

St. Augustine School

Faith + Family + Future

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2010

The Saint for the month is St. Paula Frassinetti.

The Value for the month is Kindness.

In the Year of the Priest, this month, we honor Pope Benedict XVI.

The Value for the month is Love of the Eucharist.

An Irish Blessing

May the road rise up to meet you.

May the wind be at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face,

the rain fall soft upon your fields and,

until we meet again,

May God hold in the hollow of His hand.

Season of Lent - Lent began on Wednesday, February 17th.

What does this season of Lent mean to your family? Is it a time for "giving up" and "going without," or does it have a more positive aspect? Perhaps we should think of it as a time for giving and forgiving.

Jesus gave us the most wonderful gift in Himself. What can we give? We can give our time to someone who may be lonely or ill. We can give service to our community. We can give material items to those who are in need. We can give praise and thanks to God for His loving care.

When Jesus, dying on the cross, said, "Forgive them, Father," He gave us an extraordinary example to follow. We must forgive those who are unkind or unfriendly to us. We must keep love rather than resentment in our hearts. We must return good for evil. We must accept one another for the glory of God as Christ accepted us.

Our young people learn more from what we do than from what we say. As we give and forgive, we will be modeling for them the true meaning of life in God's service, not just for Lent, but for all the days ahead.

Stations of the Cross occur either on Thursday or Friday during Lent for the children in grades 1-8. The children in grades 2-8 will also have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation before Easter.

Point of information for you and your family -

ASH WEDNESDAY and GOOD FRIDAY are days of FAST and ABSTINENCE FROM MEAT.

ALL FRIDAYS OF LENT are days of ABSTINENCE FROM MEAT.

What does that mean?

FASTING prescribes that only one full meal a day be taken. Two smaller meals may be taken to maintain strength but these taken together should not equal another full meal. Fasting obliges from the 18th to the 59th birthday.

ABSTINENCE forbids the eating of meat. Abstinence obliges from the 14th birthday on.

Of course, following these regulations are a good way to perform Lenten penitential practices. Even our little ones can abstain from meat on Fridays. This is just one small act of love we can do for Our Lord, Jesus Christ who died for us. We, as teachers and parents, need to set the example for our children to follow.

BIG HOORAY -

We raised \$185.00 for the American Heart Association with a dress down day on Friday, February 12th. The winners of "the Hiding 100s" count were Kindergarten - Sienna Edwards, 1st grade - Rafael Peralta, 2nd grade - Emily Rooney, 3rd grade - Marianne Furey, 4th grade - Taliyah Gordon, 5th grade - Christine Jacob, 6th grade - Ashley Lamisere, 7th grade - Anthony DePinho, and 8th grade - Stephon Mehu. Congratulations!

We successfully collected 912 of soup with our Simply Souper Bowl of Caring! On Friday, February 19th, People To People came and collected our donation. Thank you all for your support.

ST. AUGUSTINE SCHOOL ROCKS!!!

School Bus Safety Poster Contest - It was sponsored by the Transportation Department of the Clarkstown School District. Congratulations to our winners!

Kindergarten - 1st place - Siena Edwards, 2nd place - Alyssa Roldan, 3rd place - Charlanne Zepf.

1st grade - 1st place - Bianka Catral, 2nd place - Andrianna Lleshaj, 3rd place - Mia Gong.

2nd grade - 1st place - Alexa Gabrielle, 2nd place - Christian Schmidhauser, 3rd place - Brendan Mykalcio.

3rd grade - 1st place - Yena Woo, 2nd place - Michaela Davidson, 3rd place - Annabella Lleshaj.

4th grade - 1st place - Roshan Dave, 2nd place - Samantha Pisano, 3rd place - Carly Mackle.

5th grade - 1st place - Gabriella DePinho, 2nd place -Christine Jacob, 3rd place - Gabrielle Favre

6th grade - 1st place Stephen Rodriguez-, 2nd place - Matthew Hawker, 3rd place - Tatyana Pettaway.

7th grade - 1st place - Anthony DePinho, 2nd place - Gianna Pisano, 3rd place - Kushal Dave.

8th grade - 1st place - Victoria Forlini, 2nd place - Shannon Fegan, 3rd place - Wisdom Zhao.

The Clarkstown District-Wide Poster Contest winners from St. Augustine School are Bianka Catral in 1st grade and Anthony DePinho in 7th grade. Congratulations Bianka and Anthony! Their posters will compete with the entries of other school districts in the Hudson Valley toward the New York State (and perhaps eventually) and National School Bus Safety Poster Contest.

Transportation - Any student transported this year, 2009/2010, by the East Ramapo School district will receive a computerized Transportation Form in the mail in March. Please be on the lookout for these forms. Applications must be filed by April 1, 2010 in the East Ramapo Transportation Office in order for your child/children to be eligible for transportation for the 2010/2011 school year.

The same information applies to Nyack, Ramapo Central, North Rockland and Nanuet School Districts. Please check your mail and return your forms to your School District Transportation Office.

Clarkstown, South Orangetown, and Pearl River students will receive a transportation form from the school. Please fill it out and return it to the school office.

Re-Registration - Just a reminder ... Children presently enrolled in grades K through 7, who are returning for the 2010-2011 school year should have returned the completed reply form by February 22nd along with the re-registration fee. The 2010-2011 St. Augustine School PIP Contractual Agreement is to be signed and returned to the Office. The Request For Loan of Text Books Form was due February 23rd. The Activity Fee is due March 12th.

Pre-Kindergarten - We wish to remind you of our Full Day Pre-K Program. Our After Care School Program is available for the Full Day Pre-K. There are

still openings in our 3 Year Old and 4 Year Old Program. If you are interested or have any questions, please call the school. Please let your neighbors and friends know about our Pre-K. We have a great program! We need to spread the word!!!!!!

Special Thank You - The Student Council members made 60 Valentines for Sunrise Assisted Living in New City. Thank you for reaching out to our local community.

St. Patrick's Day Parade - This year we are marching in the Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 21st in Pearl River. More information will be coming home soon! We hope we will have a huge turnout for the school. Mark the date on your calendar.

YouthFest - The 12th Annual YouthFest will be held at the Rockland Community College Fieldhouse on Sunday, March 14th from 11 am to 4 pm. Please stop by and visit the SAS booth for face painting and crafts. Join us in letting all of Rockland County know that ***St. Augustine School ROCKS!***

Women's Expo- Back by popular demand!! March 18th is the St. Augustine Home School Association 6th Annual Women's Expo, to be held at Pearl River Hilton in Pearl River, NY from 6:30-10:30 PM. The proceeds benefit the school. The cost is \$50.00 per person with guaranteed seating. It's not too late to register. **RSVP by Thursday, March 5th**. If you have any questions please contact Anna DePinho (914-672-8627). We encourage you to find the time to support this HSA sponsored event. Remember please this is being done for the school - YOUR CHILDREN WILL BENEFIT from this great night.

Box Tops - Our Student Council is collecting General Mills Box Tops for Education. Please clip them and send them into school. Thank you.

Campbell Soup Labels For Education - Save your Campbell Soup Labels and other Campbell product labels. Just look for the emblem that states Campbell Soup Labels for Education. Thank you for your support.

Coupons - Sister Diane would greatly appreciate receiving all the manufacturer's coupons that you do not use. It would be helpful if they were not cut out. Thank you.

HAPPY SAINT PATRICK'S DAY!

HAPPY SAINT JOSEPH'S DAY!

HAPPY SPRING!