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St. Pius X / St. Leo School

Newsletter

March 4, 2016

SAVE THE DATE

St. Pius X / St. Leo School proudly announces:

First Annual SPSL School Awards and Recognition Dinner

Wednesday, April 20, 2016

6pm Cocktail Reception

7pm Dinner and Awards Presentation



We would like to invite you to our awards recognition dinner. Individual tickets are \$45. Table sponsorships are available (\$400 for a table of eight or \$200 for a half table) or you can provide tickets for others to attend by donating online by clicking [here](#). We hope you are able to attend the dinner and we look forward to celebrating our honorees. An invitation will be sent home with your youngest or only child in the near future.

The following awards / honors will be presented:

- The NCEA / SPSL School "*Distinguished Graduate*" Award - **Omaha Police Chief Todd Schmaderer (1986) and Omaha Fire Chief Bernie Kanger (1983)**
- The Reverend George Kempker "*Volunteer of the Year*" Award - **Ann Kineen**
- The Sister Brigetta Burns "*Teacher of the Year*" Award - **Paula Holder**
- The Sister Viola Miksch "*Servants of Mary*" Service Award" - **Pat Kobza**
- SPSL School "*Hall of Fame*" inductees - **St. Pius X's First Graduating Class - 1957**

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BUDGET TIME

Budget time is not usually a favorite time for anyone. It is often done out of necessity to help balance a person's or family's finances. The same can be said of those of us at school who need to work on the budget for St. Pius X / St. Leo School for the coming school year. We are presently in the middle of that process. We are hoping for the approval of our budget for the 16-17 school year by our School Board and both of our parishes' Finance / Administration Committees sometime in March or April of this present school year.

We thought this might be a good time to show you how we closed our budget for the last fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2015. This is an Operating Statement for the past year. We hope you will review this statement and if you have any questions please call Joyce Gubbels at (402) 551-6667 for an explanation.

REVENUE	ACTUAL AMOUNTS	PERCENT OF ACTUAL
TUITION & FEES PAID BY PARENTS	\$1,573,606	44.3%
ASSISTANCE FOR TUITION & FEES (Assistance from both Parishes, Children's Scholarship Fund Assistance, Knights of Columbus Soda Bread Sales, Anonymous Donor Gifts and Other Gifts Designated for Tuition Assistance)	321,128	9.0%
PARISHES' (ST. PIUS X and ST. LEO) SUPPORT OF SCHOOL BUDGET	1,448,555	40.8%
FUNDRAISING (Includes Annual Appeal, Fund Raiser, Race for Education, Golf Tournament, Target, Younkers, etc.)	162,271	4.6%
INTEREST & OTHER	44,808	1.3%
TOTAL REVENUES	ACTUAL	
BUDGETED --- \$3,655,584	\$3,550,368 (97.1% of Budgeted Amount)	

EXPENDITURES	ACTUAL AMOUNTS	PERCENT
EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION (Teacher and staff salaries, insurance, retirement benefits, payroll taxes, etc.)	\$3,000,433	84.8%
UTILITIES	65,752	1.9%
ALL OTHER CONTRACTED SERVICES, OTHER SERVICES, FURNISHINGS, BOOKS & MATERIALS, MAINTENANCE, POSTAGE, ETC.	473,119	13.3%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	ACTUAL	
BUDGETED ----- \$3,655,584	\$3,539,304 (96.8% of Budgeted Amount)	

HANDWRITING NEWS

**by Maggie McClure, Occupational Therapy Doctoral Candidate 2016,
Creighton School of Pharmacy & Health Profession**

(Miss McClure is currently on a professional rotation here at SPSL, working with students')

[Target Red Card](#)

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[Health Hint](#)



LUNCH CHANGE

Beginning on March 8th, students in fifth through eighth grades have another option for lunch. In addition to the daily entree or a sandwich option, students in the upper grades can also select a yogurt and cheese stick option. The side options will remain the same no matter which main option is selected.



