

St. Maria Goretti Notes



March 26th 2010

Message from Mrs. Young

*Oppressed and condemned
He was taken away.
And who would have thought
anymore of His destiny?
(Isaiah 53:8)*

I cannot imagine what the followers and believers of Christ were feeling as they gazed up to see Him hanging on the cross. Only those condemned as criminals were given that punishment. They did not understand or see the majestic source of His being and His destiny.

Although we will be on Spring Break during Holy Week I hope that you will be able to bring your children to the special liturgies of the week:

April 1 – Holy Thursday

7:30 - Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper that includes the washing of feet and the opportunity of keeping watch with Jesus.

April 2 – Good Friday

1:00 – Passion and Death of the Lord

April 3 – Easter Vigil

8:00 p.m. – There will be the blessing of the new fire and the new Easter Candle, the proclamation of the great Easter hymn sung by candlelight and the welcoming of new Catholics into the Church.

This week tells the story of the death and Resurrection of our Lord. It is rich in ritual and tradition. Please bring your children to share it with you.

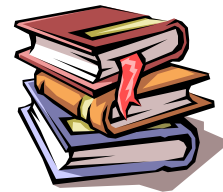
*Do not abandon yourselves to despair.
We are the Easter people
and Hallelujah is our song.
(Pope John Paul II)*



New Room Parent Coordinators

Thank you to Gretchen Karnosky and Lisa Wolters for taking over as room parent coordinators. They will be sending out information for next year shortly.

On that same note, thank you so much to Anne Dorn and Lora Ring for their many hours of dedication with this position for the past several years.



USED BOOK SALE A SUCCESS!

Thank you to all you generous families for donating books, movies, CDs and *your time* to the SMG Used Book Sale. Because of you, in just a few short days over \$2,000 was raised! That money goes directly to our school library to purchase new books and supplies and helps encourage reading among our children.

- *Parents, please consider volunteering your time with your child next year for this event. It is a great way to show your support for reading and the importance of volunteerism in our school community. Thank you to the wonderful volunteers this year for your support!*

The 7th annual Cardinal Hoops Camp for those entering 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th grade will be June 7th-10th from 7:30-9:00 am. Sign up will come out in Mid-April.

We Still Need You!

The Home and School Board is still looking for more people to run for the Home & School Board . Each person on the board has a vote and makes a difference for the children, teachers and administration at SMG.

If you are interested in being on the Home and School Board or you would like to nominate another parent, please e-mail Beth Wilson at beth.wilson@stmariagoretti.org or Julie Schmitt at schmts6@yahoo.com

Please submit your interest or nomination by April 6th. Thank you very much for your consideration.

P.S. If you have a Kindergarten through 2nd Grade, be sure to ask them about the Author and Illustrator they were able to meet Rick Chrustowski, Author & Illustrator of Bright Beetle, Blue Sky Bluebird and others. funded by your Home & School



It's done! After much work by some wonderful volunteers (you know who you are!!) the "Under the Sea" mural is up! It is just loaded with projects by our school artists. Kindergarten helped with the sandy shore and also drew themselves as scuba divers or mermaids. First grade created the blue sea background on blue paper with a monoprinting process. Second grade got to choose between coral or seaweed with fish swimming through the strands. Third grade caught their flying fish in jumping poses. Fourth grade went with the flowing water line design up near the top and even used water colors to paint them. Fifth grade used color schemes and patterns to embellish their starfish. Sixth grade printed schools of fish with collaged texture in the collagraph method. Seventh grade drew the contour line shells that are tucked into the bed of sand at the bottom. It really is a site to see! Just don't get that tune stuck in your head as you pass by...

It is also coming to that time of year when we begin the Rainbow Park Project with my third graders. You might remember seeing the projects in the hall as you passed by last year. Everyone designs their own amusement park ride or structure at a park to be built out of recycled materials. They then have to color all the pieces in rainbow order and put it together. They love this project and I love all the creative ideas and problems that arise that we have to solve in a creative way. We even have to be engineers to get things to work!

This project is fantastic, but it does require some help from you, too. We have depleted our supply of materials and really need to restock, ASAP! Could you save and bring in all your toilet paper tubes, paper towel tubes and egg cartons? If you have anything else that you think could be an interesting part, please send that in, too. Last year we had some coffee creamer containers brought in and the lids looked just like stools which two girls used in their concession stand project. Another thing we need is glue gun operators. Most of

SMG RUMMAGE SALE RESULTS Approximate Net Sales!

\$7,500

Thank YOU for donating your unwanted treasures. And many thanks to all of the volunteers that helped with the sale. We could not have sorted, sold or packed up the thousands of donations without you.

And a special thank you to the "Kohl's Cares for Kids" Program. Fifteen Kohl's employees gave three volunteer hours each to our sale and Kohl's has committed to making a donation that will add \$1500 to the above total.

Thanks to Victor Allens for providing the coffee for concessions!

the pieces are hot glued on and I will not let the students use the glue guns. I usually spend all hour at the glue gun, applying glue so they can put it together. The line goes so much faster if there are more adults manning the stations than just me! If you have time to volunteer, please let me know!

