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St. Pius X / St. Leo School

Newsletter

December 4, 2015



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED THE 2015 FUNDRAISER "CHEERS TO 60 YEARS"

On behalf of the St. Pius X / St. Leo School Board, I would like to extend my sincere and heartfelt thanks to the chairpersons of the 2015 Fundraiser; Norah and Stacy Morris, Colleen Hoarty and Eric Gautschi and Martha and Marc Wharton. "Cheers to 60" Years was an exciting, fun, well attended and extremely successful event. Additionally, I would like to express gratitude to all of the volunteers: staff, teachers, administrators, parents and clergy who generously gave of their time, talent and treasure. We are all extremely grateful for the hard work that was put forth. May God continue to bless our parishes and our school mission of providing a quality Catholic education for our children.

Bob Grenier, School Board President



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FUNDRAISER RECAP



ST. PIUS X / ST. LEO
established by the School Board:

We are pleased to report the SPSL Fundraiser raised approximately \$100,900 for the school! Of that total, approximately 14,400 is designated money for specific areas (e.g. Teacher Wish List, GIVE for reading curriculum materials). The remaining \$86,500 will be used according to the following plan

- 32% for Capital Improvements
- 30% for the Regular School Budget
- 20% for Technology and Educational Resources
- 13% for Teacher Education and Classroom Stipends
- 5% for St. Pius X / St. Leo Educational Endowment Trust Fund.

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STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE



Continuing to move on our Strategic Planning Process, after studying the results of the surveys and the development of the "Required Actions," we set up a Steering Committee. The purpose of this committee was to guide the direction of the

plan. The members are:

- * Pastors, Fr. Mike and Fr. Craig
- * Principal, Joyce Gubbels
- * Board President, Bob Grenier
- * Board Vice-President, Allison Baysa
- * Teacher Representative, Karen English

We also sought the wisdom of Mike McCarthy, a former parent, a caring and concerned person, for the future of our school, and, a very knowledgeable person as far as the development of a vision statement and strategic planning for the future. We had the mission statement already developed, but, with his help developed the vision statement and listened to his guidance about strategic planning. He felt that we should get someone who would be willing to help us with strategic planning. We were blessed to secure the time and talents of Mr. Lee Lazure, a former parent, a grandfather of present students, and, a recent retiree of the Douglas County System. Lee came on several months after the planning was in progress. While we were working with Mike McCarthy, we were also setting up the main committees that would work on our strategic plan.



GRANDPARENTS EVENTS AT SPSL

As a way to thank SPSL grandparents for all they do, kindergarten to sixth grade students will be inviting 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.

Grandparents of 7th and 8th grade students will have an opportunity to attend Mass with their grandchildren in the spring. More information will be provided at a later date.

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).

In-stock C.A.R.E. will be sold in the school office through Thursday, December 17th. The last day to pre-order SPECIAL vendor stock items is Monday, December 14th, 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 21, 22 and 23 (closed 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.). C.A.R.E. will be sold after the December 19/20 Masses but will not be sold after the December 26/27 Masses.

C.A.R.E. will be available in the St. Pius X Rectory during their normal business hours on December 21, 22 and 23, until noon on December 24 and also after weekend 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. Thank you for supporting SPSL by purchasing your gift cards through C.A.R.E.

EVENTS

December 6 - Gr 8 St. Pius X Confirmation practice - 1:45 p.m.
December 6 - Gr 8 St. Leo Confirmation practice - 2:00 p.m.
December 6 - Gr 8 Confirmation Mass - both parishes - 3:00 p.m.
December 6 - 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 - Culver's Night - 120th & Blondo - 5:00-9:00 p.m.
December 10 - Gr 2 & 4 Musical and Gr 7 & 8 Girls Chorus
in the gym-7:00 p.m.
December 11 - Gr 5 Wax Museum - Fr. O'Brien Parish Center
- 8:30-11:00 a.m.
December 14 - 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 15 - Mass for Gr 1, 2 & 3 at 8:30 a.m.
December 16 - Mass for Gr 7 & 8 at 8:30 a.m.
December 16 - Pre-K Christmas Program - 8:30 a.m. - Parish Center
December 16 - Fazoli Night - 80th & Cass - 5:00-8:00 p.m.
December 17 - Mass for Gr 4, 5 & 6 at 8:30 a.m.
December 17 - Gr K Christmas Program - 2:45 p.m. - gym
December 17 - *Dress Down Day*
December 17 - Newsletter emailed to parents & posted at www.spsl.net
December 17 - Christmas vacation begins at dismissal
December 18 - NO SCHOOL FOR students; Staff Development Day for Teachers
December 19 - January 3 - NO SCHOOL FOR ALL - Merry Christmas!