THANK YOU

Many thanks to all of you who donated paper during the student council's paper drive this Lent. We are happy to report that 461 reams of paper were collected during the paper drive. The faculty and staff truly appreciate your generosity and support.

motor skills in PreK - 3rd grades, supervised by Mr. Weare.)

In honor of National Handwriting Day on January 23, 2016, it seemed appropriate to share some of the handwriting skills we look for as Occupational Therapy practitioners when working with children. A child's experiences, likes/dislikes, environment and abilities will all influence the development of handwriting skills. While not every child will acquire these skills at the same age, there is a natural progression and it is important that children are provided the opportunities to explore through movement and play to facilitate the acquisition of these skills. The grasps and pre-writing strokes (PWS) tend to appear at similar ages during development. Here are some examples of what you might see as they progress from scribbling with crayons to writing paragraphs with pencil and paper.



1-2 years (Palmar supinated grasp)

- Larger muscle groups are used (i.e. shoulder, elbow) instead of the little muscles in the hand/wrist
- PWS: Scribbling, Imitating vertical lines, horizontal lines, circular scribbles

2-3 years (Digital pronated grasp)

- More control over the strokes that are formed, but still using the larger muscle groups
- PWS: Imitating cross, copying vertical line, horizontal line, circle



3-4 years (Static Tripod grasp)

- More control on the utensil (hand moves as a unit) with a more mature grasp as the child begins to form shapes
- PWS: Drawing circle without a model

4-5 years (Dynamic tripod grasp)

- More support from the wrist/forearm and control with the fingers (thumb, middle, index)
- PWS: Imitating square, copying cross, square, right and left diagonal lines, X shape, some letters and numbers (May be able to write own name)
 - Drawing a recognizable face with eyes, nose, mouth, a basic stick figure with 2-4 body parts, coloring inside a circle and filling it at least halfway

5-6 years (Dynamic tripod grasp)

- Copying triangle, Printing own name, copying most capital and lowercase letters
- Drawing a person with at least 6 body parts



As children develop these skills, they are getting ready for formal handwriting instruction!

* The examples listed above are the most typical grasps seen throughout development. In addition, there are many variances in grasps that allow children to complete neat work in school.. For example: some kids also incorporate the ring finger into the static/dynamic tripod grasps, which is also very typical! It is important for kids to move through these progressions at their own pace and develop what feels right and what is functional for them.

Fun activities to try at home:

- Draw, paint, complete activities on a vertical surface (i.e. window, easel, paper taped on the wall). This is fun for kids and it encourages a nice grasp with the wrist extended to an optimal position.
- Use multisensory materials to make "writing" fun (i.e. shaving cream, sand, playdoh).
 - Encourage kids to use their fingers and hands to manipulate different materials into shapes, lines, and curves in order to prepare them for higher level handwriting skills.



GEOGRAPHY BEE

Congratulations to seventh grader Alessandro Bressani who qualified for the state level of the National Geography Bee. He is invited to UNO on April 1st to compete for the title of state champion. Way to go Alessandro and good luck!



TARGET RED CARD

Effective this May, Target will cease to donate the 5% of purchases on a Target Red Card back to SPSL if our school had been designated as the recipient of the 'Take Charge of Education' on your Target Red Card. We thank everyone who designated SPSL to receive those proceeds. To learn more about our other on-going fundraisers, please visit the school's website [here](#). You can learn how every day things you do - eating, reading, traveling, surfing the web, shopping - can earn money for our school.

References

Schneck, C. (2015). Prewriting and handwriting skills. In J. Case-Smith (Ed.), Occupational therapy for children and adolescents (7th ed.). St Louis: Elsevier, Inc.
Exner, C. (2005). Development of hand skills. In J. Case-Smith (Ed.), Occupational therapy for children (5th ed.). St Louis: Elsevier, Inc.
Mamaot.com



C.A.R.E. NEWS

Last year Baker's changed the way they participate in our C.A.R.E. program. The 5% rebate back to our school is linked to your Baker's Plus card.

