

St. Maria Goretti Notes



April 30th, 2010

Message from Mrs. Young

Our only hope in this world is not to be forsaken by God.

Our only task in this world is never to forsake our God.

(Alice Camille)

We forget, sometimes, to remember our blessings. We also forget to give thanks for our blessings. We get lazy and don't always do what we know we should.

Once in a while our prayers in the morning, during the day and at night are forgotten. At times Mass on Sunday becomes a burden. We overlook or do not recall the special gifts that God has given.

As our 8th graders start on their last month – many have been here since Kindergarten – we hope that they leave us with a grateful heart. We want them to remember their years here as ones of learning and growth. The support of their parents, their teachers and their parish has given them a gift beyond price. And that gift is the ability to be successful leaders in faith both in High School and in the future Church. Please keep them in your prayers.

*Know that the Lord is God,
He made us, his we are;
His people, the flock he tends.
(Psalm 100:3)*



We would like to ask you all to slow down a little bit when you are dropping off and picking up your children. We had a couple of students who were almost hit riding their bicycles to school. Thank You!

Gorettifest Baskets

Just a reminder that the Gorettifest Baskets are due on May 7th. Thank you for participation with this-it really makes a difference.



Volunteers Needed.....Field Day-2010!!!

Come and join in the fun.....pray for sunshine☺
We are in need of 30 volunteers to help with the Field Day games this year.

Date: Tuesday, June 1

Time: 8:00 – 1:45

Lunch will be provided

Please sign up in the School Office or email:

beth.wilson@stmariagoretti.org

THANK YOU!!



Library Books

Friday, May 7th will be the last date to check out books from the SMG Library. This allows us time to do our library inventory ... and allows students time to find those missing books and get them turned in! We'll have some other fun activities going on during our library classes in the last three weeks of school.

If your student brings home an overdue notice, and the book cannot be located, please notify us as soon as possible that the book is missing. **Reminder** – any unpaid library fines will hold up the release of final report cards and records at the end of the school year.

Madison Public Library News

At the end of May, SMG will have a presentation for K – 4th graders on the “Make a Splash” summer reading program. The 5th – 7th graders will receive materials on the “Make Waves at the Library” teen reading program. **SIGN UP FOR BOTH PROGRAMS BEGINS JUNE 1.**

Check out some of these upcoming programs at the Meadowridge Branch (see the Madison Public Library website for more details) –

- **Tuesday, May 11 at 3:30: Book Bites: Kids Reading Club:** Come and talk about books you're reading. Relax and read in a group or individually. Snacks provided. For ages 7 & up.
- **Tuesday, May 25 at 3:30: Learn 'n Craft: History of Bookmaking:** Discover something new then make a craft. For kids age 7 & up.
- **Friday, June 18 at 11:00: Pirate Party:** Make a Splash this summer and come to the library for piratical festivities. There will be plenty of loot and booty for everyone!

- **Tuesday, June 22 at 11:00: How'd He Do That?** Get ready to be amazed and thrilled with the Magic of Jim Lenz.
- **Saturday, June 26 and Saturday, July 10th at 10:30: READ to a Dog:** Bring a favorite book and read aloud to a furry friend. Time slots available on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- **Saturday, June 29th at 11:00: Watercolor Painting with Trent:** Join artist, Trent Miller, for this informative and fun watercolor painting class. For students in grades 3rd – 7th.
- **Tuesday, July 13th at 11:00: Little Mermaids Party:** Undersea fun and frolicking for all ages. Dance the Dolphin Wave, make a sandy souvenir, feed the Whale. Step up for a photo-op with our undersea friends.
- **Monday, July 19th at 3:00: Mario Kart Tournament:** Think you have what it takes to be Madison's Mario Kart champion? This is one of several qualifying rounds that will be held at a different library each week during the summer. The top three players from each qualifying round will be invited to compete in the championship at the Central Library in downtown Madison.
- **Saturday, July 31st at 11:00: Bubble Art:** Kids will make a set of stationery using colored bubble solution and straws. For ages 3+. Children under 8 must have an adult helper present.

Scrap and Stamp

Looking for New People & Ideas

The 2010 Scrap & Stamp Committee is looking for new people and new ideas to help plan for this year's event. If you are looking for a great way to get involved in raising money for St. Maria Goretti School, please consider joining us on Sunday, May 23rd immediately following the 9:00 Mass for a brainstorming meeting. For more information or if you would like to join us, please contact Stephanie Dankert at Stephanie@casperco.org.



Happy May from the Art Room!

