continuing gratitude!

## Upcoming Events

### Thursday, January 14

Chess Club registrations due

9:45 am 7<sup>th</sup> grade Communications class 2 to Valley Access

1:30 pm All School Spelling Bee – 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> graders attend  
St. Michael's Social Hall  
Parents Welcome

6:30 pm Middle School Information Fair  
Middle School Commons  
All 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> grade students and parents encouraged to attend

**St. Michael's  
Boy Scout  
Troop 132  
Paper and  
Aluminum Can  
Drive**

Saturday  
January 23  
8:00 – 5:30 pm  
&  
Sunday  
January 24  
8:00 am – 2:30 pm

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**Catholic Schools  
Week**

**Pancake  
Breakfast**

**Sunday  
January 24**

**8:30 am – 12:30 pm**

**Free Will Donation**

**Suggested:  
\$5 Adults  
\$3 Children  
Max \$20/Family**

**Pancakes, Sausage,  
Juice, Coffee**



**Friday, January 15**

School Participation Mass forms due

7:00 – 9:00 pm Middle School Dance  
SCCS Gym  
\$5.00 per student

**Monday, January 18 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

No AM or PM buses today – parents drive

**Tuesday, January 19**

3:30 – 4:30 pm Chess Club  
Meet in the cafeteria

3:00 – 6:00 pm SCCS Family Day at Stillwater Dairy Queen

6:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting

**Wednesday, January 20**

9:15 am All School Mass

PM (TBD) MN Vikings *Healthy Habits* Assembly for K - 8

**Saturday, January 23**

Archdiocesan Spelling Bee – our All School Spelling Bee winner will represent SCCS

8:00 am – 5:30 Boy Scouts Paper Drive  
St. Michael's Parking Lot

**Sunday, January 24 – CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK OPEN HOUSE AT SCCS**

8:30 am – 12:30 pm Open House, Pancake Breakfast, Book Fair, Preschool and Kindergarten Registration

**Monday, January 25 – Friday, January 29**

**SCCS Celebrates Catholic Schools Week – watch for a list of events next week  
Scholastic Book Fair all week**

**Monday, January 25**

No AM or PM buses today – parents drive

**Tuesday, January 26**

3:30 – 4:30 pm Chess Club

**Wednesday, January 27**

9:15 am All School Mass