My last order of business is to honor my latest artist of the week. The art work comes from the fourth grade class and their drawings based on Van Gogh's "Starry Night". This is one of my favorite projects and it always turns out great but this year... wow. First of all, we were able to watch a movie about Van Gogh. All the kids loved it and we all learned about him in a fun way. They were excited to create a drawing/painting based on his most famous works. Some artists really made the sky brilliant with colors and broken lines to show the rhythm with some using the smallest lines imaginable! Amazing!

Although all the projects were wonderful, I had to narrow it down to a few to show the Kindergarten teaching team so they could help me choose. We all agreed that one stood out because it had such a nice rhythm in the sky. Each of the brushstrokes in the sky is like a little comet shooting around and in between the others. Another part that we all liked was the way the artist drew the land and buildings. There is a sense of real depth in the drawing as the buildings that are close to us are larger than the ones that are further away. This is a technique we learn about in fifth grade and here it was done very successfully. Of course, I need to mention the tree that is in the foreground. It reminds me of a cherry tree in bloom with tiny leaves and flowers all in pinks. All of these elements combine to create a unique and well designed composition that is beautiful. Congratulations to Jaden Kraemer!



SMG Wraps Up A Successful Season Of Basketball

March madness is in full swing and SMG teams have completed another successful season of basketball. Whether the teams brought home victories or hardware, all teams were winners in that each team worked together and had fun playing the game of basketball. Each team represented SMG

with great sportsmanship as did the parents and fans at each game. SMG continues to be a great school for our kids and we are fortunate to have a fantastic athletic program.

I just want to thank all the athletes for a great season of basketball and for playing the game. I hope you continue to play each year. Thanks goes out to the coaches for their continued effort to teach each team about basketball and life. Parents - thank you for all the support in the stands and carting your kids around to all these events, you have raised good kids. SMG is a great place to belong to and we have a lot of pride in our school and teams. It shows...

Congrats 8th graders, you will all be going in different directions next year but will cherish the memories you have made on the basketball court. Thanks for representing SMG over the last 4 years. Job well done...

Here is our last game summary of the year provided by the 8th grade coaching staff...

It's hard to believe that this is the final update for this team of young men!! SMG basketball careers are finished and it's time to move on to bigger and better things.

The MAISL Tournament kicked off last weekend at Queen of Peace. The eighth grade Cardinals drew Abundant Life in the first game and easily defeated them for the third time this year. The semi-final pitted SMG against St. Francis. SMG beat the Orioles in their only previous meeting this season. St. Francis came out on fire and SMG struggled to find their offense. At one point, SMG was down 21-6 in the first quarter. The Cardinals fought through the second quarter and, thanks to a last second 3-pointer by SFX, were down by twelve at the half. The second half effort showed what this group of young men has been capable of all season. Hustle, smothering defense, solid shooting, and team effort brought SMG back. In front of a supportive and boisterous crowd, they were able to take a one point lead late in the fourth quarter with 1:33 left. Two free throws by SFX put them up by one with seconds to play. SMG ended up with the ball out of bounds, under their own hoop, with 2.2 seconds to play. The Cardinals ran a solid play. The shot looked good but failed to go down. SFX outlasted SMG to win by one point.

The coaches of this team would like to thank this group for their effort, dedication, and sportsmanship throughout their four years of participation in basketball at SMG. Another big thank you goes to the parents of these young men. You should be very proud.

FEAR THE CARDINAL!

Summer Social Skills Groups

Offered for students entering grades K-8 for Fall 2010

We are once again pleased to announce the availability of social skills instruction for school-aged children and adolescents. Participants will be placed into groups of 4-6 students based on age and ability. Intervention topics will be chosen based on the expressed needs of the enrolled participants and taught through a variety of methods, including large and small group discussion, role-playing and weekly family assignments.

Potential Topics Include:

Negotiating and compromising	Dealing with teasing & bullying
Giving and receiving compliments	Using body language
Introducing & maintaining conversational topics	Being optimistic

Target Participants: School aged children and adolescents who have difficulty with social skills.

55 minute classes will be offered on:

Tuesdays- 11:30 (K-1) 12:45 (gr 2-3) 2:00 (gr 4-5) 3:15 (gr 6-8)

OR

Thursdays- 9:00 (K-1) 10:15 (gr 2-3) 11:30 (gr 4-5) 12:45 (gr 6-8)

Dates:

Series 1: Tuesdays: June 22, 29 & July 6, 13 OR
Thursdays: June 17, 24 & July 1, 8

Series 2: Tuesdays: July 20, 27 & August 3, 10 OR
Thursdays: July 15, 22, 29 & August 5

counseling and human relations

Currently serves as a guidance counselor at several Madison area private schools

Cost: \$180.00/series or \$320.00 for both series 1 & 2

Location: Classes will be offered at the offices of

Child & Family Psychological Services
437 South Yellowstone Drive
Suite 218
Madison, WI 53719

For more information or to request registration materials, please contact:

Beth Miller Swanson @ OR Heather Piet
(608) 278-0428 (home) (608) 628-20
(608) 206-3316 (cell) or hrcpie@hotm
jbswanny@gmail.com

Instructors:

Beth Miller Swanson, M.A., CCC-SLP

Holds national certification and state licensure in speech language pathology with 20 years of experience working with children and adolescents
Currently runs a private practice providing speech, language, and literacy intervention as well as works part-time as a clinical instructor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at UW-Whitewater

Heather Pietranton, M.S.

Holds an advanced degree in

ALL INQUIRIES ARE WELCOME!