

# St. Francis School Newsletter

St. Francis Xavier School, with family partnership is dedicated to the development of the whole child through the spiritual and academic excellence of Catholic education

February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Father Dennis Stilwell-347-4133 James Kanine-347-3651 ext.426 School Office 347-3651

Dear Families of Saint Francis School:

After we come back from Christmas Break, January is a significant month because we mark the end of our first semester, and then we celebrate Catholic Schools Week at the end of January. February always follows the pomp and circumstance of Catholic Schools Week! Celebrating Catholic Schools Week is important and necessary because it is about our mission and who we are. We head into February on a high note filled with hope! During the month of February, we have several notable things happening at school. Our teachers have been participating in Faith Formation, which is required by the Diocese of Gaylord. Father Matthew has been leading staff in a book discussion. The book, The Virtue Driven Life is appropriate because we have been teaching virtues to our children for a few years now. Working with Father Matthew has given staff a deeper understanding of virtues and how to incorporate them into our lives.

The month of February is a great month for growth; children advance in February. There are not too many interruptions to teaching and learning, and the motivation from Catholic Schools Week is still evident. Teachers and students try to make as much academic progress as possible this month. Coincidentally, teachers will be very involved in curriculum work in the months of March and April.

Lastly, February ends and March begins by ushering in Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. March 1 is Ash Wednesday and our school children will be focused on Lent and the many ways we can prepare for Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

Yours In Christ,

James Kanine, Principal

## DROP OFF AND PICK UP REMINDERS

For safety reasons we would like to remind parents to not stop their vehicles in the middle of Michigan St. while dropping off or picking up their students as it is dangerous. Parents parking across Michigan St. by the florist shop to drop off or pick up their children should be walking with their children across Michigan. We have had several near misses as of late as children are darting behind cars that are pulling away from the school. **Also, students need to be picked up at 3:05 at the end of the day. We have had several students unattended after school and this is a huge safety issue. CDC is always open after school if you are unable to pick up your student by 3:05pm.**



## STUDENT OF THE QUARTER

Congratulations to our students of the quarter who were nominated by SFX staff for displaying kindness, citizenship, respect, manners and strength of character.

K-2<sup>nd</sup>- Stuart Borowski (1<sup>st</sup>)  
3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>- Khaiana Manthei (4<sup>th</sup>)  
Middle School- Lia Iacoangeli (7<sup>th</sup>)

## 5<sup>th</sup> GRADE USED BOOK SALE

Our 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will be having a gently used book sale March 6<sup>th</sup> -March 9<sup>th</sup> before school, during lunch and after school. If you have books to donate to the cause, please bring to Kathy Meier's classroom. This is also a great opportunity to get some new books for your students. All proceeds go towards the 5<sup>th</sup> grade overnight trip to Fort Michilimackinac in May.

## AUCTION UPDATE

Please keep selling those raffle tickets. The classroom with the highest raffle ticket sales will win a non-uniform pizza party. This is an attempt to sell as many raffle tickets as possible. We realize this has been said before, but if we sell all 1500 raffle tickets our Gala could simply be a celebration of our great school with classroom projects and a very limited silent auction. Let's make our 26<sup>th</sup> Auction and Gala one to remember. If you need tips on how to sell your raffle tickets feel free to email Amy Harris at [stoca@charter.net](mailto:stoca@charter.net). If you are interested in selling tickets after mass, let the school office know or sign-up. Additionally, if you have a good or service to donate to the auction, now is the time to let us know. **Every family is required to complete 6 hours towards the auction. Look for volunteer sign-up sheets which are posted outside of the school office.**

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## MUSIC INFORMANCES

Katie Hoyt, SFX Music Teacher, will be holding music informances in March for parents to come see their students in action during music class. A schedule for the informances will be coming home in a future Friday folder.