To enroll your Baker's Plus card for our school, follow these steps:

- 1) Visit www.bakersplus.com/communityrewards
- 2) Create an account
- 3) Enroll your current Baker's Plus card.
- 4) Click COMMUNITY near the top of the screen. Select Community Rewards and enter your information. Click Save and choose the option to enter our school code 39528
- 5) Select our school name and ENROLL.

EVENTS

- March 5 Bible Bowl - St. Bernard School
- March 7 **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**
- March 7 School of Faith & Staff Development Day for Teachers
- March 8 Mass Gr 1, 2 & 3 at 8:30 a.m.
- March 8 Culver's Night - 120th & Blondo - 5:00-9:00 p.m.
- March 9 Mass Gr 7 & 8 at 8:30 a.m.
- March 10 Mass Gr 4, 5 & 6 at 8:30 a.m.
- March 11 Collect mission money
- March 12 Creighton Prep Math Invitational
- March 13 Daylight Saving Time begins - set clocks ahead one hour
- March 13 SPSL Church Choir at St. Leo - 10:00 a.m.
- March 15 Mass Gr 1, 2 & 3 at 8:30 a.m.
- March 15 SPSL School Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m. - library
- March 16 Mass Gr 7 & 8 at 8:30 a.m.
- March 16 Gr 5 & 6 Woodmen Speech Contest Finals - 9:30 a.m.
- Parish Center
- March 16 Fazoli Night - 78th & Cass - 5:00-8:00 p.m.
- March 17 Mass Gr 4, 5 & 6 at 8:30 a.m.
- March 17 Gr 7 & 8 Woodmen Speech Contest Finals - 9:30 a.m.
- Parish Center
- March 17 S.A.M.E. Competition



HUMMEL PARK DAY CAMP

Hummel Park Day Camp will be held July 18-22nd, 2016 for SPSL boys and girls who have completed grades 1st through 7th, this current school year. The fee for the camp is \$95.00 with reduced rates for those who qualify. The cost is \$50 per camper for those children that receive free or reduced lunch through their school. This fee includes bus transportation from St. Pius X OR St. Leo's, four meals, snacks, nature and recreational activities all supervised by trained staff. Registration will be online again this year! SPSL's online registration begins at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, March 21st and will be filled on a first come, first serve basis. You can also register in person at any City Community Center. (Registering on Monday, March 21st is highly recommended as there are five other schools assigned to camp the same week. SPSL is NOT guaranteed a minimum number of spots as in past years.) Last years' participant's usernames and passwords were emailed to them in early February. Look for an email from sara.kolala@cityofomaha.org. Before the registration start date, log into your account to

March 18 Collect mission money
 March 18 End of 3rd Quarter
 March 18 Newsletter emailed to parents & posted at www.spsl.net
 March 19 Destination Imagination Regional Tournament in Blair
 March 21 Hummel Day Camp online registration begins at 8:00 a.m.
 March 23 Collect mission money
 March 23 Report cards sent home with students
 March 23 Easter break begins at dismissal
 March 24 Holy Thursday - NO SCHOOL FOR ALL
 March 25 Good Friday - NO SCHOOL FOR ALL
 March 26 Holy Saturday
 March 27 Easter Sunday
 March 28 Easter Monday - NO SCHOOL FOR ALL
 March 29 School resumes at 8:15 a.m.
 March 30 Gr 2 Reconciliation - 1:30 p.m.

