



# St. Pius X / St. Leo School

Newsletter

December 2, 2016



## EPS BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

"For a child is born to us, a son is given to us...." Isaiah 9:5

What better way for us to celebrate the gift of our Lord than to help other babies in need. Student Council would like to encourage all students to "celebrate life" this Advent season by donating to the, "EPS Baby Bottle" campaign. During this Advent season we encourage students to earn the money they donate by doing chores, extra jobs, etc. or find other ways to share what they are given. We are asking students to bring their spare change and/or earnings to fill the baby bottle in their classroom from Tuesday, December 7th through Friday, December 16th. The money donated is given to EPS (Essential Pregnancy Services). **The school has a goal of \$1,000 to raise for EPS.** EPS is a "pro-life agency here in Omaha and is dedicated to helping expectant mothers make more life-affirming choices for themselves and their babies". They provide free services like baby clothing and supplies, work training programs, educational opportunities, and so much more to mothers and their babies. Thank you in advance for helping to support this wonderful organization.

Friday, December 9th has been designated a **COZY WEAR** day (a.k.a. a dress down day, but including pajamas and flannel pants). For a \$1 donation students may dress down. Please follow the dress down day guidelines in the family handbook. The only exceptions are pajamas and flannel pants will be allowed on this special day. Proceeds from the **COZY WEAR** day will be given to EPS.

**Please follow in God's footsteps, by helping others in need.**



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## Seven strategies help elementary schoolers expand reading skills

Is your child reading by herself? That's terrific. Keep in mind, however, that her reading skills must be strengthened and maintained. As she gets older, she will be expected to read more complex material. So how can you support her efforts and help keep her reading progress on track? Here are seven ways:

- 1. Let your child read what she likes.**  
She doesn't have to read only books. Graphic novels, magazines, advertisements and recipes are fine choices, too.
- 2. Make connections.** Look for books about the places your child's ancestors came from. Or have her read about historic events that happened near home.
- 3. Make reading irresistible.** Allow your child to stay up 15 minutes later to read in bed. Or let her build a fort and read inside by flashlight.
- 4. Add some drama.** Turn favorite books into family plays. Encourage everyone to dress up and play a part.
- 5. Start a book club.** Get your child's friends together for book-related discussions, activities and snacks.
- 6. Set a timer.** If your child resists reading, say, "Read to me for three minutes. When the timer rings, you can stop." Add a minute every few days.
- 7. Read aloud.** Select books that are a bit more advanced than your child can read herself. When parents read, kids enjoy more challenging stories.



Source: The Parenting Institute

## C.A.R.E. NEWS

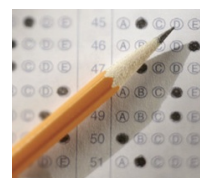


Please remember to buy C.A.R.E. gift cards for your holiday gift lists. The school receives a percentage from every gift card we sell. Stop by the school office to purchase from our large variety of in-stock C.A.R.E. gift cards or to place your [order](#) for special vendor gift cards. You'll also find the C.A.R.E. form at the school's homepage ([www.spsl.net](http://www.spsl.net)).

In-stock C.A.R.E. will be sold in the school office through Tuesday, December 20th. The last day to pre-order SPECIAL vendor stock items is Monday, December 12th, by 9:00 a.m.

C.A.R.E. will be available in the St. Leo Parish Office during their normal business hours on December 21st (closed from 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.), 22nd (closed from 11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.) and 23rd (closed at noon). C.A.R.E. will be sold after the December 17/18 Masses but will not be sold after the December 24/25 Masses.

C.A.R.E. will be available in the St. Pius X Rectory during their normal



## TERRA NOVA

The results from the Terra Nova tests were mailed to parents of grades 3 to 8 students today. If you do not receive your child's results in the next few days please call the school office.



## GRANDPARENTS EVENTS AT SPST

As a way to thank SPST grandparents for all they do, kindergarten to sixth grade students will invite their grandparents to an afternoon matinee of their musical production. We will have reserved seating for grandparents at the matinee and there should be a few minutes after the production for the students to say hello to their grandparents and take a quick picture. Please note that seating on the floor will be for grandparents only. If parents would like to attend a matinee, they will still need to sit in the bleachers.

business hours on December 21st and 22nd. C.A.R.E. will be sold after the December 17/18 masses but will not be sold after the December 24/25 masses.

We offer a large selection of gift cards. If you don't see a specific C.A.R.E. gift card on our list, please ask because we may be able to order it for you. C.A.R.E. has its own email address which is [spslcare@spsl.net](mailto:spslcare@spsl.net). Thank you for supporting SPSL by purchasing your gift cards through C.A.R.E.

