

SCS UPDATE



Volume 19, Issue 8

St. Catherine of Siena School, Cedar Grove, NJ

April 2014

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER...

April...

17 12:30 Dismissal
18-25 Easter Recess
29 Feast of St. Catherine
Mass 10 a.m.

May ...

2 12:30 Dismissal
5 Professional Day - **NO SCHOOL**
9 Band Concert 7:30 pm
14 Spring Show 1:15 & 7:30
19 Golf Outing

Thank You Corner...

Mrs. Stacey Miller for the lovely April birthday calendar filled with tulips and bunnies.

SHOEBOX MINISTRY...

Thank you to all the children and their families for all their beautiful shoeboxes. A special thank you to Mrs. Ingalls and the SCS children who helped move the boxes from the Church to the Convent garage. We wish you a very Happy Easter,

The Dunn Family

ELECTIVES 3rd TRIMESTER...



Electives for the 3rd trimester for the middle school students are: Set Design, Extended Science, Musical Theater, SCS News, Acrylic Painting, Basics of Pottery, Web Scavenger Hunt, SCS Spring Training, and SCS Ambassadors.

*** IMPORTANT CALENDAR CHANGE ***

Snow days make-up!

Because of the number of days missed due to snow, the students will have a full day of school on April 16th and we will have a 12:30 dismissal on April 17th (Holy Thursday). The last day of school in June for students in grades 1-7 will be Thursday, June 19th at 11:00 a.m.

SCS Spring Show

May 14th

"The Sound of Music"

1:15 & 7:30

HEALTH UPDATE...

By Colleen Kennedy, RN



Feeling Good About Sports

Participating in sports can build your child up...or drag him down. Make athletics a positive experience for your youngster with these strategies:

-Keep games in perspective. At this age, sports should be about having fun and developing skills. Ask about his favorite part of practice or the most interesting play in the game, rather than focusing on his performance or the score.

-Encourage him to set goals – but make sure the goals are realistic. He might aim to touch the ball three times during a game or to try a move that he's been working on.

-Avoid comments about your youngster's size or body. Concentrate on the friends he is making, the places he is playing, and the effort he is putting forth ("I love how you tried to get the rebound").

Preventing Sports Injuries in Children

1. **Provide supervision for sports.** More injuries occur in free-play sports than in organized team sports. Supervision makes it less likely that an injury will occur.

2. **Encourage regular use of appropriate protective equipment.** This includes helmets, facemasks, protective padding and other gear. Do not allow children to participate without protective equipment. Routinely inspect equipment for signs of wear and replace as needed.

3. **Watch for early signs of injury such as swelling, pain or a limp.** Recognizing an injury early means that treatment can begin early. This will make it less likely that long-term problems will develop. Children may hide pain. This may delay recognition and treatment of an injury. Let your child know it is "OK" to admit that something hurts. Teach children that it is important to let parents and coaches know right away if something is painful, swollen, red in color or hard to use (such as a knee that makes walking difficult).

4. **Assure that your child is properly conditioned to participate in a sport.** Avoid excess and repeated stress on joints and muscles.

5. **Encourage your child to complete proper rehabilitation after an injury.** Children often want to "get back in the game" and may be tempted to short-cut full rehabilitation. Completing treatment reduces the chance for reinjuring the joint or muscle.

PK3 NEWS...

by Mrs. Velsor



Themes & Concepts Learned:

Making Playdough

- Ingredient
- sensory awareness

Library and Bookmarks

- learning all about the library
- responsibilities
- books are fun
- books make us smart

Penguins

- how they walk
- what they eat
- where they live

Numbers

- 6 following a block pattern number/set
- 7 painting the pattern number/set
- 8 octagon learning the shape making a stop sign practicing safety

Graphs

- making a pasta graph
- more than
- less than

Germs

- they make us sick
- science exploration: flour experiment/how they are spread

Kites

- wind
- shapes: triangle to diamond

Pollution

- air, water, land
- litter bag

PK3 LUCKY LUNCHER'S LEARNING EXPRESS...

- Sequencing (building a snowman)
- Science: simple machines
- Math: addition – using dice
- Music: movement skills
- Concentration building (making cards)
- Poem/Acting (Seven Shiny Seashells)
- Board Games/healthy competition (solving a problem to make a move)
- 3 R's (reduce, reuse, recycle) Making a bat and ball from recycled items
- Water Flows Downhill – gravity

We couldn't be prouder of them!!!

CLASSROOM HAPPENINGS...



Spring brings a flurry of activity to the **Kindergarten**. The students are learning about Earth Day and ways they can help preserve Mother Earth. Everyone wants to do their part to reduce, reuse, recycle. As Easter approaches, the class is journeying with Jesus as they study the Stations of the Cross. We hope your Easter is full of Easter eggs, Easter baskets and Easter blessings!

Grade 1 is excited about Spring and the coming of Easter. In Religion, our class wrote beautiful compositions focusing on sacrifice for Lent. We also wrote Easter essays about Jesus' death, resurrection, and new life in Spring. Mobiles that each of us has made are hanging in our room soon showing "The Blessed Trinity."

