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## St. Pius X / St. Leo School

Newsletter

November 6, 2015



ST. PIUS X / ST. LEO

### THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED THE 2015 FUNDRAISER



Many thanks to all of the parents, grandparents and friends of SPSL who gave their time and talents to help make the fundraiser a success. The fundraiser would not have been possible without the support of so many.

The winners of the travel and cash drawings were:

Grand Prize-\$2,500 Cash - John Andrews

First Prize-\$750 Cash - Blaine Christen

Second Prize-\$250 Cash - Diane O'Malley

Winners of the Panther Raffle Prize Packages were:

Package #1 (All Things Art) - Clare Engel

Package #2 (Green Thumb) - Kathy Tocco

Package #3 (May The Lego Force Be With You) - Evan Chattin

Package #4 (Time To Myself) - Becky App

Package #5 (Get Out There) - Ty Wilber

Package #6 (Quiet Time) - Olivia Weist

Further information on the money raised from the fundraiser will be published in a future newsletter.

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**NEXT STEPS - STRATEGIC PLANNING**



In a recent parent newsletter, we discussed with you what a strategic plan is, and, why we, as a school, are working on a strategic plan. We would like to tell you more about the process we have taken to develop our strategic plan. We began our strategic planning by surveying our constituents, our parents, our faculty and staff, our students, our alumni, and our school board members. The major results are summarized as follows:

**The major likes (powerful practices):**

- A. Safe Environment
- B. Catholic identity is strongly evident
- C. Sense of Community

**The areas for improvement agreed upon are:**

- A. Strategies to meet diverse learning, particularly gifted students
- B. Service activities related to social justice for students
- C. Better communication overall, but especially as it relates to the school board
- D. Work to have data driven instruction

**Required Actions:**

- \* Implement a formal process and consistent training and evaluation for teachers and a mentoring program for new teachers.
- \* Meeting the academic challenges we're facing with our students.
- \* Make time for Professional Learning Communities
- \* Capital Improvements - Top 5 Needs (Ranked by Parents)
  - A. Install new smoke detection system - completed in October.
  - B. Put new A/C System in the north and south buildings.
  - C. Replace heating and add A/C to gym.
  - D. Kitchen/Cafeteria updates
  - E. Replace bathroom stalls in the north and south buildings.

We will continue sharing the process for our Strategic Plan, but, we do want you to know that the process has moved faster than the articles have been written. The planning began last year and continued throughout the summer to the present time this school year. The St. Pius X / St. Leo Strategic Plan was approved by the School Board on October 20, 2015. You can find the completed plan on our school [website](#) under the "For Parents" heading.

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**VILLAGE INN C.A.R.E.**

New this holiday season to the C.A.R.E. in stock inventory are \$25 gift cards to Village Inn. The rebate back to SPSL is 14% of each card. Gift cards will be available throughout the holiday season and can be purchased at the school office.



**C.A.R.E. NEWS**

Please remember to purchase your C.A.R.E. for all of your holiday needs. Grocery store gift cards are available for Bag N Save/No Frills/Family Fare, Fareway, Shopko, Target, Wal-Mart and Whole Foods.

For a complete listing of C.A.R.E. cards kept in-stock in the school office,

## HONOR ROLL



We are pleased to announce the names of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who have made Honor Roll for the first quarter of this school year. According to the Family Handbook, "if the average of all subjects is 94.5% or above and there are no N's or U's in general conduct, the student will be placed on the First Honor Roll for the quarter. If the average of all of these subjects is 89.5% to 94.4% and there are no N's or U's in general conduct, the student will be placed on the Second Honor Roll for the quarter. Students on either Honor Roll receive a special certificate of Academic Achievement in their report card each quarter they are on the Honor Roll."

We are thrilled to say that **75% of our 8th grade students made the Honor Roll** for the first quarter. In the 8th grade, 31% of students earned a place on the First Honor Roll and 44% on the Second Honor Roll. This is outstanding for the 8th grade students! The 8th grade Honor Roll students are as follows.

