



# FYI *For Your Information*

## St. Croix Catholic School

621 South Third Street

Stillwater MN 55082

651.439.5581

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

MAY 13, 2010



### Thank You to our parents and Home and School members

for the wonderful  
breakfast provided  
for teachers and  
staff on  
Wednesday,  
May 12<sup>th</sup> for  
Teacher and Staff  
Appreciation Week.

Thank you to Home  
and School for  
providing treats in  
the Staff Lounge on  
Monday.

Thank you also for  
the many flowers,  
prayers, thank yous  
and treats you  
showered on us  
throughout the  
week.

### From the Principal's Desk by Mrs. Epperly

This past Tuesday, Ms. Elizabeth Ogren, SCCS 4<sup>th</sup> grader, joined me as Principal for the Day! After a quick trip for coffee and hot chocolate, we started the day by leading the school in prayer and morning announcements. After a meeting to make plans for the day, Ms. Ogren was off to do one of my favorite jobs as Principal – visiting classrooms and reading with students. Reading is such an important part of each child's education and having the chance to talk to students about what they are reading and sharing my favorite books with them is one of the best parts of being a Principal.

Lunchtime was a well deserved break. Ms. Ogren was joined by the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers, Mr. Kolnik, Senora Bates, Ms. Kaup, and all the girls from Mrs. Buck's classroom for pizza, 7-up, and Dilly Bars. Thanks to the Stillwater Dairy Queen for supplying the Dilly Bars.

After completing all the work needing to be done in the office, Ms. Ogren joined her classmates to wrap up the school day and get her homework for the next day. Thank you Elizabeth. You were a big help in the office.

Before leaving for the day, I asked Elizabeth to write down her thoughts. She said, *"Principal for the Day was great. We had a very good lunch, watched volleyball, read to grades, hung out with Mrs. Epperly, and did missions. My most memorable thing was hanging out with Mrs. Epperly. I would like to be a Principal some day."*

Principal for the Day is an annual event. The opportunity to be Mrs. Epperly's assistant is a silent auction item each year at the Endowment Committee's Golf Tournament. This year's SCCS Endowment Golf Tournament is planned for August 21<sup>st</sup> at Applewood Hills Golf Course. Registration forms can be found on the SCCS website:

<http://www.stcroixcatholic.com/endowment.aspx>



Our two Principals!



Reading to Mrs. Hoppe's class.

*Thanks to Jeanne  
Crea for finding  
this poem for  
Teacher  
Appreciation  
Week*

### **Why God Made Teachers**

By Kevin William  
Huff

When God created  
teachers,  
he gave us special  
friends  
to help us  
understand His  
world  
and truly  
comprehend  
the beauty and the  
wonder  
of everything we  
see,  
and become a  
better person  
with each  
discovery.

When God created  
teachers,  
he gave us special  
guides  
to show us ways in  
which to grow  
so we can all  
decide  
how to live and how  
to do  
what's right instead  
of wrong,  
to lead us so that  
we can lead  
and learn how to be  
strong.

Why God created  
teachers,  
in His wisdom and  
His grace,  
was to help us learn  
to make our world  
a better, wiser  
place.

## **Home and School News**

### **Home and School Elects Officers for 2010-2011**

Congratulations to the new Home and School officers, elected at the May 4<sup>th</sup> meeting:

- Co-Chairs: Karen Bechtold and Gina Watry
- Treasurer: Tara Johnson
- (Returning) Secretary: Traci Albers

Thank you, ladies, for eagerly stepping up to continue the work of Home and School. Our school community is very fortunate to have you!

A big thank you also goes out to all the Home and School board members for their continued dedication to the mission of Home and School and their commitment of time over the past year. It has truly been a pleasure working with you all!

Former Co-Chairs, Angela Nolde and Carrie Sandquist

### **Uniform Room a Huge Success! Your Dollars are Hard at Work!**

The Uniform Room, located in the lower level of the school across from the art room, is available to all parents of SCCS students anytime the school is open throughout the school year. The items available for purchase are gently used uniform items that our school families have outgrown. Thank you to all the families who so faithfully drop off uniform items their families no longer need.

Past and present Home and School board members Deb Fedor, Teresa Alessi, and Nancy Wing have dedicated many hours of their time to keep the room organized for shoppers. Between the efforts of these women and other Home and School members who help prepare and work at the Uniform Sale in July, the SCCS Uniform Room has earned over \$3,000 this year! For the cost of a few baker's racks, rolls of painter's tape, and some black Sharpies, our community is able to offer affordable uniform items to each other and raise money to reinvest in SCCS at the same time.