April 1 Students may wear uniform shorts beginning today
 April 6 Staff Appreciation Day
 April 6 Variety Show Auditions - 3:30 p.m. - gym
 April 8 Speech Meet at Creighton Prep High School
 April 10 First Communion for 2nd Grade Students - 2:30 p.m. - at both
 St. Pius X and St. Leo Parishes
 April 13 & 14 Gr 7 & 8 Variety Show - 2:15 p.m. - gym
 April 15 Speech Meet at Marian High School
 April 22 Speech Meet at Millard North High School

RED CROSS ESSAY CONTEST



Congratulations to eighth grader Kate Jensen for winning the Red Cross sponsored "Heroes in the Heartland" essay contest. Kate was presented with a \$100 check from the Red Cross for her winning entry. She wrote about the young woman who donated bone marrow for Kate's younger brother, Owen. Kate, her family and the donor will also be honored at a luncheon on March 9th.

QUIZ BOWL



Congratulations to the 7th and 8th graders who represented SPSL at the annual Gross Catholic High School Quiz Bowl on Friday, February 19. The team of Connor Gregg, Daniel Deras, Augie Shald, Brian Martin, and Rylee Gregg competed in five rounds and won three of them, finishing in the top seven out of 18 teams. The team of Maggie Peklo, Sam Raabe, Owen Morrow, Alessandro Bressani, and Nolan Gorczyca competed in five rounds and also won three of them,

make sure all information is up to date. For specific instructions on how to register your child, click [here](#) and click on the 'Registration for Hummel Day Camp' links. New participants are strongly encouraged to create a username and password prior to March 21st registration. Call the Florence Community Center at 402-444-5216 if you have any questions or trouble with the website. General questions regarding Hummel Day Camp can be directed to Lynne Gregg, SPSL parent coordinator (lynngregg@cox.net).



MISSION MONEY COLLECTIONS

During Lent, we collect "mission money" on Fridays (or the last day of the week when we have no school on Friday). We encourage students to donate from money that they earn. The school sends the donations to groups such as the Stephen Center, Servants of Mary and Holy Rosary Mission that serve the needy.

finishing in the top four.

MATHCOUNTS

The Nebraska Society of Professional Engineers held the MATHCOUNTS Chapter Competition on Saturday, February 13 at the Ramada Plaza Convention Center in Omaha. There were 240 students from 32 area schools competing in this event. The following students qualified to represent the St. Pius/St. Leo Team:

Abbie Brewster
Kaleb Brink
Daniel Deras
Josh Geske
Connor Gregg
Elle Houghtaling
Anna Preston
Sam Raabe



Connor placed 33rd and Sam placed 64th out of those 240 competitors. We thank these 8 students for their hard work in preparing for the contest and for representing our school so proudly.

SOCIAL SKILLS NEWS Shane and Jenny's March Madness



Hooray! Shane and Jenny were watching another exciting basketball game at the SPSL gymnasium. With ten seconds left in the game, Shane and Jenny's friend Jason committed a foul that allowed the other team to win the game. Shane and Jenny knew Jason would be upset so they rushed to the sidelines to console him "Way to go Jason" cried Shane. "You played like you were blind - or maybe just dumb!"

As soon as he spoke, Shane knew that he had violated the guidelines for Use of Appropriate Humor because he was not using humor under appropriate circumstances and he realized that his remarks had made fun of handicapped people. Shane remembered that he should avoid humor that makes fun of groups of people, deals with inappropriate topics or uses inappropriate language. Shane understood he had offended his friends so he promptly and sincerely apologized to his friend Jason and to his friend Jenny.

Jason looked at Shane and Jenny and said, "I have learned a lot playing for the Panthers this season and I have learned that there are more important things in life than winning or losing a game." Jason continued, "I have learned that it is important to Show Respect to others by not teasing or making fun of people, by obeying requests to stop negative behavior and by dressing and acting appropriately in public. As a member of the



RACE FOR EDUCATION - Reminder

Your child/children will be bringing home the Race for Education packet today. Please check their folder and make sure to return the mailing labels by Friday, March 18. Please fill out the names and addresses of potential sponsors and send them to school with your child/children by March 18. Thank you for taking time to help with this important annual fundraiser for our school.

Go Panthers!