The **2nd grade** is concentrating on reading, reading, and more reading. We began the month with our second oral book report presentations. Our next book report due in May will be a written one. In Math, we are enjoying learning about fractions. We are learning how to write fractions and compare them. Our next math topic is probability and the likelihood of certain outcomes.

Grade 3 has begun learning about the stages in the life cycles of butterflies and frogs to better understand metamorphosis. Additionally, we have differentiated between inherited and learned traits. In Social Studies, we are investigating how people live in communities with different climates, physical environments, and natural resources. Our religious studies are focused on the Seven Sacraments. Since April is National Poetry Month, we have been reading and writing poems. Congratulations to the third grade students who were accepted for publication in the Anthology of Poetry 2014 edition. Well done!

NEWS FROM GRADES 4 & 5...

Grades 4 and 5 are continuing their Lenten journeys by attending weekday Mass and celebrating Stations of the Cross each Wednesday. Hopefully, this is setting the tone for a prayerful Holy Week and Joyous Easter. At this time of the year, as the weather changes and animal life reappears, it is perfect for our studies in Science. Grade 5 is discovering exactly what causes such changes while Grade 4 has been busy making their very own vertebrate creations. Both classes have been applying their grammar skills to writing persuasive essays in grade 4 and concrete poems in grade 5. We pray that April will shower all of us

with God's blessings as we celebrate Jesus' Passion, Death and Glorious Resurrection.

GREETINGS FROM THE MIDDLE SCHOOL...

The 8th grade students will be reading *Animal Farm* in Literature. Grade 8 has completed lessons which instruct on how to solve quadratic equations by graphing, factoring, by using square roots, by completing the square, and by using the Quadratic Formula. Students learned how to use the Distance Formula to find the distance between two points in a coordinate plane. Next, the students will review how to use data analysis and probability, which includes combinations, permutations, matrices, and factorials as extensions of multiplication.

Grade 7 students are in the process of learning about probability which includes students using informal measures of probability, finding experimental & theoretical probability, using counting methods to determine possible outcomes (Fundamental Counting Principle), as well as using probability to predict events. The 7th grade students will begin reading *Fahrenheit 451* in Literature.

Grade 6th students have come to the end of the study of measurement including how to solve problems involving area, exploring perimeter and area, finding areas of composite figures, how to estimate and find the volumes of rectangular and triangular prisms, how to use a net to build a three-dimensional figure, and how to find the surface area of prisms, pyramids, and cylinders. In preparation for Easter, the 6th grade students continue their study of the Stations of the Cross in Religion.

TIDBITS FROM EXTREME...

The **3rd grade** recently had their publishing party. All students had a chance to read their favorite essay or poem to an audience of their peers and parents. We are so proud of them.

The **SCS Ambassadors** hosted their first after school activity – a coffee house. A great time was had by all. Pizza and a movie was our April event.

The **6th and 8th grade** students are writing sonnets. Ask them about iambic pentameter.

HOME SCHOOL NEWS...

HOME SCHOOL NEWS...

by Mrs. Hasbani

Congratulations on another year of successful fundraising. Our Tricky Tray raised over \$36,000. We have met our financial obligations for this year. Thank you to everyone involved in such a tremendous effort. A special thanks goes to our 3 co- chairs: Michelle Morano, Fran Gangi , and Stacy Miller as well as all the committee chairs and members. The tricky tray involves months of planning and behind the scenes work and as a team, it is proven year after year that it can be done with much success!! All families, faculty, and staff members of the SCS community are part of a very special team with the common goal being the future of our children. I commend and thank everyone for all the hard work and dedication and for being such an important team member. We look forward to many more years of successful fundraising moving our school forward!!!

HSA elections for the upcoming school year are in May. Please consider running for a position on the board. We have many open positions available and would love to have you. More details will be posted in the brown envelope. The commitment isn't too much but the outcome is remarkable. We are all parents working together. If you have any questions feel free to contact me by email karenhasbani@hotmail.com , by phone 201-406-9418 or ask any of our current members.

MONTHLY 50/50...

By Lisa Ingalls

Winners and captains for the April 50/50 are:

1st Place	Louis Dulfer	\$464.75
	Capt. Diane Franzese	
2nd Place	Bolen Family	\$178.75
	Capt. Karen Hasbani	
3rd Place	Balido Family	\$ 71.50
	Capt. Ann Margaret DeMarco	

Congratulations to all our winners!

IMPORTANT REMINDERS...



- * Clothing Drive May 2/3 (date change)
- * Annual Golf Outing & Dinner 5/19
- * Carnival May 29th - June 1st

BRADFORD AVENUE... Again!!!

Please follow the Drop Off & Pick Up Procedure. **DO NOT** Drop-off or Pick-up your children on Bradford Avenue.

SCS ATHLETICS...

by Mark Raum



- Our sports dinner was held on March 27th. We'd like to thank Mr. Pat Custode for a tremendous meal.
- All Basketball and Cheerleading Uniforms are due in the office immediately. They are to be laundered and returned in a **Ziploc bag with your child's name on the outside of the bag.**



BAND CONCERT

May 9th

7:30 p.m.