## FUNDRAISER-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Student Council ran a "Penny Wars" fundraiser where classes competed to see who could collect the most pennies and sabotage other classes with silver coins or bills. The fundraiser was for the Kolp Family. Mary Fran Kolp past parent/coach/ and awesome supporter of St. Francis School suffers from A.L.S. and the fundraiser was to help with medical bills. SFX families raised \$1,096.00 towards this great cause.

## CATECHISM BEE WINNER

Beatriz Miranda won the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Catechism Bee on Feb. 3rd! She will compete at the Diocese level May 4<sup>th</sup> to represent SFX school. Way to go Bia!

## PLAYGROUND HOURS

**Just a reminder that there are only 67 more days of school left!** Have you completed your 4 hours of lunch duty? If not please schedule your hours as soon as possible by calling (347-3651) or stopping by the school office.

## HONOR ROLL

We are pleased to announce the Honor Roll for the Second Quarter. Gold : William Gagnon and William Pizzuti (8<sup>th</sup>), Claire Hoffman, Lia Iacoangeli, Jackson Kulbieda and Sophie Zajdela (7<sup>th</sup>), Audrey Gietzen and Beatriz Miranda (6<sup>th</sup>) Silver: Nigel Allum, Alexis Glaser, Hammond Law and Ashley Nguyen (8<sup>th</sup>) Bronze: Jean Pierre Broz and Charles Pizzuti (7<sup>th</sup>), Aiden Mailloux (6<sup>th</sup>).

## REGIONAL SPELLING BEE

Congratulations to all of our spelling bee participants: Grace Broz (4<sup>th</sup>), Audrey Gietzen (6<sup>th</sup>), J.P. Broz (7<sup>th</sup>), Annabelle Wilder (7<sup>th</sup>) and Ella Bacigalupi (8<sup>th</sup>) who traveled to Harbor Springs on Feb.15<sup>th</sup> for the regional bee. We were proud that you represented St. Francis.

## THANK YOU

We would like to thank all of the parent volunteers who helped chaperone the K-5<sup>th</sup> students at the Winter Sports Park during Catholic Schools Week and the 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students at Boyne Highlands. The kids had an awesome time sledding, skating, skiing and snowboarding and appreciated all the parents that made the days a success!

## PERFECT ATTENDANCE

The following students had perfect attendance for the second semester. KA- Olivia Bielaczyc and Ella Sulitis. KB- Calvin Walker. 1A-Anna Dobrowolski, Derek Friedenstab and Grace Sullivan. 1B-Colin O'Donnell, Elizabeth Daniel, Isaac Fate and Tate Russell 2B- Ashton Attie and Josephine Bielaczyc 3A- Claire O'Donnell and Leah Sulitis 3B- Jerome Fate and Jack Rasmussen 4A-Gaby Smock and Korbin Sulitis 4B- Mitchell Eberhart 5A- Payton Beckering, Maddie Daniel, Kristin Holzschu and Shane Izzard 5B-Maura Brown, Charlotte Gagnon, Andrew Licata, Lucas O'Donnell and Madylin Wieman. 6<sup>th</sup>- Sofia Bacigalupi, Michael Brown, Alyssa Glaser and Amelia Holzshu 7<sup>th</sup>- Matthew Brown, Grant Gietzen and Raymond Greimel 8<sup>th</sup>-Gabriella Bacigalupi and Alexis Glaser.

## LOOKING AHEAD

3/1	Silence in the halls-Ash Wednesday
3/3	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Pop Can Drive, Silence in the halls, Stations of the Cross
3/6-9	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Used Book Sale to fund trip to Fort Michimackinac
3/10	<b>1/2 day of school-dismissal at 11:40.</b> Day care open all day. No Petoskey music or band, Silence in the halls
3/13-17	Jump Rope for Heart during PE classes
3/15	Career Day-8 <sup>th</sup> grade to PMS
3/16	3rd Grade Raffle, All school non-uniform day, 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Maturation Program-5:30pm
3/17	Silence in the halls-Stations of the Cross P.T.O. Family Dance-6-8pm-Parish Hall
3/23	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter Ends
3/24-4/3	Spring Break
4/4	Back from Spring Break