



**ST. GABRIEL THE ARCHANGEL
NEWSLETTER
November 2010**



IMPORTANT HAPPENINGS IN NOVEMBER

- November 1 – No School
November 2 – 3:15p Speech Meeting for those participating in the November Meet
November 4 – 4th Grade Field Trip – Endangered Wolf Center
Opera on the Go (In house presentation Grs. 4-5)
November 5 – Dress Down Day for those families who attended the 9/29/PFA Mtng
November 6 – Bellarmine Speech Meet at St. Gabriel the Archangel
Trivia Night sponsored by the 8th Grade (doors open at 6:30p, Trivia begins at 7:00p)
November 6/7 – Food & Fuel Weekend (Grade 6 to bring canned goods)
November 7 – High School Open House
November 9 – 7:00p – 2nd Grade Parent Reconciliation Meeting
November 11 – 8:45a 8th Grade Reconciliation
November 13 – 4:00p Metro District 8 Honor at Missouri Baptist College
November 14 – 9:00a -12:30p Uniform Exchange (School Cafeteria)
November 16 – High School Applications due in office (Latest date to turn in is Nov. 19)
3:15p – Faculty Mtng
7:00p – Parish Council Mtng
November 18 – 8:00a All School Mass – Baptismal Celebration
8:45a – 7thGrade Reconciliation
Picture Retake (only if picture packets come in by then)
7:00p – Board of Education Mtng
November 19 – End of Mid-Quarter
November 24 – 8:00a Thanksgiving All School Mass
12:30p Dismissal (K-8)
November 25 – Thanksgiving (No School)
November 26 – NO SCHOOL
November 30 – 7:00p Pre-Registration for 2011-2012 Kindergarten and those coming new to grades 1-8

Prayer, Participation, Payback

For those who attended the mass at St. Gabriel the Archangel Church the weekend of October 23 and 24, you heard the words Prayer, Participation and Payback in Fr. Bob's homily. As a part of St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish, as a school, we strive to enrich our students spiritually and academically so they will be like, our patron saint, messengers of the Good News wherever they go.

Prayer: Our students pray at mass and in their classes through the prayers that they are learning as well as individual intentions. They also pray for their Friends-in-Faith daily. Prayer is also their actions throughout the day. The kind words of greeting a faculty member, another student, a guest in our building and doing acts of kindness.

Participation: Even though our students range from Kindergarten to 8th grade, all are participating by being disciples of Jesus and following in His footsteps. We have students sharing their gifts and talents in many ways. Some participate in the band program, honor choir, children's choir, sports programs, scouting, various academic clubs offered at school. Many of the older students volunteer their time by serving at mass, helping at the Fish Fry, Golf Tournament, Parish Picnic, and so much more.

Payback: Our students are very generous in reach out to those in need. Each year we focus on at least four organizations, either locally or internationally, that need financial help. This year we are assisting Uganda, Elba's Orphans, Smile Train, Whole Kids Outreach, and Nurses for Newborns. Annually, we help with Sts. Peter & Paul Food Pantry/Soup Kitchen with our Thanksgiving donation, Immaculate Conception/St. Henry Center for Christmas and Birthright with our focus for pro-life. The students understand the message of giving back. The following is an article written by Mrs. Wendell after speaking to a few of our students.

St. Gabriel's Students Are Committed to Making a Difference

The missionary spirit of St. Gabriel students is a quality that sets them apart from many other students. There is an intrinsic desire to reach out to others in need whether in their own neighborhood or around the world. They hear of other children who have to walk miles to get fresh water, or children who get only one meal a day, and they respond with not only just giving money, but of ways to generate money for the cause.

Sixth graders E. Crews and H. Hunter, along with C. Boul, A. Duda, J. Stinehart, L. Liesure and M. Rohatgi, raised \$224.25 for Elba's Orphans by holding a bake sale and face painting booth. The delicious home-made brownies and chocolate chip cookies were a success; and as H. Hunter says, "It was a way to prove that kids could make a difference."

Third graders H. Kittner, O. Gibbs and G. Schwartz designed bookmarks to sell during the lunch hour. Ninety-six dollars was raised and given to Elba's Orphans. Kindergartener, M. Curdt, with his neighbors, M. Broshear, S. Broshear and M. Broshear (3 graders) have taken the bookmark idea to the neighborhood by selling in the alley. They have raised \$10.00 for Elba's Orphans.

M. Randazzo, A. Fernandez, E. Koeing, H. Lauer, K. Rooney, E. Waelterman, H. Stelzer-Monahan, H. Zanaboni M. Zanaboni held a bake sale to help Fr. Thomas and his students in Uganda. Their bake sale raised \$203.00. That together with the Crazy Hat and Sock Day over \$1200 was raised!

Generosity and spirit of real charity and concern for others is a characteristic of the students at St. Gabriel School.

