

The Cardinal Flyer

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B.J.'s Corner

From the Principal

"Know and believe in yourself, and what others think won't disturb you."

Conferences went very well on January 25, 2008. Thank you everyone for your cooperation with our scheduling, and remember your children earn their grades.

In lower Elementary I had many discussions on grades but also on behavior. It is not O.K. to be disrespectful to adults or other students. Not O.K. to use foul language, or to bully. I need your help parents...

Speak to your children about this and if bullying is going on I need to know in order to keep a happy and safe environment.

After morning prayer last Wednesday I acknowledged our faculty and staff for a job well done.

REGISTRATION CLOSES AS CLASSES FILL. AS OF THIS MORNING, OUR 4th & 5th ARE FILLED.

The St. Charles School Budget for 2008-2009 is determined by student body count. Therefore, it is

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The Analogy of the Spider

"Grandma, there are huge spiders in here!"

Our six-year-old grandson, Hunter, called out from the living room, where he and his younger brother Marcus lay in sleeping bags on the floor. The boys were having a sleepover at Grandma and Grandpa's house.

Grandma hurried to his side and whispered words of comfort to calm his fears. In the dim predawn light coming through the front window, Hunter saw what he was sure was a spider lurking near the wall. My wife, Marie, helped him see that it was only the shadow of a toy abandoned there. Her soothing words helped Hunter settle securely into his sleeping bag, and he was soon asleep again.

As I listened to the whispered conversation from the living room that early morning, I lay in bed thinking how often we may see fearsome things in the shadows of our own lives. How often our Father rushes to our sides, whispering calming words to us through His Spirit! How kind He is to help us see that those fearsome things are not so terrible as they seem, because He has provided the way through His Son for us to overcome them.

I wondered, too, how often I do not call out for His help with real spiders in my life—spiritually venomous things of which I ought to be afraid—because I tell myself that I can handle them. And how often do I unknowingly need His help with spiritual spiders that I cannot see because they are too well hidden?

Like the rest of us, little Hunter will grow up to learn that real, living spiders are not always the terrible creatures they may seem to be.

But how many of us let imaginary spiders make us shrink from them day after day when there really is no need? And how many of us do not seek out the protection He so lovingly offers when we face real dangers in our lives?

Our grandson called out for help because he knew in his heart that it was near. For me, the lesson in that

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essential that I receive a fairly close count before mid-February in order to set the monies for our multiple programs next school year.

Snow Days- Remember, we follow APS delays and closures. However, I also post our school name on KOB and KOAT with the same information.

Ash Wednesday is February 6th. Please join us for our 9:00a.m.mass and ash distribution. Lent may be a time for sacrifice however, service to others is equally important. Make a plan and do service!

Enjoy your week and take time to be with your family.

B.J.

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Calendar Note:

February 29th is an unscheduled early dismissal. The Albuquerque police Department is training our faculty and staff on lockdown procedures. This training is vital to our school safety, so your understanding is appreciated.

Results from the Survey Given at Parent Teacher Conferences:

94 families said they could see Cardinal Flyer electronically so we could save paper; 13 need a paper copy; 6 can get it electronically but want a paper copy

138 want to keep the Christmas Musical; 76 want a change and do a Spring Musical; 17 want both; 7 want either; 5 don't want either

45 know what Scrip is; 147 do not know what Scrip is; 154 want to learn more; 28 do not want to learn about it

Science News

WOW! If you were not at this year's St. Charles Science Fair- You missed out!! What an exciting and fun-filled night of SCIENCE!! Congratulations to all the students who participated this year. The judges were impressed by your professionalism, politeness, and your knowledge of the

subject that you were studying. All projects were well presented. It was a huge success! Thank you students for working so hard- it truly showed. Students keep up the Excellent Work!! **Mrs. Menicucci**, Thank you for directing and supporting these students throughout the months of brainstorming, researching, testing, data collection, paper editing, and finally the exhibits. A JOB WELL DONE!!!

To determine the winners the judges were looking at five different criteria: scientific thought, clarity, thoroughness, creatively, and originality. Both the exhibits and the students' (interviews) were scored. In order to provide fairness and tie-breakers, there were two silent judges walking around "interviewing and judging exhibits". The following is the list of projects and students who won:

Science Fair Winners 2008

Overall: Best of Show

Reducing the Stroop Effect by Shane Gilbert

6th grade Winners

1st Place : Carb's and Diabetes by Jodi Griesemer

2nd Place: Stains vs. Detergent: Which will Win?

By Alex Martin

3rd Place: The Affect of Different Bird Feeder Colors and Different Birds by Tatiana Pleil-Pino

7th Grade Winners

1st Place: Which Driver will give you the Most Difference? By Bobbi Pierson

2nd Place: Does Stress Effect Decision Making? By

Esai Gonzales

3rd Place:

Super Solar Energy by John Paul Norman

8th Grade Winners:

1st Place:

Wii Sports vs. Regular Exercise By Daniel Griego

2nd Place: Does a Weight of a Toy Car Affect its Speed? By Danee Ortiz

3rd Place: Will 8 Years exhibit the Placebo Effect?

By Briana Orozco-Ortiz

Honorable Mentions

Calendar of Events

*Please note changes in Calendar below.

ALL PARENT FORUMS HAVE BEEN CANCELED UNTIL NEXT FALL DUE TO SCHEDULING CONFLICTS.

Please visit our website for information and updates - www.stcharlesabq.org.

PRESIDENT'S DAY

No School February 18th.

*ITBS TESTING HAS BEEN CHANGED.

For 3-5 – testing will occur on February 25 –28.