Wow.... We are moving so fast now. So fast that somehow the last Cardinal Notes opportunity raced right by me and I missed it! I am determined to catch up with this one so here we go:

Lots and lots of fun stuff happening in the Art Room. I will start with Kindergarten who have been learning about texture and have created a texture collage with all sorts of materials. They even had to come up with a descriptive title that could be hung with their collages. Hopefully these will be up soon near their cubbies so you can enjoy the collages and their witty titles. Just this last week they have been searching for a variety of textures in the art room to make rubbings of. I love how these quests help us all to see the world in a new way. Who would have thought the wall could be so interesting?

First grade was having lots of fun with color and created those beautiful rainbow ordered drawings/paintings in the library hall. Just last week they got to mix their own paints right on the paper to create a warm orange background. This week we are onto forms where they are transforming a simple piece of paper into a sculpture!

Second grade has been learning about the warm colors and then color value in the last few weeks. We have now moved on to patterns in nature and are designing our own bugs with patterns. The fun part is coming when they finish the coloring and

get to add the glitter glue and the paint glue.

Third grade has been building their Rainbow Park projects out of junk. This is one of the most creative projects that we do all year and is so much fun. Despite the fact that the room gets filled with junk and I lack storage space, it is great! We will have it all on display in the front hall early next week and it will be at the concert to be taken home that night. Also at the concert will be their other projects from the whole year as well as their clay faces. Everything should be taken home at the end of the concert. I can't wait for you all to see those clay faces! Please keep in mind that they are NOT self-portraits, although some do look a little like me, depending on the day...

Fourth grade has their sandpaper neutral color drawings in the hall right now and have learned about low intensity colors, too. We got to play with mixing the complementary color sets together to change the intensity in class. Although we did not do a finished project, it was still a great way to see it happen right in front of our eyes. Right now they are busy creating their clay boxes. By the end of this week they should have all the pieces of clay cut out and will be ready to assemble them. Hopefully with enough time to let them dry by the end of the school year! Did I just say that???

Fifth grade will have their realistic space painting out on the display boards just in time for their concert. They did a great job using six different techniques for showing space realistically in a landscape painting. We then shifted gears and were reminded of the portraits they drew last semester and how to make them look just like the scientist. Then, I showed them some examples of distortion. And some cartoons. We all laughed at how the artists distorted parts of the face. It was then their turn to draw a portrait using distortion and create a string printing plate from the

drawing. I think they loved how good it felt to draw something that should look imperfect and even funny! The string print technique just adds to the distortion as you will soon see.

Sixth grade is just now finishing up their linear perspective drawings... in fact, if they are not done, they should be coming in before or after school to finish it by the end of next week. You might want to ask them if they are done. Just sayin'. ☺ Currently, they are building clay mugs that they will add facial features to. I can't wait to see what kind of crazy look they will give their mugs!

Seventh grade is in the process of building houses or other structures out of clay. They are using the slab method for construction and are learning a little about engineering as well. Next up will be one of my favorite projects of the year that goes along with a paper written about a famous artist. I cannot wait to tell them they will have to write a paper for me!

Eighth grade is also working with clay right now but is using the coil method to build a vase that goes out and then back in again. They are finishing up as quickly as they can so the clay will have time to dry before graduation... Yikes! I am sad that this will be the last project for my 8R class as they will be missing their class time with me just due to scheduling conflicts like field trips, concerts and, oh, you know, graduation. I can't believe it is that time of year again!

Before the end of the year, I would like to acknowledge two different artists of the week. My first one is from seventh grade and created a wonderful print by carving into Styrofoam. There were so many great prints created in both my seventh grade classes that I had to have a little help deciding who should be my artist of the week. Who better to help me than another seventh grader, but one who does not go to our school, and one who happens to live at

my house? Yep, thanks to Alex who gave me some feedback that reinforced what I was thinking in the first place!

I remember when the artist was drawing this and how they struggled with what kinds of lines to use to show the different animals. I just gave them a little encouragement to try some to see what would happen and it worked! The lines in the parent penguins are long and sleek, like their feathers would be while the lines in the baby are short and haphazard like the fuzzy baby feathers would be! The print has very good quality with no stray marks in the margins and is signed correctly, too. Congratulations to Rachel Kennedy for going for it! It turned out beautifully.

My second artist of the week comes from eighth grade and their cray-pas drawing project. Again, there were many that turned out just great. I really encouraged the artists to draw from a picture, to use the cray-pas thickly and to blend the colors. My artist used a picture to draw from and also added even more details into their drawing. The colors are blended together and the directional lines create soft fuzzy hair on the animals. I really like the way the artist blended just some of the sky to make it look like the clouds are moving slowing across the scene. All in all it is a wonderful example of the techniques we were studying. Congratulations to Christina O'Brien!

Okay now I have to thank you all for reading my latest book. An epic novel... thanks for reaching the end!