### First Honors:

Nasirah Biao, Darby Campbell, Miqaela Davis, Connor Gregg, Anna Hartley, Anne Hiatt, Keara Hiatt, Kate Jensen, Joshua Karls, Delano Lockhart, Emily Monzu, Noah Monzu, Owen Morrow, Maggie Peklo, Sam Raabe, Maddie Rozmajzl, Augie Shald, Grace Staley, Sadie Weiner and Jolie Williams

### Second Honors:

Aiden Antisdell, Cristian Bressani, Anthony Cimino, Annie Compton, Daniel Deras, Ali Findley, Eve Fountain, Correta Gagnon Koudji, Kaitlyn Gall, Ariana Ganson, Cassie Gloden, Claire Hartley, Mia Hennessey, Fin Herrera, Henry Horton, Charlie Howard, Lucas Johnson, Colby Kaisershot, Madeline Leddy, Brian Martin, Will McMeen, Kaitlyn Meier, Christopher Nubel, Dominic Rosso, Stevie Salerno, Libby Schimonitz, Sam Solis and Gabby Wilson

**Among 7th grade students, we had 75% make the Honor Roll** for the first quarter. In 7th grade, 41% were placed on the First Honor Roll and 34% received Second Honors. The 7th grade Honor Roll students are as follows.

### First Honors:

Jenna Abbott, Rachel Achola, Sydnee Baysa, Cece Behrens, Alessandro Bressani, Sofia Bressani, Abbie Brewster, Kaleb Brink, Will Buechler, Quinn Cote', Emma Ehrhardt, Josh Geske, Rylee Gregg, Aryannah Harrison, Henry Hohman, Megan Hoppe, Elle Houghtaling, Anna Kidder, Kyra Knudsen, Cassidy Lang, Eleanor Mangan, Zoey Mihulka, Grant O'Doherty, Daniel Osborn, Ethan Owens, Alexis Perlman, Naomi Piskorski, Anna Preston, Lauren Roecker, Lydia Rose, Olivia Rowe, Emily Salzman, Paulina Salzman, Audrey Saucier, Mia Sharrar, Isabela Weber and Claire Wilson

click [here](#). If you don't see what you are looking for, please contact Christy Vogel at [spslcare@spsl.net](mailto:spslcare@spsl.net). She may be able to order it for you.

### ShopWithScrip News:

The big holiday shopping season is almost here, and that means we have another Thank-Scrip-ing Day event lined up for you! On November 26th, from 12:00 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, partake in the highest rebate offers on popular ScripNow products and get your electronic gift cards delivered to your ShopWithScrip account in minutes\* - just in time for the biggest shopping day of the year! You must be enrolled in the Great Lakes Scrip Program and PrestoPay to participate in the Thank-Scrip-ing Day event. Contact Christy Vogel for more information on enrolling or see the school website under "Ways to Support - CARE." PrestoPay is a way to automatically deduct your purchases from your checking/savings account. It allows you immediate access to many eCards or printable gift cards.



### SFH NEWS

Our teachers enjoyed a delicious lunch from Little Kings during conferences, and this November our staff

### Second Honors:

Catherine Alvarez, McKenna Blaine, James Borer, Max Christensen, Adrian Cuevas, Bridget Gerards, Joseph Glantz, Bella Goaley, Sal Goaley, Kaylie Gross-Gusman, Isabelle Hansen, Paul Hayes, Sam Herek, Claire Kastl, Omaima Lado, Phong Le, Lauren Luedtke, Sophia Maciejewski, Murphy Mertz, Truman Metcalf, Bailey Miller, Luke Papa, Abby Russell, Grant Saucier, Justin Sitti, Alexis Townsend, Anthony Tripp, Garrett Vosika, Isabel Whittinghill, Cole Wilber and Jack Zenk

As you can tell, we have many 7th and 8th grade students who are studying very hard and keeping their behavior in check! We also know that there are many other 7th and 8th graders who are working hard and behaving as they should, but just didn't quite make the honor roll. We also salute these students! Our thanks to these students for their hard work and to their parents for the wonderful support they provide to their children. It takes everyone working together, the students, their parents and the teachers to succeed with such outstanding academic achievement. Congratulations to all!

### VOCATION AWARENESS RALLY SOWS SEEDS OF RELIGIOUS LIFE



SPSL sixth graders were among 1,000 young people participating in the urban Omaha Archdiocesan Vocation Awareness Day on Friday, October 23. Sponsored by the Omaha Archdiocesan Association of Consecrated Life Persons (OAACL), in conjunction with the Archdiocesan Vocations Office, the event was held at Skutt Catholic High School.

Students also participated in activities and small group presentations highlighting the variety of ways in which people live a Consecrated Life today. Throughout the day, students had the opportunity to meet and visit with Sisters, Brothers, Priests and Consecrated Life Persons from several Religious Congregations, and with Archdiocesan Priests and seminarians.

Celebration of Mass with Archbishop George J. Lucas was a highlight for many participants and a true experience of prayer that all would know and follow God's plan daily and in their life style choices.