These funds have helped Home and School grant many requests throughout the school year. Each fall, every teacher is given \$75 to spend on classroom supplies as needed, but we all know that's only a fraction of what it costs for teachers to provide wonderful learning experiences for our children. Home and School also invites teachers and staff to request additional funds as needs arise. Through the success of the Uniform Room, we have been able to grant special requests for the school community totaling almost \$2,000 this year alone. Teacher resource books, basketballs, flash cards, a staff subscription to *Educator* magazine, busing for special field trips, safety vests for traffic volunteers, digital cameras for the yearbook staff, new chair organizers for grades 3 & 4 for next fall, and funds to purchase items for a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade service project are just some of the many items purchased this year alone.

So each time you need a new uniform item, think about checking out the Uniform Room – chances are you'll be funding something that will benefit your child's safety and education in the end!

### **Marathon Planning is Underway**

The SCCS Home & School Marathon sub-committee is already gearing up for the 2010 Marathon to be held in October. We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to share your thoughts about the 2009 Marathon. Was there something you really liked? Or disliked? Any changes you would like to see made? Any general comments you'd like to share? If so, please contact a Marathon Committee member or send your thoughts to the school office, marked "Marathon".



## SCRIP

We have recently added these SCRIP Retailers:

**Applewood Hills Golf Course,**  
**Hagberg's and Len's!!**

**Lowe's** is also now available to purchase at Masses and in the SCCS Office!

The SCCS Office is open for purchases of our on-hand cards during office hours every week starting at 9:00 am Monday mornings and ending at 3:40 pm Friday afternoons.

We encourage you to place your order online to ensure that you will be able to get the cards you need – they have been selling out fast at Masses and the School Office.

If you have any questions, please contact Laura Ogren 439-1806 or Amy Gag 439-0888. We can also help you get set up online if you would like!

The Marathon Committee members are Karen Bechtold, Tara Johnson, Angela Nolde, Jen Pineda, Carrie Sandquist, Chrissy Summary, and Gina Watry. We would also like to invite anyone who is interested in participating in the planning for next year's Marathon to join us in our meetings throughout the summer and early fall. No need to join Home & School – we welcome your comments and assistance.

## A New Feature – Online Payments to SCCS

Do you still need to complete your tuition payments for this school year? Try out this newly available online payment option on the SCCS website. The school has partnered with Vanco Services which is a web service offering direct debit or credit card payment options for many of the payments you make to the school – lunch, tuition, sports fees, donations, etc.

To access this option, go to the school website under SCCS Parents > Make a Payment. (<http://www.stcroixcatholic.com/makeapayment.aspx>) This link takes you directly to the secure Vanco website.

You can use Vanco to make a one time payment or you can set up a schedule of payments throughout the school year. Please remember that your tuition payments for 2010 – 2011 must begin no later than August 20, 2010 and must be completed by May 20, 2010.

Beginning next school year, the forms you use to sign up for Creative Kids Club, sports, or yearbooks will have a place to check off that payment has been made online.

If you have any questions about using this new feature, feel free to contact either Kathie Sontag ([ksontag@stccs.com](mailto:ksontag@stccs.com)) or Diane Polley ([dpolley@stccs.com](mailto:dpolley@stccs.com)).

## News From The Garden by Mrs. Thomas

You may have noticed how great the school garden is looking. Even after the wind that took so many blossom petals, the hard work of volunteers is still very evident. Our first after-school sessions began April 20, and on May Day, a group of very helpful parents and eager 5<sup>th</sup> graders hauled mulch, weeded flower beds, and planted flowers. They really made a dent in the workload.

Our 5th Grade Plant Sale will be held again during the school Carnival. Please come ready to shop for some hardy perennials, lovely annuals, and creative plantings.



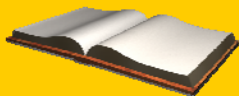
**The Garden Crew on May 1, 2010**

## Year End Lunch Balances

Please check your lunch account balances to make sure your children have enough money in their accounts to cover the lunches they will be purchasing through the last day of school. Lunch for students is \$2.60 per day and the price of milk only is 45 cents. All past due balances must be paid in full by June 11, 2010. Balances remaining in the account of returning students will be carried over to next year unless a written request for a refund is made.

Please submit requests by June 18 to the school office and mark the envelope attn: Jane Slusher.