Winter Uniform

October 28th was the last day school uniform shorts may be worn. All students must be in the winter uniform beginning November 2nd. Boys in Grades 6-8 can wear khaki or navy; boys in Grades K-5 must wear navy. Girls can either wear the jumper (grades K-5), skirt (Grades 6-8) or navy pants (grades K-8). Girls may not wear khaki pants. All pants must have the sewn in pockets, no patch pockets or cargo pockets are permitted. Uniforms will be checked to make sure that skirt/jumper lengths are at the top of the knee. Please check your daughter's uniform and have any alterations made before November 2nd. The uniform code is included in the Parent Handbook which is found on the school website at www.stgabschool.org.

Uniform Exchange

Information was sent via e-blast on October 27 regarding the Uniform Exchange on Sunday, November 14th from 9:00a – 12:30p in the school cafeteria. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact Marina Phegley at marwar@sbcglobal.net or 832-7405.

Food & Fuel Weekend

This month our Food & Fuel Weekend, November 6 & 7 will focus on St. Agatha's Center. This center assists families in the Soulard Area. The 6th grade is asked to donate food for this month. Students can bring the canned goods to any of the masses on this weekend.

Thanksgiving Liturgy

On Wednesday, November 24th, we will have our all-school Thanksgiving Liturgy. We are asking that each child bring at least \$1.00, which will be collected during the offertory. The parishioners who work at Sts. Peter and Paul Food Pantry felt that more could be purchased with the money rather than having such a variety of food in small quantities. The money collected will be used to buy food, health care items, gloves, hats, socks, and etc. for the homeless. Thank you for your generosity and support.

Please note that we will have a 12:30 p.m. dismissal on Wednesday, November 24th.

Pre-Registration for Kindergarten and New Families for the 2011-2012 School Year

On Tuesday, November 30th, at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria, we will have pre-registration for those current families with children entering kindergarten or any other grade level for the first time at St. Gabriel School. If you know of a family that lives in the area and would like to send their child to St. Gabriel School, they, also, need to attend this meeting. If a new family is coming from another Catholic school, they have to obtain permission from their pastor to attend St. Gabriel School. If the family is non-Catholic, they do not need permission for their minister to attend St. Gabriel School.

The reason for having the meeting this early is that it helps us to better prepare the budget in knowing the number of students entering Kindergarten.

Registration for our current families there will be a registration meeting held on Tuesday, March 1st and Thursday, March 3rd at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. Please mark your calendars. This is a mandatory meeting; you must attend one of the evenings.

Cafeteria Volunteers

The volunteer program for the cafeteria has been working out very well. If you are unable to attend your assigned day, please call someone on the calendar to switch days. The calendar for the whole year is available on the school website. On the top blue bar, click the word 'calendar'. The link will come up with four calendars. Click on the 'cafeteria' calendar. There is no need for a password to access this calendar.

A Note from the Band

The Band wishes to thank all those who purchased Entertainment Books and/or made a donation to the Band during the fundraiser. We are grateful to the Parish of St. Gabriel for their support of the Band Program. The profit from this fundraiser will be put to the replacement of the carpet in the band room over the summer.

Buzz Books

We want to thank Angela Kittner for donating the printing cost. All profits from the buzz books will go to the PFA for expenses incurred throughout the year.

We apologize for any mistakes in the buzz book. There are a few corrections to the buzz book:

Dunphys – please add this e-mail address thedunphys@charter.net

Roeder/Kaupplia listing the e-mail should be katherina.roeder@gmail.com

Congratulations to...

...Gabe and Taylor Wilson for having the winning entry for the “Pet Costume Picture Contest”

...the following students who participated in the DuBourg Honor Band on Saturday, October 12:

B. Heffernan	T. Martin	L. Swaney	K. Waelterman
L. Le	J. Pottinger	L. Vitelli	

It was also nice to see St. Gabriel Alumni in the Bishop DuBourg High School Concert Band. Of the 33 members in DB’s Concert Band, 10 are from St. Gabriel School/Parish.

...the following students who are members of the Metro 8 District Honor Choir:

A. Bresnahan	S. Duda	E. Koeing	V. Wienhoff
N. Cummings	A. Faust	M. Mense	

These students will perform at Missouri Baptist College on Saturday, November 13th at 4:00 p.m.

...the following students who will perform at the Des Lee Showcase on Wednesday, December 1 at 6:30 p.m. at Powell Symphony Hall:

Grade 4: M. Brozovich, S. Foppe, H. Frisella, O. Goldkamp, N. Holloran, C. Polansky, M. Roeder, G. Ryan, N. Ullery, E. Christanell, S. Devoti, H. Hunter, G. Kauppila, J. Mullen, G. Nolan, E. Schroder, M. Sise, Z. Zervos, J. Duda, J. Farace, E. Lake, K. Lauer, H. Scharenberg, N. Schwarzen, H. Stanze and L. Sturma.

Grade 5: T. Curdt, A. Eaton, A. Gould, M. Kinealy, J. Love, C. Mally, H. Noel, B. Junker, K. Kirner, M. Mikel, R. Waelterman, E. Brazile, L. Edwards, S. Pottinger, B. Renfrow, S. Ryan, T. Wuellner.