Sixth grade religion teacher Ryan Lampe prepared SPSL students to participate in the Vocation Awareness Rally at Skutt Catholic High School. Students learned basic terms and concepts about life as a priest or sister. Scores from a "test" administered in their classrooms were submitted to OAACL leaders. Students who scored "very well" received prayer cards and were recognized at the rally.

The following students from St. Pius X / St. Leo School scored very well on the Vocation Day Test:

and teachers will enjoy a coffee or smoothie from Jo-on-the-Go.

Straight from the Heart thanks you for your generosity!



### HONOR CHOIR

Congratulations to the following 4th and 5th grade students who were accepted into the All-State Children's Choir:

4th graders - Bailey Benson and Lily Risch Bakhit

5th graders - Trevor Gregg, Ben Howard and Sophia Tripp

They will spend the day working with Sally K. Albrecht, a popular choral composer, conductor, and clinician, with a concert following on Thursday, November 19 at the Lied Center for Performing Arts in Lincoln, NE.



### CULVER'S NIGHT

Tuesday, **November 10**, from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. is Culver's Night at the 120th and Miami Streets location. Join us on the second Tuesday of each month at the Culver's at 120th and Miami. You can support our school while enjoying a ButterBurger

Isabelle Borer	Drew Jensen	Megan Rozmajzl
Evelyn Brown	Sam Kastl	Joshua Townley-Thomas
Lauren Dau	Elizabeth Monzu	Wyatt Walters
Lucy Drexel	Parker Mooney	Andrew Washington
Fiona Gautschi	Ethan Morrow	Ethan Weber
Elleiana Green	Ethan Noon	Abby Wessling
Emma Hennessey	Julia Nubel	Will Wharton
Cameron James	Megan Raabe	

and frozen custard!



### ESTATE PLANNING

St. Pius X / St. Leo School's Office of Development will be co-hosting two free estate planning seminars with St. Leo the Great Parish and St. Pius X Parish. The first will be held at St. Leo Church in the social hall on Thursday, November 12th at 12:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided. The second will be held on Sunday, November 15th at St. Pius X / St. Leo School in the library at 10:30 a.m. following a free brunch. You may attend either one. Joe Byam, attorney at Byam & Hoarty Law Firm will be the presenter. Please RSVP to Bob Nowaczyk in the school office at (402) 551-6667.

### EVENTS

November 8 - SPSL Church Choir at St. Pius X - 9:30 a.m.  
 November 10 - Gr 1, 2 & 3 Mass at 8:30 a.m.  
 November 10 - Culver's Night - 120th & Miami Streets from 5:00-9:00 p.m.  
 November 11 - Gr 7 & 8 Mass at 8:30 a.m.  
 November 11-14 - Younker's Community Days Event  
 November 12 - Gr 4 Mass at 8:30  
 November 12 - Gr 5 & 6 "Shrek, Jr." Musical - 7:00 p.m. in the gym  
 November 13 - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS - Staff Development Day for Teachers  
 November 14 - Grade 2 First Reconciliation - 10:00 a.m. St. Leo 1:00 p.m. St. Pius X  
 November 17 - School Board Meeting - SPSL Library - 7:00 p.m.  
 November 18 - Gr 8 Reconciliation at 1:30 p.m.  
 November 18 - Fazoli's Night at 80th & Cass from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
 November 19 - Audio Screenings - Grade 1, 2, 3, 6 and new students  
 November 20 - Newsletter emailed to parents and posted at spsl.net  
 November 22 - SPSL Church Choir at St. Leo - 10:00 a.m.  
 November 24 - Thanksgiving Mass Gr K - 4 at 8:30 a.m.  
 November 24 - Thanksgiving Mass Gr 5 - 8 at 10:00 a.m.  
 November 24 - *Dress Down Day*  
 November 25 - NO SCHOOL FOR ALL  
 November 26 - NO SCHOOL FOR ALL - Happy Thanksgiving!  
 November 27 - NO SCHOOL FOR ALL

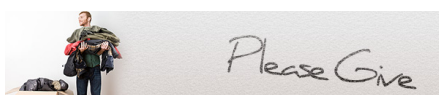
December 2 - Picture Re-Take Day  
 December 4 - NOON DISMISSAL - No lunch served.  
 December 4 - NO PRE-K CLASSES  
 December 6 - Grade 8 Confirmation practice at St. Pius X at 1:45 p.m.  
 December 6 - Grade 8 Confirmation practice at St. Leo at 2:00 p.m.  
 December 6 - Grade 8 Confirmation at St. Leo & St. Pius X at 3:00 p.m.  
 December 10 - Gr 2 & 4 Musical and Gr 7 & 8 Girls Chorus - gym - 7:00 p.m.  
 December 11 - 5th Grade Wax Museum - morning in the Fr. O'Brien Parish Center