SPSL'S ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

SPSL's annual golf tournament is scheduled for Saturday, **May 21, 2016**, at the Knolls Golf Course beginning at 1:00 p.m. The cost is \$85 per person, which includes 18 Hole Golf Scramble, cart, prizes, dinner and fun! Proceeds from the tournament support SPSL

Panthers I have learned to take care of the property of others, to allow others their privacy and to encourage others to follow the rules."

Shane thanked his friend Jason for sharing what he had learned this season. Shane, Jenny and Jason all felt better for having used their knowledge of social skills to make a bad situation better for all. Everyone was a winner that day because they had practiced using their social skills. Hooray!

Listed below are the Social Skills that will be reviewed during the month of March:

Showing Respect

1. Obey a request to stop a negative behavior.
2. Refrain from teasing, threatening, or making fun of others.
3. Allow others to have their privacy.
4. Obtain permission before using another person's property.
5. Do not damage or vandalize public property.
6. Refrain from conning or persuading others into breaking rules.
7. Avoid acting obnoxiously in public.
8. Dress appropriately when in public.

Use of Appropriate Humor

1. Use humor only under appropriate circumstances.
2. Avoid humor that makes fun of groups in society, handicapped people, or individuals in your peer group.
3. Avoid sexually oriented jokes and profanity.
4. If humor offends others, promptly and sincerely apologize.

PANTHER AWARD WINNING STUDENTS (P.A.W.S.)

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 Panther Award Winning Students. We award P.A.W.S. to students who:

- Show dignity, respect and care for others.
- Participate in school.
- Share with others.
- Live God's word.

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

School's continued tradition of academic excellence. If you would like to participate in the golf outing or would be willing to sponsor a hole or donate a prize, please call the school office at (402) 551-6667 for more information. Please join us on the links!



HEALTH HINT: FOOD GUIDE PYRAMID

In order to stay healthy, you have to eat a variety of nutritious foods every day. It's not that easy to eat healthy though, and that's where the Food Guide Pyramid can help you out!

Just think of it as a puzzle of nutrients that your body needs every day, and the five major food groups are the puzzle pieces.

- Milk (3-4 servings) - Foods include milk, yogurt and cheese. The key ingredient is calcium, which builds strong teeth and bones.
- Fruits (2-4 servings) - Fruits are excellent sources of vitamin C, which heals cuts and keeps skin healthy, and fiber, which helps your digestion.
- Vegetables (3-5

Jenna Abbott	Kaitlyn Gall	Eleanor Mangan	Audrey Saucier
Rachel Achola	Ariana Ganson	Max Mangan	Grant Saucier
Schuyler Achola	Fiona Gautschi	Adeline Martin	Andrew Sauer
Rorie Aguilar	Rilyn Gish	Brian Martin	Libby Schimonitz
Rico Akakpo	Cassie Gloden	Akon Mathiang	Lauren Schmidt
Catherine Alvarez	Bella Goaley	Garang Mathiang	Jesica Sekyra
Wosuk Ando	Brady Goebel	Mathiang Mathiang	Noah Shaal
Enzo Anthony	Elleiana Green	Nayah Mbilain	Riley Shaal
Aiden Antisdell	Connor Gregg	Carter McDonald	Augie Shald
Prince Assiobo	Rylee Gregg	Harvey McDonald	Mia Sharrar
Nick Avilla	Kaylie Gusman	Brigid McGill	Sky Sheard
Koen Badalucco	Seamus Haney	Kaitlyn Meier	Justin Sitti
Anthony Baker	Ashley Hankel	Trevor Merkley	Connor Smith
Manuelli Bakou	Erin Hankel	Murphy Mertz	Nate Smith
Audrey Basham	Caleb Hans	Zoey Mihulka	Sam Solis
Jesse Baughman	Heidi Hans	Bailey Miller	Norah Spencer
Sydnee Baysa	McKenzie Harbert	Elijah Mitchell	Wade Spencer
Cece Behrens	Ojon Harris	Drew Monzu	Grace Staley
Amaya Bennett	Sam Harris	Elizabeth Monzu	Danielle Stolze
Bailey Benson	Aryannah Harrison	Emily Monzu	Reid Stracke
Kaden Bey	Anna Hartley	Noah Monzu	Tyler Strauss
Nasirah Biao	Claire Hartley	Parker Mooney	Ben Strehle
McKenna Blaine	Mia Hennessey	Peter Morris	Leveret Stricklett
Katryna Boelter	Annie Herfordt	Owen Morrow	Norah Sullivan
Anthony Bope	Fin Herrera	Colton Nelson	Audrey Swanson
Isabelle Borer	Anne Hiatt	Tommy Novotny	Sarah Swinarski
Najat Boukari	Keara Hiatt	Julia Nubel	Kailiayh Taylor
Armanii Brazile	Margaret Hiatt	Gabe O'Doherty	Graclyn Temme
Cristian Bressani	Eamon Hogrefe	Will O'Doherty	Tanner ten Bensel