January 4, 2016 - NO SCHOOL for students; School of Faith Day for Teachers
January 5, 2016 - School resumes at 8:15 a.m.
January 31 - February 6, 2016 - Catholic Schools Week



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 8th** 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 16**, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Fazoli's restaurant at **80th & Cass Streets**.



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 Monday, December 7th through Thursday, December 17th. 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.

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

DRESS DOWN DAY - DECEMBER 17TH

There will be a Dress Down Day on Thursday, December 17th. "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 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.

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. Fazoli's will donate 10% of that night's sales to SPSL. Join the fun including crafts for the kids!



BENEFIT FOR MUSIC IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Music in Catholic Schools invites you to its Benefit Dance and Silent Auction on Friday, February 5, 2016. 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 and will be available at the door of the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Center.



RACE FOR EDUCATION

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.



All of the items were 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.

The annual Race for Education will take place on April 22, 2016. Mark your calendars for this great event!



THANK YOU FROM THE FACULTY AND STAFF

The faculty and staff extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who brings wonderful treats for us. We look forward to the birthday treats on Fridays! Thanks also to those families who made a monetary donation to Straight from the Heart. Most recently Straight from the Heart treated faculty and staff to a gourmet coffee or smoothie from Jo-on-the-Go. We are deeply grateful for the generosity of our school families who share their time and talents with us.



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
Communities of Faith,
Knowledge and Service

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK: JANUARY 31st - FEBRUARY 6th

The theme for this year's Catholic Schools Week is a continuation of the last two years' theme, "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service". Since we are in the midst of our 60th year as a school, Archbishop Lucas will be celebrating Mass with all of our students during Catholic Schools Week on Tuesday, February 2nd at St. Leo Church. Grades K to 4 will attend Mass at 8:45 a.m. and Grades 5 to 8 will celebrate Mass at 10:30 a.m. Buses will take the students to/from St. Pius X / St. Leo School to St. Leo Church for Mass. 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.



PANTHER AWARD WINNING STUDENTS



We invite you to pause when you see P.A.W.S. You are likely seeing a student who is an award-winning student at St. Pius X / St. Leo School. The acronym P.A.W.S. stands for **P**anther **A**ward **W**inning **S**tudents.

We award P.A.W.S. to students who:

- **S**how dignity, respect and care for others.
- **P**articipate in school.
- **S**hare with others.



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

Live God's word.

If you see a Panther paw print, please congratulate one of our many award-winning students. They have done a grrrrreat job here at school. **CONGRATULATIONS** to the following students who earned P.A.W.S. awards in October and November:

Rachel Achola	Sal Goaley	Anderson Lopez	Rory Romano
Schuyler Achola	Brady Goebel	Lauren Luedtke	Elise Rose
Hillary Adovlo	Lauren Goebel	Ben Macias	Lydia Rose
Elizabeth Amundsen	Rayne Goracke	Celia Macias	Dominic Rosso
Doki Ando	Nolan Gorczyca	Javier Macias	Rayni Rothschild
Morbi Ando	Connor Gregg	Olivia Macias	Connor Rudden
Graham App	Rylee Gregg	Charlie Mangan	Kenadie Rudloff
Jay App	Trevor Goracke	Eleanor Mangan	Daniel Rusch
Nick Avilla	Seamus Haney	Brian Martin	Stevie Salerno
Dylanna Barton	Sully Haney	Tricia Martinez	Connor Sall
Audrey Basham	Ashley Hankel	Ciimir Mathet	Zachary Sall
Brock Baughman	Maggie Hanna	Mathiang Mathiang	Paulina Salzman
Cece Behrens	Caleb Hans	Lucy Matuella	Anyah Samuels
Bobby Benson	Heidi Hans	Mary Matuella	Jennifer Sandquist
Ashley Bialis	Paul Hansen	Kameron Mayo	Jillian Sandquist
Nasirah Biao	McKenzie Harbert	Nayah Mbilain	Audrey Saucier
Colton Billings	Sam Harris	Ana McCarthy	Grant Saucier
Greg Blaine	Aryannah Harrison	Brigid McGill	Matthew Sauer
McKenna Blaine	Anna Hartley	Madison McGowan	James Schartz
Ta Blae Blut	Claire Hartley	Joelle McKamy	Olivia Schartz
Abbie Bluvas	Madeline Hartley	Kelsey McLaughlin	Libby Schimonitz
Nathan Bluvas	Ava Hayes	Kaitlyn Meier	Abigail Schmidt
Katryna Boelter	Paul Hayes	Anna Mertz	Lauren Schmidt
Michael Bope	Will Haynes	Kate Mertz	Sloane Senkbile
Ben Borer	Emma Hennessey	Murphy Mertz	Augie Shald
Ameliya Bosiljevac	Mia Hennessey	Simon Metcalf	Chase Sharrar
Caden Bosiljevac	Mabel Henningsen	Truman Metcalf	Mia Sharrar
Lila Bosiljevac	Molly Herek	Bailey Miller	Francis Sierawski
Gracie Brabec	Tim Herek	Drew Monzu	Connor Smith
Armanii Brazile	Annie Herfordt	Emily Monzu	Sam Solis
Alessandro Bressani	Gus Herrera	Cece Moran	Lila Spencer
Abbie Brewster	Vada Herrera	Frannie Morris	Wade Spencer
Adam Brown	Anne Hiatt	Peter Morris	Ethan Streeter
Maria Buechler	Keara Hiatt	Ashlyn Morrow	Ben Strehle
Aliya Bynum-Payne	Margaret Hiatt	Owen Morrow	Sam Strong
Olivia Camerer	Emeri Hoenou-Smith	Rodrigo Munoz	Sophie Sturek
Darby Campbell	Megan Hoppe	Elliot Nelson	Sarah Swinarski
Jack Cannon	Henry Horton	PerryJames Newbill	Alex ten Bense



