

May Newsletter

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

I cannot believe how fast this year went by! This is the last newsletter of this academic year!!! In looking back, once again I see a vibrant school, full of life and with an incredible variety of activities and accomplishments. Every single season celebrated, our values promoted, our community involved, our students recognized, every opportunity embraced. And here we have more good news:

Raffle: Our second collection date Monday, May 9th. So far our school has sold \$11,030 in tickets. Together with what the parish has collected we have already reached breaking point and anything else, from now on, will be profit! Remember that raffle drawing will be on Saturday, June 11th, after the 4:30 Mass. All our families are invited to attend, although you do not need to be present to win.

Facilities Improvements: We continue plans for renovations this summer. Included are the second grade and the Music/Band rooms.

Middle School News: The 7th graders were the winners of the Middle School Homework Challenge for the month of April. The following students received a Principal's Dress Down Pass for a perfect homework record: Daniel Clark, Ben Godley, Cameron McCarthy, Shenandoah Terry, David Abraham, Fatima Barlan, Alannah Bunkley, Kiana Foster-Mauro, Troy Helme, Christina Lawton, Beatrice Mills, Summer Mills, Matthew Murphy, Isabella Niece, Courtney Rose, Paul Snyder, Kimberly Thomson, Corinne Wagner, Megan Bosetti, Michelle Chapman, Shannon Forrester, Elizabeth Jennerwein, Briana Kleiner, Lauren Lomasney, Francesca Matira, Ellie McCarthy, Joey Warmus and Martin Wolk. Congratulations!

On Thursday, April 28th, our Middle School students went on a field trip to Medieval Times and to The Meadowlands in New Jersey. They had a great time. Thank you to Mrs. Jane Murphy for coordinating it.

The Induction Ceremony of our school's chapter of the National Junior Honor Society took place on Tuesday, May 3rd. It included a Mass followed by the induction of our student members. We would like to acknowledge Sacred Heart Boy Scouts Troop 17-G for building a beautiful candelabrum for this special occasion. The first meeting of the NJHS is scheduled for June 1st, 2011.

On Monday, May 9th, our 8th grade students, followed by our 6th and 7th grade students on Wednesday, May 11th, went on a field trip to the Mystic Aquarium. We would like to thank Mrs. Amy Ward for coordinating this special event.

Also, on Wednesday, May 11st, our 8th grade students went on an all day retreat to St. Agnes Church. This retreat was a joint collaboration between SHS Campus Ministry, SHC DRE, and Saint Bernard School Campus Ministry, and conducted mostly by SBS Seniors. This activity is designed to spiritually prepare our students for their next step in life: high school. They all loved their retreat experience. In addition, on Tuesday, May 24th, they also went on their graduation trip to Holiday Hill, in Cheshire, CT.

Elementary School News: On Saturday, May 7th, our second grade students received their First Holy Communion. It was a beautiful ceremony on a beautiful day. Later, on Friday, May 13th, these students were featured in the Crowning of Mary during our school Mass.

On Tuesday, May 3rd, our 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade students went to the Garde Theater to attend a performance of the play Junie B. Jones. They had a wonderful time! Also, on Wednesday, May 4th, our fourth and fifth grades students went on a field trip to Sturbridge Village to have first hand experience of life in a New England town in the 1700's. They had a great time! Finally, on Wednesday, May 18th our third grade students went on a field trip to the Mystic Historical Society. May is definitely field trip month at SHS!

School News: On Friday, April 29th, we enjoyed our Drama Club's production of Town Mouse Country Mouse. Approximately 56 students participated in this play. It was fantastic! We would like to thank Mrs. Ann

Griffin for once again coordinating this extracurricular activity. She was assisted by Mrs. Dorothy Lance and Miss Kim Poe.

Our last Parish and School Family Night took place last Saturday, May 7th, at 5:30 PM in the cafeteria. It was a pizza party in honor to our mothers hosted by the School Board and funded with a donation from Charter Oak Credit Union obtained by our Board's president, Atty. Jeff Godley. It was well attended. All mothers received recycling grocery bags also courtesy of Charter Oak Credit Union and medals and cards of our Blessed Mother.

The spring Book Fair took place from Monday, May 9th until Friday, May 13th. All of our students had the opportunity to buy the books of their choice and a "buy one, get one free" sale. We would like to thank school parent, Mrs. Sue Fountain, for coordinating this activity. Thank you also to all the volunteers that helped her make this Book Fair a big success.

On Thursday, May 19th we enjoyed our annual spring Band and Chorus Concert and Art Exhibit. Both our Cadet and Advanced Bands, under the direction of Mr. John Listorti, as well as our Children's Chorus, under the direction of Mrs. Barbara Billings and accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Jeanine Lamothe, performed beautiful songs showcasing their talent. The cafeteria was beautifully decorated with Art class projects from all our students (thank you, Mrs. Griffin!) and by the works of our Photography Club (thank you, Mrs. Sparks!). To top it all, graphic design projects prepared during Computer class were also on display (thank you, Mrs. Hamanaka!). It was a great night for the Arts at SHS!

On Thursday, May 26th, our Parents Guild honored our parent volunteers with a lovely reception in the cafeteria. We would like to thank the Guild's Volunteers Coordinator, Mrs. Anna Lawton, for organizing this Volunteer Appreciation Evening. We all enjoyed a delicious cake and tokens of our appreciation were given to those in attendance. Thank you to all our volunteers for enriching our school in so many ways!

Finally, on Friday, May 27th, our school celebrated Science Day. Pfizer professionals hosted this activity and took of their time to set up demonstrations and exercises that allowed our students to be scientist for the day. I would like to thank Mrs. Ketti Terry for coordinating this wonderful activity and to all the volunteers that helped her. It was a great day for Science!

Additional activities planned for the remainder of the year include: Field Day (6/1), 8th grade reception (6/6) and 8th grade graduation (6/7), RISEN Golf Tournament (6/10).

Reminders: Be sure to check the June Calendar in this newsletter for all the activities and changes. **Please note that in addition to the first Friday in June, we will have 1:00 PM dismissal on the last 3 days of classes (Friday, June 10th, Monday, June 13th and Tuesday, June 14th). Sunshine Club will be available on Friday, June 10th and Monday, June 13th. There will be no Sunshine Club on our last day of classes, Tuesday, June 14th.**

As you can see, wonderful things are happening in our school. It is a true testament to what our school has to offer to our students, their families and our community. If you wish more people to know about this, I invite you to submit a brief review of our school at the following suggested web sites: www.greatschools.net and www.trulia.com.

My heart is filled with nostalgic joy as I look back at my last three years at SHS. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you as principal and for your continued support. But most of all, I give thanks to our Lord for blessing me with the company of your beautiful children and a dedicated and talented faculty and staff. As I step down another leader will step up. With your continued support there is no doubt that my successor will be successful leading our school on the path towards distinction. You will always be in my heart and in my prayers. May you all have a safe and fun summer!

In Christ's love,

Dr. Calle