Remember, you can access your lunch account balances through the PowerSchool program. Just click on the **green \$** at the top of your child's page.



A Message from the SCCS Library . . . Please return all library materials by Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup>! Thank you!

## Instrumental Music Programs Conclude the Year With Concerts

Last Friday the students in the SCCS String Orchestra program (directed by Mr. Jim Woodhouse) entertained residents of two area senior facilities – Good Samaritan Healthcare Center and Boutwell's Landing. These students have been working hard during their before school lesson times in preparation for this and other upcoming performances. The students are:

Adrianna Christ  
Prada Fallin  
Rachel Houle  
Ellie Hahn  
John Hahn  
Allison Klein (home school student)  
Danielle Renteria

Amanda Rolf  
Kevin Stanich  
Claire Summary  
Andrew Stanislaw  
Misty Vogel  
Augustin Wolf



This same group along with the SCCS – Hill-Murray Band students will be performing a concert for their fellow students, families, and friends on Thursday morning, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am and again on Thursday evening, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. Both concerts will be in St. Michael's Social Hall. The students will be informed during the concert of the possibility of joining the Orchestra starting either this summer or next fall.

This summer, Mr. Woodhouse has Wednesday mornings available for any new students who would like to begin lessons during the summer at his teaching studio at Valley Music Academy, 200 Industrial Blvd., Stillwater. Directions to the studio and information can be found at [www.musicmanjim.com](http://www.musicmanjim.com) or [www.valleymusicacademy.com](http://www.valleymusicacademy.com). Please contact Mr. Woodhouse at [musicmanjim@comcast.net](mailto:musicmanjim@comcast.net) if you would like to learn more about the Orchestra or about starting individual and group lessons next fall.



\* \* \* \* \*

This program is just one **Orchestra** opportunity available to SCCS students. Also available is the District 834 Orchestra directed by Dr. Marla Okner. The District 834



**MOSAIC ITEMS  
NEEDED for 7th  
GRADE ART!  
by Mrs. Fioritto**

As you're doing your Spring cleaning, please keep in mind that the seventh graders will soon be creating their mosaic stepping stones! Any old jewelry, buttons, trinkets and of course chipped or broken dishes and pottery would be greatly appreciated! You can drop items off in the office for Mrs. Fioritto, or bring them to the art room.

We also need Ice Cream Pails for the mosaic projects. Please drop off in the office or the art room.

Thank you!

Elementary Orchestra program is available to students in grades 5 and 6. These students have small and large group lessons either before or during school, usually at Oak Park Elementary School. Dr. Okner presented an instrument demonstration for all 4<sup>th</sup> grade students at SCCS a few weeks ago. Our students have the option of choosing either of these orchestra programs.

Students are able to join the SCCS – Hill-Murray **Band** beginning in 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Information and demonstrations will be held in the fall when school resumes.

### **Join SCCS 8<sup>th</sup> Graders, Volunteers and Eighth Grade Families – You Are Invited For A Ride on the Andiamo on Monday, June 7**

An annual end-of-the-year event at SCCS is an afternoon cruise on the Andiamo. This is offered by Mr. Dick Anderson to all SCCS, SCVFF, and Tri-Parish staff, our volunteers, committee members, eighth grade graduates and their parents. ANYONE who has volunteered this past school year is invited to join us for this cruise. Boarding begins at 11:15 and we will return at about 2:00 pm. Snacks and soft drinks are provided. Since an accurate count is needed, please RSVP by May 26<sup>th</sup>. Call the SCCS office or email [dktsanes@stccs.com](mailto:dktsanes@stccs.com). Please see the flyer coming home this week with your youngest child at SCCS.

### **Summer Community Events and Volunteer Opportunities**

Again this summer and early fall, there will be a few opportunities to have fun, highlight our school, and, if you need to count Parent Participation Hours, to start fulfilling your commitment.

1. Mark your calendars for the **Washington County Fair** - August 4 - 8, 2010. SCCS will again have a booth to advertise our wonderful school. Last year's volunteers had fun staffing the booth and doing trivia questions with any and all who wanted to try. Now is YOUR chance to sign up for a shift. Contact **Sue Stanich** to find out details at [sstanich@comcast.net](mailto:sstanich@comcast.net) or 651 430-1243. Or look for a schedule in the school office to sign up for the hours you prefer.

Check out the fair's website <http://www.washingtoncountyfair.org/> while you're at it and see all the fun things to do. Children and adults can submit entries and win cash premiums in many categories ... animals, crafts, baking, hobbies and more. Come on out and join us at the fair!

