



St. Augustine's School Newsletter



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January 13, 2012

NO SCHOOL MONDAY Nursery – Grade 6 will be closed Monday in honor of the **Martin Luther King Jr.** holiday.

SR. JANE VISIT We welcome Sr. Jane Herb, Superintendent of the Albany Diocese, to St. Augustine's School this Tuesday for her annual visit.

SCHOOL BOARD Our next School Board meeting is this Thursday at 3:00 in the Rectory.

PAUL VANDENBURGH TO BROADCAST LIVE FROM ST. AUGUSTINE'S As part of Catholic Schools Week, we will have Paul Vandenburg broadcast his morning show (AM 1300) live from school on Tuesday January 31st from 6:00 – 10:00 am. We thank Phillip Parella from our Enrollment Team for doing all the “leg work” to make this happen. Also, thank you to all those who donated to offset the nominal fee. Please tune in and tell your friends and family. This will be a great way to publicize our school!

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK Catholic Schools Week is coming up fast! It is an important week for Catholic Schools throughout the country. This year Catholic Schools week begins on Sunday, January 29th and runs through the following Friday. Many interesting and exciting things will happen during Catholic Schools Week, beginning with **Mass at 11:30** followed by our first (of two) Open Houses – Sunday January 29th from 12:45 – 2:00. More information on the fun and festivities will be coming soon.

SMART BOARDS ARE COMING! Thanks to the success of our Adopt-a-Classroom program, we were able to purchase 4 Smart Boards and 4 LCD projectors for our classrooms. They will be placed in our 1st, 3rd, 5th and 6th grades (2nd grade already has one). They should arrive in about a month. We are also upgrading our computer infrastructure (thanks to Mr. Shull) and creating a real network! We are also looking into upgrading all of our computers to Windows 7.

NEW CALENDAR ITEM There will be NO SCHOOL for Kindergarten – grade 6 on **Friday March 9th**. Prek will have a half day with dismissal at 10:45. Nursery will be open as usual. We will be hosting a professional development day focusing on the new Common Core Curriculum. More information will follow.



ENROLLMENT GROWTH TEAM The Team would like to thank each of you for taking the time to complete the school surveys last week. We gathered a tremendous amount of information and identified some key areas that we can focus on. A brief synopsis for strengths: family atmosphere, curriculum/academics/instruction, values/Religious programs and (of course) Office Staff! Areas for growth: technology (see Smart Boards above), building/facility and extra-curricular activities. Again, this is an oversimplified breakdown of some very complex responses, but the Team wanted to provide feedback to all of you.

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS & DELAYS School closing and delays can be found on the web pages of all local news stations. They will also be posted on TV channels 6, 9, 10, and 13, as well as heard on radio stations WFLY (FM 92.3) and WRVE (99.5) as well as on our Facebook page. Unless there's a phone problem, the information will also be on the answering machine at school. We do NOT necessarily follow the Lansingburgh School District with emergency closing/delays. Our Nursery School does not close for inclement weather.

NEXT TO NEW SALE St. Augustine's school is actively collecting used items of all kinds for our Next to New Sale. For those who may not be familiar with this annual event, it can be easily described as a 'Garage Sale' or 'Rummage Sale'. This time of year is perfect for cleaning house and getting rid of items you no longer want or use. For the past 2 years this sale has been fun and successful. Items you wish to donate may be left in the school office, or in the hallway outside the office. We hope to have information updated on our website shortly, however if you have any questions, you may contact Serena McIntyre @ 225-0385 or serena.m.mcintyre@gmail.com

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL WITH ONECAUSE.COM This free fundraising program helps you support St. Augustine's when you shop online. Here's how it works: Register with OneCause.com and choose St. Augustine School, ID#116907 as your school to support. Start your shopping at OneCause.com, click to your favorite stores, and you'll automatically contribute up to 20% of your eligible purchases to St. Augustine's, at no extra cost to you. So every time you buy clothes, shoes or even plane tickets, you can save money and help our school! It's so easy. Help us make a difference by joining OneCause today. You're going to buy stuff anyway... Make it count! Thanks to Ms. Abatamarco for organizing this for us!

ADOPT A CLASSROOM Our Adopt-a-Class Program continues again this year. If you or your company would like to make a donation to St. Augustine's School this is a very effective way of doing it. For a minimum of \$500 you can adopt one of our classrooms – any one you want. Or you can designate your donation as a “Principal's Choice” and it will be used where the principal sees the most need. Adoption Forms can be picked up in the school office or found on our website at www.staugustinesschool.org . Every cent of your donation goes toward our need, there are no administrative expenses. Donations are normally tax deductible.

Mr. Slichko
Principal

