



The Cardinal Flyer

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BJ's Corner

We are at full speed going through the month of January. Happily, registration is going very well. Reserve your seats now!

Yearbooks are **100% color this year and on sale through Josten's website www.jostensyearbooks.com** for \$35.00. The price will increase after January 24th.

Teachers have enjoyed two Professional Development classes recently. Monday, January 11th, our speaker's emphasis was on Catholic Schools in the 21st century. Her emphasis on what sets us apart is simple. We are Catholic!

On the 4th of January, I laid out my short and long term goals (in no particular order).

- Golden Rule is modeled and followed

- Balanced student population

 - 20 per class

 - 2 classes per grade

- Passionate teachers and staff members

- Continue the "family" atmosphere

- Fine Arts/Language/Technology/P.E. remain and are enhanced in the curriculum.

Next week I'll write our long term goals.

Friday is Student/Parent/Teacher conferences. If you cannot attend, your conference will not be made up as this date has been on our calendar since June 09.

See you Friday, January 15th.

B.J.

Donuts and Coffee

National Junior Honor Society (N.J.H.S.) will be selling coffee and donuts during parent/teacher conferences on Friday the 15th. Bring your dollars and enjoy a treat!!

Calendar Update

*January 15th –
Parent/Teacher/
Student
Conferences*

*January 18th – No
School- Martin
Luther King Jr. Day*

TIME IS RUNNING OUT- DEADLINE 1/24/10 Yearbooks Available Now

The 2010 yearbook is on sale now for the lowest price of the year. Don't miss the opportunity to get the official story of the entire school year. If you order today you can get this \$40.00 yearbook for the sale price of \$35.00! Reserve your copy online today at www.jostensyearbooks.com. Don't delay. **You only have until January 24th to get your book at this price. Personalization will end on January 24th as well!**
ONLINE ORDERS ONLY!!

Financial Aid Scholarships

All financial aid applications for the school year 2010-2011 will be done online through FACTS. The web address is www.factstuitionaid.com. There is a \$25.00 fee to FACTS for this service. The deadline is April 15, 2010. We do not have any applications in the finance office due to "Going Green." This applies to the Maloof Scholarship, which is given in August and the Archbishop's Scholarship, which is given at the end of October or the first of November. If you wish to apply for any of these scholarships, this is the only way to do it.

Geography Bee

Congratulations to the Geography Bee Winners!

1st Place – Dennis Pyle 7A
2nd Place – Michael Ortiz 4B
3rd Place – Tristan Vigil 8A
4th Place – Ariel DeHerrera 8B

Good job Cardinals! Everyone did a fantastic job.

Kudos...

To Robby Maldonado, Carolyn Baca and Fiona Slinkey. These students have been helping Martin and Ron work in the cafeteria.

All 22 students who are in my class, Taking a High School Entrance Exam, are ready and will test on Tuesday, January 19th at 8:00 a.m.

Neils Hancock in Mrs. Wilkinson's class ran the Nationals in cross-country track in Reno, Nevada on December 11th and ran a 3K in deep snow. As a team, they came in 2nd place for fastest in the Nation. Wow! He came in 31st and was very happy. He had a great time. This is a great sport and there are many track clubs around Albuquerque. This is all about finishing the race. You can train on your own or with a track team. Very positive environment!

Merel Hancock

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First Holy Communion

Just a reminder: Anyone wishing to receive the sacraments of First Holy Communion and Reconciliation must have a letter from your parish giving the student permission to receive the sacraments here at St. Charles. This is only if you are not a parishioner at St. Charles. Please turn these letters in by the end of January.

A Message from St. Charles School Advisory Council

Dear Parents and Friends,

A while back we looked at 3 "A" words that impact children's schooling and therefore should also be very important for us parents. Today, we offer a fourth "A" word – ATTEND!

This week, teachers are preparing to host parent/teacher conferences as one of the many "assessment" and "accountability" (remember reading about these?) activities that help make St. Charles Borromeo a great school. Have no doubt, teaching and learning is hard stuff! Both students and teachers exert a great deal of effort each day at St. Charles. As the great education leaders taught us a while back, a great school is like a complex organization in which most of the parts are working very well. Clearly, St. Charles Borromeo School buzzes with great excitement and energy each day. It is a complex organization with many classrooms filled with lots of energy and striving to work well each moment of each learning activity. Each day's accomplishments are steps forward toward the successful attainment of what we believe to be developmentally appropriate learning and achievement goals for each child.

With so much going on, how can we remain focused forward? Much like Michael Angelo, Monet, and our own Georgia O'Keefe had to step back from their works of art in the making, we as parents and teachers need to periodically check to see how our children's academic journeys are progressing. This week, we have the opportunity to "attend" to this very important duty we all have as parents and teachers.

In the classes I teach on classroom assessment, I always teach my students that there are two very important activities they must do as teachers: Progress monitoring and parent conferences. Progress monitoring is the culmination and careful documentation of teachers' constant informal and formal observations of children's activity in the classroom, their work productivity in classroom and home assignments, and other assessments that measure children's cultivation of competencies in a wide array of developmental and academic domains.

We encourage all to attend this very important event to receive an update of how your child is developing in this year's scholarly journey. To best prepare for your visit with your child's teachers, I hope you will consider the list below I found a while back. I believe it is a great rubric for efficient and effective parent/teacher conversations.

Respectfully,
David Atencio

10 Tips for a Successful Parent-Teacher Conference

1. Ask your child if there is anything that she/he would like you to discuss with the teacher.
2. Arrive promptly or a few minutes early.
3. Jot down everything that you want to talk about at the conference.
4. Begin with positive comments about the teacher or classroom.
5. Avoid lengthy discussions of topics that are not related to the purpose of the conference.
6. Be open-minded to suggestions from the teacher.
7. Keep your emotions under control.
8. Take notes about what has been discussed to share with your child.
9. Express appreciation for the conference.
10. Do not stay beyond your allotted time.