2. **Wild Rice Festival - An SCCS Coordinator** who will recruit, schedule, and oversee SCCS volunteers (parents and students) to help in the dining room during the **Wild Rice Festival**, helping serve, clean tables, restock paperware, etc. (The SCCS coordinator will receive specific direction from the Wild Rice Dinner Coordinator.) In the past, students were in uniform and earned a no-uniform pass. The date of the event is Sunday, September 12, 2010 (time is approximately 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.) Contact Holly Mezera at [hmezera@msn.com](mailto:hmezera@msn.com).

3. SCRIP sales will continue at the parishes throughout the summer months. If you can take a shift selling at St. Michael's, St. Mary's or St. Charles, please contact Jeanne Crea at [jcrea@comcast.net](mailto:jcrea@comcast.net). It is a great time to help the school and connect with friends after masses.

## SCCS Middle School

### SPRING DANCE



A Spring Dance is scheduled for the Middle School students on Friday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, from

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm in the SCCS gym.

There will be a \$5.00 admission.

The night will include Mr. Slaikeu as the DJ, along with plenty of snacks, pop and fun. If you are a Middle School parent and would like to help with this event, please contact Laura Ogren at 439-1806.

### LAST DAY OF SCHOOL For 2009 - 2010

**June 4<sup>th</sup>, the last day of school, will be a Half Day.** Students will come by their usual method of transportation, will attend Mass at 9:15 then return to their classrooms for final good-byes and to collect report cards. **Parents will be responsible for making plans to pick-up students at 11:00 am.**

## St. Michael's FUN Fest is This Weekend

Make your plans to attend Fun Fest next Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup> between 12:00 and 6:00 p.m. Come see our SSCS 5<sup>th</sup> graders who will be participating in the game, "**Are You Smarter than a St. Michael's Fifth Grader?**" at the Fun Fest. There will be 15 of our fifth graders participating. Some questions are submitted by our fifth grade teachers and some by Father Miller. The game times are 3:00, 4:00, and 5:00 pm. in the Social Hall. The adult contestants are Mr. Tom Hooley - 3 pm., Fr. Brian Lynch - 4 pm., and Chris Stanich - 5 pm.



## It Is Carnival Time

**The School Carnival Is Friday, May 28<sup>th</sup> from 1 pm – 3 pm!!!**



Carnival Prices Stay The Same As Last Year!

No Uniform Day

All younger siblings are welcome to join you & have some fun!

**Tickets are only 50 cents!**

Presale of Tickets the day of the Carnival

Middle School Presale before school in Middle School Commons

K – 5 Presale Tickets will be sold in classrooms at about 9:30

### GAMES - 1 Ticket

Little Debbie Walk  
Fish Pond  
Putting Green  
Lizard Launch  
Football Toss  
Pop Bottle Ring Toss  
Lollipop Wheel  
Plinko  
Slap Shot Hockey  
Face Painting

### OTHER FUN THINGS - 2 Tickets

Obstacle Courses  
Pitch Burst Water Game  
Pick A Prize  
Fun Hair  
All Stars Basketball

### FOOD - 1 Ticket

Pop  
Water  
Popcorn

### Food - 2 Tickets

Nachos  
Cotton Candy  
Ice Cream Treats

## Focus on Faith by Jeanne Crea

### The Seven Catholic Sacraments

The Latin word *sacramentum* means "a sign of the sacred." The seven sacraments are ceremonies that point to what is sacred, significant and important for Christians. They are special occasions for experiencing God's saving grace. That's what theologians mean when they say that sacraments are at the same time *signs* and *instruments* of God's grace.

If you learn more about the sacraments, you can celebrate them more fully. To learn more about the individual sacraments, please refer to the greatest Catholic reference book; The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC), paragraphs 1210-1690. It would be wonderful if every home owned at least one copy. You can also find it online at [http://www.scborrowmeo.org/ccc/ccc\\_toc2.htm](http://www.scborrowmeo.org/ccc/ccc_toc2.htm) or at the Vatican website [http://www.vatican.va/archive/catechism/ccc\\_toc.htm](http://www.vatican.va/archive/catechism/ccc_toc.htm)

## Annual Booster Club Activities Banquet

Monday,  
May 24<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 – 8:00 pm  
St. Michael's  
Social Hall

The SCCS Booster Club Activities Banquet is open to all students and parents who have participated in extra-curricular activities this year; sports, Lego League, Spelling and Geography Bees, Chess Club, or any other organized group.