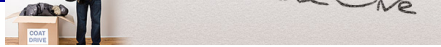
### FAZOLI'S NIGHT

Join us for on Wednesday, **November 18**, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Fazoli's restaurant at **80th & Cass Streets**. When you place your order, please tell the cashier that you are with SPSL. Fazoli's will donate 10% of that night's sales to SPSL. Join the fun including crafts for the kids! Every third Wednesday of the month will be Fazoli's Night at the Cass Street location.

### COAT DRIVE

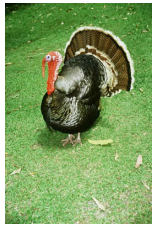


Student Council is sponsoring a coat, hat and mitten drive to benefit



the Heart Ministry of Omaha. Gently used or new donations can be dropped off at school through Thursday, November 12th. Collection boxes will be located in the walkway by the office, on the 3rd floor and by Sr. Jeannine's office. Student Council thanks you for your support.

## ANNUAL THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE



Our annual food drive will begin this month. The student council wants to encourage students to bring in canned/non perishable and other toiletry items for the drive this year. Our community is still facing tough economic times and they need our help. Donations will be given to the Stephen Center and the St. Vincent de Paul Pantry. Some items they are asking for are (other items also welcome): canned vegetables, fruit, soup, peanut butter, mac n' cheese, raw spaghetti, pasta sauce, cereal, crackers, tuna, packaged cookies, toilet paper and baby food. Students are asked to bring in items starting Monday, November 16th through Tuesday, November 24th. We will end our food drive with the Thanksgiving Mass and Volleyball pep rally on November 24th.

Student Council wants to motivate all students to give 3-4 items. Let's get in the spirit of giving. Your generosity greatly impacts our community because not everyone is blessed with these items.

"We can do no great things, only small things with great love."  
~Mother Teresa

## FIFTH GRADE WAX MUSEUM



The 5th Grade will present its Wax Museum on Friday morning, December 11th in the Fr. O'Brien Parish Center. Please bring quarters to "activate" the scientists. The 5th graders will donate the quarters to charity. We look forward to seeing you at the Wax Museum!

## MCS BAND OLYMPICS



Fifty-five beginning band students from throughout Omaha and their parents participated in the 20th annual Music in Catholic Schools Beginning Band Olympics, on October 20, 2015. The event was a fun



### MCS NEWS

We are pleased to announce that we had some of our students audition for the Music in Catholic Schools Honor Band. Out of the many students throughout Omaha who auditioned for this select band, it is our pleasure to inform you that we have one student from our school who was selected to be in the Honor Band. Congratulations to Ethan Noon! Ethan is in 6th grade and plays the trumpet.



### HEALTH HINT Preventing Colds & Flu

#### Wash Your Hands

Most cold and flu viruses are spread by direct contact. Someone who has the flu sneezes onto their hand, and then touches the telephone, the keyboard, a kitchen glass. The germs can live for hours -- in some cases weeks -- only to be picked up by the next person who touches the same object. So wash your hands often. Or rub an alcohol-based hand sanitizer onto your hands.

Don't Cover Your Sneezes and Coughs With Your Hands  
Because germs and viruses



evening with the beginning band students and their parents. The band Olympics involved the testing of basic skills on individual instruments and then ended with a performance by all of the students as a beginning band.

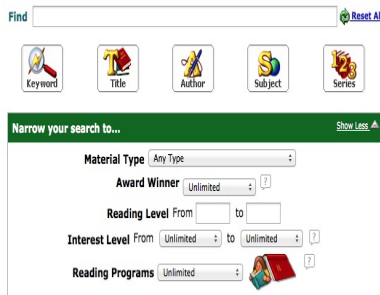
All participating students were winners, but the following student from our school received a top prize:

Caleb Hans received "Silver" in the Trombones/Baritones Section.

We are grateful to our band teacher, Ms. Joan Lovgren, and Mrs. Deb Lund, the Administrator of the Music in Catholic Schools Band Program for all the work they do with our young people.