Thank you to...

...the 5th Graders for leading us in the Living Rosary.

...Judy Finch and Theresa Blair for coordinating the October 10th Blood Drive.

...the many parishioners who donated blood in October.

...the 2nd grade parents and the PFA for providing a delicious dinner on Friday, October 29th for the Faculty during Parent/Teacher Conferences.

...Celeste Kocot for donating scrap paper, wallpaper, and material samples for the art program.

...the Nolan Family for donating books to the library.

...the Colombo/Niemeyer Family for donating paper.

...the Tally Family for donating scrap envelopes.

...the Sturma Family for donating large white paper.

...the McCann Family for donating books to the library and educational games for the classrooms.

...the Tanner Family for donating school supplies

...Andy Schwartz for donating jackets for safety patrol.
...a family who won the \$25.00 drawing at the Book Fair and asked that the money be given to a family that would not be able to purchase books at the book fair
...all the families that supported the Book Fair.
...all the volunteers who made the Book Fair a success.
...Mrs. Judy Migneco and Mrs. Angela Heffernan for coordinating the Book Fair.

Remember to...

...pick up your Scrips orders on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. in the school meeting room or after masses on Sundays. Now you can use SCRIP-TO-GO for quick and easy purchases. Click the SCRIP Handbook link under 'Quick Links' on the school website

As we reflect on our blessings we ask for God to bless those who are less fortunate than us. During this month that we celebrate Thanksgiving, let us really take some time to reflect on all that we have. Even more importantly, let us express our gratitude to our family, friends, and neighbors for the good that they share with us.

May you have a very Blessed Thanksgiving with family and friends.

Sincerely,

Ann M. Davis
Principal

Attachment: School Tools from Catholic Family Services: The Art of Problem Solving

**Go to the website to check the
school calendar**

http://plus.calendars.net/stgabschool_2

and the cafeteria duty calendar

http://plus.calendars.net/stgabschool_1



Catholic Family Services

School Tools

October, 2010
Volume 8, Issue 2

The Art of Problem Solving

Dear Teachers and Parents,

Problems are something that no one ever wants, but we all manage to have. Unfortunately, there is no course in school called "Problem Solving 101," but it would sure come in handy.

As most of us know, this is a life skill that needs refining into adulthood. Cognitively, our brains aren't fully developed until the age of 25. That may explain some of the risky and problematic behavior among those who have not yet attained that age!

Nevertheless, this skill can be taught to children and if done so correctly,

they may thank you for years to come. We are doing them a favor if we allow them to make some mistakes...if so, we can use this as a learning opportunity and teach them to think through what caused the mistake and how to do it differently next time. Read on for more tips on the art of problem solving.



Identifying Lagging Thinking Skills

The CPS approach that is described below focuses on identifying lagging thinking skills that contribute to maladaptive behavior. Once these are identified, teach them to children just as one would teach them to read or write.

Examples of these 24 lagging skills include difficulty:

- Handling transitions
- Maintaining focus
- Expressing concerns, needs or thoughts
- Seeing the "grays"/concrete thinking
- Handling unpredictability
- Interpreting social cues
- Seeking attention in appropriate ways
- Empathizing with others

Helpful Resources

Websites*

- www.livesinthebalance.org
- www.ccps.info
Center for Collaborative Problem Solving
- www.thinkkids.org
Collaborative Problem Solving Institute/
Think:Kids Public Awareness Campaign
- www.explosivechild.com
- www.explosivekids.org

Books and Videos*

- Last at School
- Treating Explosive Kids
- The Explosive Child
- Parenting the Explosive Child

The Collaborative Problem Solving Approach

The Collaborative Problem Solving Approach was developed by Dr. Ross Greene who wrote "Lost at School" and "The Explosive Child." He has used this approach successfully with a wide variety of children who experience extreme behaviors, but this approach is also applicable for all behaviors.

Dr. Greene contends that challenging behavior is a form of cognitive developmental delay rather than manipulation or poor motivation. With the necessary skill sets (such as flexibil-

ity/adaptability, frustration tolerance and problem solving) children will do well.

Most children are motivated to get the approval of others and do well if they can.

He calls his approach "Plan B." He advocates against "Plan A" (imposing your will—you win, child loses) and "Plan C" (dropping the matter—the child wins, you lose). Plan B is a win/win for both. It involves three steps which include:

1. Using empathy to gather information from the child in order to understand the

problem from the child's perspective.

2. Defining the problem from the adult's point of view and getting their concerns on the table.

3. Brainstorming solutions together. This lets the child know you're working with him rather than doing something to him.

The goal is to have both parties agree on a solution that is both realistic and mutually satisfactory.

For specific examples of this approach, refer to www.livesinthebalance.org.

Please copy and distribute to Teachers and Parents

If you would like to receive School Tools via e-mail rather than mail, contact: mwilper@ccstl.org

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