Coaches:  
Remember to invite any non-SCCS participant or adult team helper that may have been part of your group.

Please RSVP to the SCCS office with number attending by May 17<sup>th</sup>.

- 1) The Sacrament of Baptism is found in the Catechism (CCC) paragraphs 1213-1284
- 2) The Sacrament of Confirmation is found in the Catechism (CCC) paragraphs 1285-1321
- 3) The Sacrament of the Eucharist is found in the Catechism (CCC) paragraphs 1322-1419
- 4) The Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation is found in (CCC) paragraphs 1422-1498
- 5) The Anointing of the Sick is found in (CCC) paragraphs 1499-1532
- 6) The Sacrament of Holy Orders is found in (CCC) paragraphs 1536-1600
- 7) The Sacrament of Matrimony is found in (CCC) paragraphs 1601-1666

Last week we witnessed the beautiful Mass and Eucharistic procession. Our beautiful second graders experienced the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist this year. They were so joyful and sang so beautifully during the procession. If we could keep that joy and wonder of experiencing the Eucharist for the first time throughout our lives and every week at Mass, how blessed we would be.

This Saturday, the SCCS graduates from the class of 2009 will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation at the Cathedral in St. Paul. They have been extremely well prepared by our wonderful Mrs. Lynch, Middle School Religion teacher in 8th grade, and then by Annie Fochtman and the St. Croix Valley Faith Formation in 9th grade. Please pray for them this Saturday, and for Zach Sobiech who is undergoing chemotherapy that he may be well enough to join them.

## Buy One, Get One Free Is Back!

The Buy One, Get One Scholastic Book Fair is back! It will be held in the **Resource Room** (3<sup>rd</sup> floor next to Mrs. McDermott's 4th grade classroom), **Monday-Friday, May 24<sup>th</sup> - May 28<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.** For every book you buy, you get a second book of equal or lesser value for free! It is a great way to stock up on summer reading. The Book Fair will also be open during the school carnival, so come check it out!



If you have any questions, call Denise Faust @ 651-748-8442 or Holly Corbid @ 651-275-0501. Happy Reading!

## Upcoming Events

### Friday, May 14

MS Field Day at Lily Lake Park

### Sunday, May 16

Noon to 6:00 pm St. Michael's Parish Fun Fest

### Monday, May 17

Grades 4 & 5 Jump Up Day

### Tuesday, May 18

Patrol Picnic to Mall of America

4:00 – 7:00 pm SCCS Family Night at Stillwater Dairy Queen

6:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting

## The Booster Club Needs Your Help

We need your help to continue the wonderful work of the Booster Club. The purpose of the Booster Club is to support extra-curricular activities at our school.

Please consider stepping up to fill the empty board positions. We also, need volunteers to take over as our Spirit Wear organizer and "milk moola" Kwik Trip milk cap coordinator.

Please call or e-mail Terry Mikutowski to volunteer or ask questions about any aspect of the SCCS Booster Club.

651 436-2074 or [stmik@live.com](mailto:stmik@live.com)

### Wednesday, May 19

Stillwater Area Patrol Picnic

9:15 am All School Mass

5:30 pm Ark of Angels Preschool Potluck Picnic at Pioneer Park

### Thursday, May 20

10:30 am Orchestra and Band Concert for students (families are welcome too)  
St. Michael's Social Hall

6:30 pm Orchestra and Band Concert for families  
St. Michael's Social Hall

### Friday, May 21

2:00 pm Rock and Roll Forever presented by the SCCS 5<sup>th</sup> grade students  
St. Michael's Social Hall

7:00 – 9:00 pm Middle School Dance  
SCCS Gym

### Monday, May 24

6:30 am Booster Club Banquet (*see page 7*)  
St. Michael's Social Hall  
Call the SCCS office to RSVP

### Tuesday, May 25

9:45 am Eighth grade play performed for grades K – 4  
***Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs***

1:30 pm 5<sup>th</sup> grade DARE Graduation at St. Mary's Great Hall

### Wednesday, May 26

9:15 am All School Mass

### Thursday, May 27

9:45 am Eighth grade play performed for grades 5 - 7  
***Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs***

1:00 pm Health Fair

7:00 pm Eighth grade play performed for family and friends  
***Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs***

### Friday, May 28

1:00 – 3:00 pm SCCS Carnival

Last Day for Ark of Angels Preschool

### Monday, May 31 - Memorial Day – NO SCHOOL

### Tuesday, June 1

2:00 pm Middle School Awards