Abbie Brewster	Henry Hohman	Brian Onyango	Zach ten Bensel
Alex Brown	Kate Hoppe	Tyra Onyango	Alexus Townsend
Maria Buechler	Henry Horton	Henry Ortner	Sanaa Traurig
John Burns	Blake Houghtaling	Addison Ostronic	Sophia Tripp
Olivia Camerer	Elle Houghtaling	Ethan Owens	Rayla Voor Vart
Audrey Campbell	Charlie Howard	Luke Papa	Garrett Vosika
Darby Campbell	Drew Jensen	Katie Peklo	Eli Walters
Kyle Cannon	Kate Jensen	Maggie Peklo	Maren Walters
Gabe Carwyn	Owen Jensen	Alexis Perlman	Wyatt Walters
Violet Christen	Ian Johnson	Ellie Peter	Ben Weber
Anthony Cimino	Lucas Johnson	Beau Pick	Giuliana Weber
Kendall Clark	Sam Jolley	Natalie Piskorski	Sadie Weiner
Max Clark	Colby Kaisershot	Meg Raabe	Peyton Welsh
Annie Compton	Avi Kampe	Sam Raabe	Reese Welsh
Helen Coyle	Jonah Kampe	Jonah Risch Bakhit	Riley Welsh
Josette Crossley	Josh Karls	Mia Rodriguez	Scarlett Wharton
Miqaela Davis	Claire Kastl	Ben Roecker	Will Wharton
Daniel Deras	Anna Kidder	Lauren Roecker	Chloe Whiddon
Nate Drew	Kyra Knudsen	Lydia Rose	Isabel Whittinghill
Lucy Drexel	Omaima Lado	Dominic Rosso	Quinn Whittinghill
Cal Ehlers	Terry Le	Paige Rothschild	Ty Wilber
Emma Ehrhardt	Trevin Le	Kenadie Rudloff	Jolie Williams
Lylah Ericson	Preston Leach	Abby Russell	Claire Wilson
Alida Farrens	Madeline Leddy	Madalyn Sack	Gabby Wilson
TJ Farrens	Delano Lockhart	Stevie Salerno	Kate Worthy
Ali Findley	Spencer Long	Emily Salzman	Nick Worthy
Kendra Fix	Javier Macias	Josephine Salzman	Brianna Wunderlich
Eve Fountain	Sophia Maciejewski	Jennifer Sandquist	Da'Leyah York
Coretta Gagnon	Charlie Mangan	Joy Sandquist	

servings) - Veggies are also great sources of fiber and vitamin A. Just remember that darker colored vegetables, like carrots and broccoli, have more nutrients.

- Meat (2-3 servings) - Foods include meat (beef, chicken, turkey, fish, pork but not bacon), beans and nuts. This group provides iron and protein, which gives you strong muscles.
- Grains (6-11 servings) - This food group gives you energy because it contains carbohydrates. Includes breads, cereals, rice and pasta.

(For source information, click [here.](#))



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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