## EVENTS

December 4 - Gr 8 St. Pius X Confirmation practice - 1:45 p.m.  
December 4 - Gr 8 St. Leo Confirmation practice - 2:00 p.m.  
December 4 - Gr 8 Confirmation Mass - both parishes - 3:00 p.m.  
December 4 - Music in Catholic Schools band concert - 5:30 p.m.  
- St. Margaret Mary's Raynor Center  
December 8 - Feast of the Immaculate Conception Masses  
Gr K-4 at 8:30 a.m. Gr 5-8 at 10:00 a.m.  
December 8 - Gr 2 & 4 Musical and Gr 7 & 8 Girls Chorus  
in the gym-7:00 p.m.  
December 12 - Last day (by 9:00 a.m.) to pre-order C.A.R.E. (C.A.R.E. that is not kept in stock) for Christmas  
December 13 - Mass for Gr 1, 2 & 3 at 8:30 a.m.  
December 13 - Culver's Night - 120th & Blondo - 5:00-9:00 p.m.  
December 14 - Mass for Gr 6, 7 & 8 at 8:30 a.m.  
December 14 - Pre-K Christmas Program - 8:45 a.m. - Parish Center  
December 15 - Mass for Gr 4 & 5 at 8:30 a.m.  
December 16 - Gr 5 Wax Museum - Fr. O'Brien Parish Center  
- 8:30 a.m. - noon  
December 16 - Gr K Christmas Program - 2:45 p.m. - gym  
December 20 - *Dress Down Day*  
December 20 - Christmas vacation begins at dismissal  
December 21 - Fazoli's Night - 80th & Cass - 5:00-8:00 p.m.  
December 21 - January 3 - NO SCHOOL FOR ALL - Merry Christmas!  
  
January 4, 2017 - NO SCHOOL for students; School of Faith & Staff  
Development Day for Teachers  
January 5, 2017 - School resumes at 8:15 a.m.  
January 29 - February 4, 2017 - Catholic Schools Week

## DRESS DOWN DAY - DECEMBER 20TH

There will be a Dress Down Day on Tuesday, December 20th. "Dress Down" means casual attire including t-shirts, jeans, sweatpants, sweatshirts and blouses. We ask that the t-shirts are in good taste



without offensive language / graphics. They may not display musical groups, advertise drugs/alcohol or display guns, weapons or violence. Sleeveless shirts and bare midriffs are not



## GIFT EXCHANGES BETWEEN STUDENTS

We ask that any exchanging of Christmas gifts between students happens away from school. We do not want some students to receive gifts while others may be excluded. Thank you for your cooperation.



## CULVER'S NIGHT

Tuesday, **December 13th** from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. is Culver's Night at the 120th and Miami Streets location. You can support your school while enjoying a Butter Burger or a frozen custard! Make sure to tell the cashier you are with SPSL.



## FAZOLI'S NIGHT

Join us on Wednesday, **December 21**, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Fazoli's restaurant at **80th & Cass Streets**.





allowed. Jeans and sweatpants must be without holes and tears. Girls may wear leggings, but they must be accompanied with an extra long sweater, blouse or skirt. Flannel pants and/or pajama pants may NOT be worn. We recommend that students not wear any clothing that is too tight or too short. **Shorts are not "In Season" so may NOT be worn.** As with any school day, the sock, shoe and jewelry code are in effect, except that the students are allowed to wear any color of socks and any shoes that have the heels and toes closed. The jewelry code stays exactly the same. Please check the Family Handbook if you have questions regarding these policies.

### STUDENT COUNCIL'S FOOD DRIVE A HUGE SUCCESS!

The Student Council held a food drive in November. The response of the SPSL students and their families was quite impressive! There were over 3,300 items donated. The students are shown here sorting the items before loading them onto the trucks.

Items were given to the St. Pius X food pantry to supplement their supply as well as the majority was given to the Stephen Center. How truly blessed we are that our school families were so generous! Many Omaha families will be so thankful to you.



When you place your order, please tell the cashier that you are with SPSL. Every third Wednesday of the month will be Fazoli's Night at the Cass Street location.



### BENEFIT FOR MUSIC IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Music in Catholic Schools invites you to its Benefit Dance and Silent Auction on Friday, February 3, 2017. Free dance lessons will be offered from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. The Benefit Dance and Silent Auction begin at 7:30 p.m. with desserts and beverages provided for a donation. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students or seniors and are available at the MCS office or will be available at the door of the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Center.



### RACE FOR EDUCATION





**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**  
Communities of Faith,  
Knowledge and Service

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK:  
JANUARY 29th- FEBRUARY 4th**

The theme for this year's Catholic Schools Week is a continuation of the last few years' theme, "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service".

The mass schedule for the week will be the following:

Tuesday, January 31st - Gr 6, 7 & 8

Wednesday, February 1st - Pre-K, K, Gr 1 & 2

Thursday, February 2nd - Gr 3, 4 & 5

All Catholic Schools Week Masses will begin at 8:30 a.m. We invite all parents to attend Mass during Catholic Schools Week.

In celebration of Catholic School's Week, we will send the SPSL newsletter by mail. The mailed newsletter will be the only newsletter for January.

The annual Race for Education will take place on April 21, 2017. Mark your calendars for this great event!



**CASH FOR STUDENTS**

Please save your Hy-Vee receipts and turn them in at the school office. Hy-Vee donates \$1 for every \$200 that you spend. The Hy-Vee Cash for Students program runs through December 31. Thank you!



**SPSL ON-LINE**

For more information about SPSL school, please visit our website. Click [here](#)!



St. Pius X / St. Leo School, 6905 Blondo, Omaha, NE 68104

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