## CHECK OUT OUR DIGITAL LIBRARY

FollettShelf is our digital library that is accessible to our school families 24/7. Our digital library currently has more than 190 eBooks available for checkout. There is no cost to you to read a digital book. Our eBooks can be read on various devices.



**To read on desk computers, laptops and Chromebooks with internet access, follow these steps:**

Visit the LIBRARY page on the school website. Select DESTINY ELECTRONIC CARD CATALOG. Click on our school's name. Once you are in our card catalog, choose FOLLETT SHELF on the left side of the page.

**Download the Follett BlytheWave K-12 app on your favorite device:**

- \* iOS devices such as iPad, iPod, iPhone
- \* Kindle Fire/Nook HD and HD+
- \* Android devices with access to Google Play
- \* Chrome books

Books can be read online or can be checked out. To read online only, Guest login is spsl, Password is panthers.

If you wish to check out eBooks, please email Mrs. Vogel at [christy.vogel@spsl.net](mailto:christy.vogel@spsl.net) to request a student login and password. (Your children in grades 2-8 can use their AR user name and password.)

## ON-LINE RESOURCES FROM THE SPSSL LIBRARY



When was the last time that you needed an answer to

cling to your bare hands, muffling coughs and sneezes with your hands results in passing along your germs to others. When you feel a sneeze or cough coming, use a tissue, then throw it away immediately. If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into the inside of your elbow.

### Don't Touch Your Face

Cold and flu viruses enter your body through the eyes, nose, or mouth. Touching their faces is the major way children catch colds, and a key way they pass colds on to their parents.

### Get a Flu Shot

There are many flu clinics at grocery stores and pharmacies where you can get a flu shot for under \$20. Or, if you prefer, see your regular doctor.



**YOUNKERS  
COMMUNITY DAYS  
November 11-14th**

St. Pius X / St. Leo School is participating in Younkens Community Days. The event will be held on Wednesday, November 11th through Saturday, November 14th at all Younkens locations. With the purchase of your \$5 packet you will receive:

- \$10 off one item per ticket.



a question or to explain something to someone? If you have an SPSL student in your family, then you probably have to answer questions frequently. Where do you turn if you don't know the answer or need to double-check?

The SPSL website ([www.spsl.net](http://www.spsl.net)) offers some great resources for you and your whole family to use for finding answers to questions or researching a topic! Let us tell you about them.

**World Book Online Reference Center** (funded through SPSL School)

This link offers three different encyclopedias, a Spanish encyclopedia, an atlas and a dictionary.

(Log-in is spsl and Password is panther)

**WebPath Express** (funded through proceeds from our book fair)

This site is a search engine to thousands of websites that are written for K-5 grade users, 6-8 grade users and 9-12 grade users.

To find this program:

- 1) Go to the Library Page under Current Families on our school website
- 2) Select SPSL Library Electronic Card Catalog
- 3) Click on St. Pius X / St. Leo School (written in blue)
- 4) WebPath Express is listed on the left side of the screen

**NebraskAccess** (brought to you by the Nebraska Library Commission with funding from the State of Nebraska and the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services)

NebraskAccess offers free 24/7 access to websites selected by librarians, full-text government publications and Nebraska historical resources. Nebraska residents are also provided with free online access to thousands of full-text magazine, journal, and newspaper articles, biographical and business information, genealogical resources, and more. This is a great source for high school and college students, too. Connect to this collection of databases from the Library Page of our school website.

(Log-in is NebraskAccess and the password is 1867echoes9)

Please check out the Library page under MENU on the school website ([www.spsl.net](http://www.spsl.net)) for added information.

- Coupons can be used on Bonus Buys!
- 20% Savings Pass
- One 30% early bird coupon valid both days until 1pm.
- Online coupons exclusive offers, plus free shipping between November 11-14th.
- Additional coupons to use throughout the store.

St. Pius X / St. Leo School will receive 100% of the \$5 ticket sales if purchased through SPSL. You can purchase your tickets in the school office during the school day. Don't forget to purchase Younkers C.A.R.E. (sold in \$25 increments).



**HY-VEE CASH FOR STUDENTS**

Please save your Hy-Vee receipts and turn them in at the St. Pius X / St. Leo School office. Hy-Vee will donate \$1.00 for every \$200.00 that you spend. The program runs through December 31, 2015.



**RACE FOR EDUCATION**

SPSL School's annual Race for Education will take place on Friday, **April 22, 2016**. Mark your calendars for this



great event!



### SPSL ON THE INTERNET

Click [here](#) to visit the SPSL website to learn more about our school and activities.



### [Forward email](#)



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