program runs through December 31. Thank you!



SAVE UPC CODES

Please save the UPC barcodes from Our Family brand of products (sold at Bag 'N Save). SPSL receives 5 cents for each one we receive. Please cut them off your products and send them to the school office.



SPSL ON-LINE

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



Hailey Carlsen	Ben Howard	Ethan Noon	Tanner ten Bensel
Bronson Chapeau	Charlie Howard	Tommy Novotny	Zach ten Bensel
Evan Chattin	Anna Hugo	Jason Nyamatore	Abigail Townley
Helen Christen	Kate Jensen	Delaney O'Doherty	Robert Townley
Kendall Clark	Owen Jensen	Gabe O'Doherty	Joshua Townley-Thomas
Annie Compton	Dean Johnson	Rhiannon O'Doherty	Alexus Townsend
Katie Coppard	Ian Johnson	Will O'Doherty	Beau Visty
Adrian Cuevas	Izzy Johnson	Achan Olee	Michael Walsh
Sebastian Dansou	Lucas Johnson	Landon Olson	Eli Walters
JJ Dasher	Elli Jones	Henry Ortner	Ethan Weber
Grant Dau	Kaylee Kaisershot	Addison Ostronic	Giuliana Weber
Maeva Davis	Daniel Kampe	Braden Owens	Sadie Weiner
Makenzie Davis	Jonah Kampe	Shantise Pearson	Jason Weist
Miquaela Davis	Josh Karls	Grace Peklo	Reese Welsh
Daniel Deras	Mitchell Kastl	Maggie Peklo	Reily Welsh
Caleb Djossou	Brady Kelly	Sarah Perlman	Scarlett Wharton
Susannah Dunlap	Marissa Kelly	Leo Peter	Scarlett Wharton
Audrey Ehlers	Mary Kelly	Beau Pick	Will Wharton
Martha Engel	Anyia Kolli	Naomi Piskorski	Isabel Whittinghill
Declan Fillmore	Kaden Kolli	Natalie Piskorski	Cole Wilber
Ali Findley	Hunter Kreifels	Veronica Porter	Jolie Williams
Eve Fountain	Madeline Larson	Anna Preston	Claire Wilson
Kaitlyn Gall	Nick Latka	Sam Raabe	Gabby Wilson
Molly Gallegos	Phong Le	Alex Rawson	Kate Worthy
Ariana Ganson	Terry Le	Ashley Rhoads	Nick Worthy
Charlotte Gautschi	Maddie Leddy	Grace Ridgley	Brianna Wunderlich
Cameron Geiselman	Erin Lemar	Lilly Risch Bakhit	Andrew Yochum
Rilyn Gish	Delano Lockhart	Mia Rodriguez	Kyle Yosten
Joey Glantz	Alice Long	Ben Roecker	Jack Zenk
Cassie Gloden	Spencer Long		

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