



St. Vincent de Paul School News May/June 2008

We are in the final weeks of this 2007-2008 school year and wondering where the year has gone! We thought spring had come, but it left again for a short time. We'll just keep our noses to the proverbial grindstone and try to accomplish all we hope to accomplish while we have the interest and enthusiasm of your children.

Wisconsin Rapids Chapter WI – 44 of Catholic Family Life Insurance initiated a new campaign in April of 2008 as part of a national cause entitled "Catholic Schools for America". The local chapter chose to offer St. Vincent de Paul School students the challenge of participating in "Turn off TV for a Day". Information was sent home with students explaining the program thoroughly and offering their families a challenge to turn off the TV for a day and opt instead for doing a family activity, reading a book, or helping someone with a chore. Those students choosing to participate followed through on the challenge. Parents signed and dated the form verifying successful completion and returned it to school. Recently, members of the local chapter, Mrs. Ann See and Mrs. Carol Kuehl, came to our school to acknowledge our participation. All student participants had their names put into a container. The one that was drawn out was the recipient of the board game *Monopoly*. The school was presented with a check for \$150 and a plaque stating that Wisconsin Rapids Chapter WI – 44 has officially adopted St. Vincent de Paul School for its participation in this project and hopefully for a long and fruitful association. Finally, each student and staff member of our school was treated to an ice cream sandwich.

Each family will now receive via the school's communication folder an envelope containing Catholic Family Life Insurance marketing materials. We anticipate a long a mutually beneficial relationship with CFLI in the future and thank them for all our rewards.

Our fifth graders under the direction of their teacher Mrs. Susan Boehm, recently participated in a social studies project that has proven to be a favorite with all. The event is officially called "Tea at Mt. Vernon" and includes the students dressing in costume of some of the well known people of that era (such as George and Martha Washington), attendance at a ball (square dancing in the gym), and attendance at a "tea" (in the cafeteria) that not only includes "dining" on delectable treats but also entertainment including the playing of traditional games of that time. The "Tea at Mt. Vernon" is a culmination project of their unit of study on the Colonial period including oral reports, making of a demonstration board, and wearing the costume of that person. The story boards are on display in the first floor hallway of the school.

Congratulations are in order for our sixth grade girls who participated in a Cage Club Basketball Tournament a few weeks ago. They ranked first in division four at the state level. After their season, they were ranked four out of seventy-three. On Monday following the tournament, they all came to school proudly wearing their new royal blue hooded sweatshirts proudly announcing their achievements.

We are always so proud to announce the accomplishments of our students when we get the results each year of the annual Catholic Daughters of the Americas Education Contests. This year's contest winners were as follows:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Placement</u>	<u>Student Name</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Division I Poetry	First	Jeremy Statz	5 th
	Second	Macy Mancl	4 th
	Third	Kendra Lysne	4 th
Division I Essay	Second	Cassidy McLennan	5 th
Division I Art	Second	Trevor Ashbeck	5 th
	Third	Lupe Quinonez	5 th

Congratulations on your generosity with recent collections:

Lenten mite box collections:	\$368.48
Tripp Family Fundraiser conducted in the school:	\$910.59

May Calendar:

- 1-Fifth grade trip to Mead Wildlife
- 2-No School for K-6 students (Professional Day for Faculty)
- 5-Geranium/Spring Flower Pickup in gym (2:30-5:30)
- 7-Early Bird 5th/6th Band; Mass (4K) at 2:45
- 8-Early Bird 4th Band
- 9-K-6 Progress Reports; WRACS K-12 Out of Dress Code Day Tripp Fundraiser
- 13-Fourth grade trip to Dairy State Cheese and Worzalla
- 14-Early Bird 5th/6th Band; WRACS Living Rosary/Unity Night at AHS at 6:30
Mass (5B) at 2:45
- 15-Early Bird 4th Band; K-6 Retreat/Rosary/Program at St. Philip School
- 16-K-6 Spirit Day (Beach/Hawaiian); Safety Patrol Trip to Wisconsin Dells
- 19-Fourth Grade Band performs at Centralia Senior Center in a.m.
- 21-Early Bird 5th/6th Band; Band Concert Practice for 4th-6th in a.m. at SV;
Mass (6P) at 2:45
- 22-Early Bird 4th Band;
- 23-WRACS 4th grade Statehood Day at SV; Sixth grade trip to Sandhill
- 26-No School
- 27-Fifth/Sixth grade band performs at Edgewater Haven in a.m.
- 28-Early Bird 5th/6th Band; Band Concert Practice for 4th-6th in a.m. at SV;
Mass (4B) at 2:45
- 29-Early Bird 4th Band; WRACS 4th-6th Track and Field Day at SWC Field in p.m.
- 30-6th grade Festival of Nations in gym from 12:30-3:00; WRACS 4th-6th Band
Concert at PAC at 7:00

June Calendar:

- 2-SV Talent Show and Volunteer Recognition at 1:00 in gym
- 3-SV Awards Ceremony in church at 12:45
- 4-SV Mass (6S) and Promotion for Fifth and Sixth at 1:00
- 5-Last Day for Students; Dismissal at noon
- 6-Last Day for Staff

We were so glad to be visited by Mr. Tim, the seminarian who temporarily resides at OLQH Parish. He came on Friday, April 25 to speak to the students in each grade level. He captured their attention very well by discussing vocations, living a Christian life in today's world, and giving God our very best at all times.

Students in grades four through six learned about more efficient and effective ways of ensuring safer and cleaner water. They received a visit on April 17th from the "Milladore Groundwater Guardians" who shared this information in a creative Jeopardy game, a lifelike model of the pathway of groundwater, a recreation of the pathway of various types of water in relation to daily life experiences, and other innovative and interesting activities. Members of the Milladore Groundwater Guardians include Mrs. Joan Dickrell, 3rd/4th grade teacher at St. Philip School, and four gentlemen from Milladore who have been "Guardians" for many years. We appreciate all their time, talent, and expertise.

Students of Mrs. Saramandich's science classes in fifth and sixth grades worked in groups and chose a topic that relates to a variety of topics related to Earth Day (i.e. Water conservation, E-waste, Endangered Species, Recycling, etc. etc.). They performed research, designed an exhibition poster with relevant props, and studied the projects of each other so as to cite what was to be learned. These projects have been on display in our science lab. In addition to this Earth Day project, the sixth grade students recently walked to a plot of land near the Eastside Fire Station and Dr. Klement's dental office and picked up over thirteen garbage bags of litter that ends up collecting in that area on a regular basis. Way to go, sixth graders and their teachers!

We appreciated the Spruce trees we all received from Wal-Mart on Arbor Day, April 25th. We were one of many schools in the area to have the trees delivered. Originally we understood that they would come in bundles of twenty-five with one sheet of directions per bundle. It would be up to us to separate the trees and duplicate the accompanying information sheet. When the truck arrived, we were greeted by three happy young men who could see how happy we were when we realized that all the separating and attaching of information had been done for us.

We were recently honored and had our hearts touched when some representatives of a local organization, "Moms in Touch", stopped in with a tray of freshly made cookies for our staff to enjoy. The non-denominational group of seven members has been meeting weekly for over twenty years to pray as a support for the children, teachers, schools, administrators, and the community. One member, Mrs. Gina Steidl, has a son, Dane, in fourth grade in our school. What a wonderful gesture and mission that expresses love and giving of oneself!

Thanks for a wonderful and productive school year. May God bless you all! Thanks so much for sharing your most precious commodity, your children, with us.

Sincerely in Christ's Name,

Brenda J. Walczak - principal