For 6-8 – testing will occur on February 27 and 28

Please make sure your child is here well rested and fed.

*EARLY DISMISSAL DAY ADDED TO CALENDAR

February 29, 2008

This Friday has been changed to an early dismissal day. School will be over at 12:30p.m.

2ND & 3RD GRADE SERVICE PROJECT

The 2nd & 3rd grades will be collecting items for St. Martin's Homeless Shelter during the month of February. Please bring in shampoo, conditioner, soap, combs, brushes, toothbrushes, toothpaste, sunscreen, chapstick, lotion, diapers, socks and used or new baseball caps and coffee mugs.

VALENTINE CANDY GRAMS

Look for the order forms attached to this flyer. The last day to order is Monday, February 11th.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO COME AND PUT CANDY GRAMS TOGETHER ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH. PLEASE COME TO THE TEACHER'S LOUNGE AT 1:00P.M.

early-morning experience was a reminder that help is near when I need it, if I will call out in faith believing that it will come.

Analogy of the Spider Part II

No one else should have noticed it. That I was aware of it was odd. In the midst of a crowded church foyer filled with people, the tiny spider was truly insignificant. The spider had first appeared from under a wall heater, a tiny brown speck slowly progressing toward the middle of the hall. By the time its painstaking progress had lengthened to three feet, most of the members had arrived and were socializing in the hall before meetings.

My first impulse had been to brush it back under the heater. This idea was followed by the more childish notion of stepping on it. Fortunately for the spider, cruelty was quickly substituted by curiosity. The spider's remaining lifetime appeared to be limited, increasingly so as it continued in a determined course toward the center of the crowded foyer. I was fascinated into inaction, watching and wondering how it would end—that inevitable, accidental footfall.

I will never understand how Father Tashiro saw it. He was obviously late as he hurried through the outside door to yet another meeting, briefcase in one hand, cassette recorder and slide projector precariously positioned under the opposite arm. His mind was surely filled with the endless responsibilities of running a parish; yet he, too, somehow saw the tiny spider among the crowd. Immediately stopping, he set aside his load and, excusing himself, parted the crowd, stooped down and gently scooped the spider into his palm, then released it outside to a more hospitable environment. As though hardly aware of the interruption, he hurried to the waiting meeting.

It was so simple, such a natural act for that humble servant of the Lord. Then a wonderful analogy unfolded before me. I saw in my mind's eye the Savior, stooping down from the complex business of creating worlds without number, to personally teach, exhort, and sacrifice for the sake of an uncomprehending human race, a seemingly insignificant speck in the endless corridors of eternity. With Godly devotion, he lifted man from certain doom, transporting him to an environment of freedom and opportunity wherein he could live and grow. Next time, I vowed to save the spider.

Kudos to...

Rory Martinez, for her performance of our National Anthem for the National Guard. Good Job Rory!!

Raymond Hunter in Mrs. Bridger's 1st grade, who wrote a wonderful story about his family camping trip.

Mid-Schoolers, for their Science Fair projects!!

Connor Munsey, he took 2nd Place in the City Spelling Bee. Connor is now representing St. Charles in the State Bee. Way to Go Connor!! We are so proud.

Thank you, Thank you – Barbara Temer and Miriam Benedict for providing a delicious lunch last Wednesday for Teacher Appreciation. We all applauded you!!

May I Suggest?

Q: Can we put in recycling bins into each classroom for people to recycle. Save the Earth.

From 7th grade.

A: Thanks for the suggestion. I'll look into paper bins.

Q: Could we have the juice machine back?

4B, Alex, Sammy, Andrew, Justyce, Deezha and Diego

A: Sorry, no. Pepsi and Coca Cola have been directed to remove all juices and sodas from schools throughout Albuquerque due to childhood obesity.

Q: Can 5th-8th grade not wear uniform during their parent/student conferences?

A: I decided when I started this type of conference that students would wear uniforms. Think of this as a business meeting. You are representing your company. Uniforms will stay! Thanks for asking.

Nurse's Niche

Staying Warm: Friend or Foe?

Every morning I get the opportunity to greet students as they pass through the front door. The temperature varies in the morning. St. Charles is no exception to the brutality of cold days. Even so, I see many children with only a hoodie to keep them warm. As I started to think about this, Mrs. O'Connell shared with me that she had lunch recess duty on that very cold day that it hit 13 degrees. She had simple items to keep her warm including her coat, a sweatshirt, a pair of mittens, and a hat. I asked her if this was sufficient to keep her warm and she responded a resounding, "Yes, if you dress right it's not cold outside!" This leads me to spread the message that it is important to dress warmly in these winter months.

Why is it important for children to dress warmly on a cold day? Children are especially susceptible to the elements because their bodies are small. When it is cold the body shivers in response to keep itself warm, mobilizing the muscles in an involuntary response. All humans lose a large amount of body heat from the head also. We must stay warm to avoid the harmful effects of hypothermia. Hypothermia is low body temperature in response to extended exposure to cold temperatures.

Students go outside for recess twice a day. It is important for them to get a break outside after working in the classroom. However, when they don't come to school with coats or head coverings, it makes it difficult for them to enjoy getting out of the building. It is cold outside in the winter months. Therefore, students must wear coats or head coverings.

I see a fair share of students shivering in the morning. It is important for parents to remind children to wear their coats, mittens, and beanies to school. The building is warm inside, but if they need to wear a sweatshirt, it is important to remember to send them with their red St. Charles sweatshirt. Don't make wearing a coat an option. Adults teach important habits to children at an early age. Tell your children that they must protect themselves from the cold and remind them to stay warm.

Nicole Sandoval RN

