

La Salle News

From the Principal's Desk

February 2009

Did You Know:

- Go to: www.americancatholic.org and select "saint of the day" to see who the saint is that our children are learning about.
- Ask your child about the polycom (on loan from St. Margaret's) and Read-Around-The-Planet.
- 300 new books were purchased for the library from the profits of the book fair.

Upcoming Dates:

Stations of the Cross
3/6

Stations of the Cross
3/20

Stations of the Cross
4/3

Living Stations
4/8

COGATS gr. 3,5,7
3/11-3/13

History Fair gr. 3-5
4/16-4/19

ITBS
3/23-3/27

Thank You to La Salle Pastors:

La Salle students surprised their three Pastors at the Catholic Schools Week Liturgy on Monday, February 2nd.

Students made Thank You cards and signed a custom designed calendar of the Pastors and La Salle students. 8th grade student, Koby Kidder, drew a picture of praying hands while Mrs. Doney printed a verse and framed each picture. In addition, Father Rich, Father Phil, and Father Rich were presented with a clock that was inscribed from the stu-



Father Phil, Father Rich, and Father Rich being recognized for their many years of dedicated service.

The Pastors were recognized for their many years of service to the La Salle Family as well as their Church Family.

In addition to representatives from the different parish organizations attending liturgy, the Pastors

were surprised to have family members present as well. Father Rodger's mother and sister, Father Clement's father and wife, and Father Nachajski's sister all kept the secret. Mrs. Hauck, Mrs. Yohn, and Mrs. Slusser, the Pastors' secretaries, managed to get them to the church, before arriving themselves, to share in the celebration. Following the liturgy, everyone was invited to a social in the library.

La Salle Annual Fund

This year under the guidance and direction of the three Pastors and chaired by Adam P. Krick, La Salle established an annual fund. This fund was created to raise money for a new roof, heating/cooling system, technology, scholar-

ships, endowment, and other capital improvements.

Since these items are costly, they are not included in the school operating budget, as we are trying to keep Catholic Education affordable for every child.

We are hoping that an annual fund will meet these needs as we continue to grow in the future. We thank you in advance for any donation which you may give.

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Mrs. Regina Bierbower

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Mrs. Regina Bierbower is a fifth grade teacher at La Salle Academy. She is the Head Teacher, and has been teaching for over 25 years. Mrs. Bierbower is a graduate of Holy Name High School and Kutztown University where she graduated cum laude.

Mrs. Bierbower

holds a degree in Special Education and Elementary Education.

In addition to being Head Teacher, she is the Reading Coordinator, and supervises the MS Read-a-thon, and the Newspaper in Education program at La Salle.

Mrs. Bierbower is a certified Catechist and

member of NCEA. She is a Master teacher as well as a Mentor teacher.

Mrs. Bierbower enjoys spending time with her family including her husband, Jeff, son, Robert, daughter, Kristen, and son-in-law, Andrew. She also enjoys reading, traveling, and “dabbling” in gourmet cooking.



Mrs. Susan Teskey

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Mrs. Susan Teskey, fifth grade teacher at La Salle, has been teaching for over 20 years. She graduated magna cum laude from Kutztown University with a B.S. degree in Elementary Education.

Mrs. Teskey was

born in Michigan and is one of 13 children.

She enjoys being with her family, Al, Brian, Bill, and daughter-in-law, Erin, traveling, gardening, reading, being outdoors, and watching football and ice hockey games.

Mrs. Teskey stated that, “The only thing I have ever won was a frozen turkey at a bingo game.” However, she was stopped at Customs for bringing a 50 lb. bag of potatoes into the country as a present for her mother. (Next time, Mrs. Teskey, think gift cards.)



First Place Winners: Noah Kidder and Molly Yoder (absent—Morgan McMahan)

Technology: Just Keeps Getting Better!

Did you know that La Salle Academy is the only Catholic School that participates in the PA Middle School Technology Fair? For the past two years, under the direction of Mrs. McNamara, La Salle students have placed first in at least

one category. This year the students brought home 2 first place winners! Congratulations to Ryan Vance and Anthony Pietrowski for their digital movie on anti-bullying, and Noah Kidder, Molly Yoder, and Morgan McMahan for their Multime-

dia Presentation on Egypt. They will be taking their projects to the State Competition in May.

We are very proud of all of our technology savvy students and La Salle’s technology program.

February 2009

And the Survey Said:

Thank you to all of our wonderful parents for taking the time to complete the family survey. We value your input and appreciate you sharing with us. 153 family surveys were sent home and 138 or 90% were returned. Thank you.

88% responded that they liked the early dismissals at Thanksgiving and

Christmas. 11% did not like them, and 1% abstained to vote.

55% responded that they liked the Christmas Program in the afternoon, 38% did not, and 7% abstained to vote.

In regards to the Phone system, 92% responded that they liked the system, 5% did not, and 3%

abstained to vote.

As you can see, there were mixed opinions about the Christmas Program being held in the afternoon. While more people favored having the program in the afternoon, we propose to alternate the times with one year having it in the evening and the next, in the afternoon.



First Grade Superstars

A Typical Day:

While there may not be such a thing as a "typical" day at La Salle Academy, it might interest you to know how hard-working and active your child is.

On one day last week, students were finish-

ing up their technology fair projects, engaging the students of the John Paul II Center with a play, having a Spirit Club bake sale to raise funds for the students, getting ready for Math-counts, counting in preparation for "100 Days," writing in cursive, learning Spanish,

and preparing for liturgy.

And this was in addition to classroom work. No wonder our students are tired when they get home! (So are the teachers.)

A typical day is:

"Fun, cool" Mia Betancourt

"Mondays-when we don't have off" Lauren Hagan

"A day like today"

Liam Galvin

Catholic Education:

Recently someone asked are the students getting their money's worth at La Salle Academy.

According to the Federal Education Budget Project, public education cost \$8690-\$10,000 per child. At La Salle, the cost is

\$5965 of which it is shared by the parish and parent. Tuition for the first child is \$2610. That breaks down to roughly \$14.50 per day or \$72.50 per week. Day Care Centers in the area reported costing \$150-\$187 per week. For \$14.50 per day, a student at La Salle

receives a Catholic Education that serves as a foundation for his educational, moral, and spiritual growth. Built on Faith, bound for success, a Catholic Education lasts a lifetime.

Is it worth it?



Built on Faith...Bound for
Success!



Welcoming Little La Salle:

We are excited about bringing Little La Salle to La Salle Academy! We are looking forward to having our youngest family members join us on the hill. Parents have approached us with questions about how this move will affect the quality programs at Little La Salle. Since our preschools have never been to La Salle, we ask for your patience as we work through the school year to make this a rewarding experience for all.

Some of the questions that can be answered:

- Preschool, Prekindergarten, and Kindergarten children will not wear uniforms.
- Children will not be sitting in desks.
- Curriculum will not change, but rather be enhanced with the use of the library and gym.
- The safety of our students continues to remain a top priority and doors will be locked, or monitored at dismissal times.
- Childhood continues to remain a journey, not a race.

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2009-2010 School Calendar:



Three of La Salle's finest: Corinne Dolan, Juliet Piersody, and Michele Perles at the Computer Fair.

This year Labor Day 2009 falls in the second week of September. Traditionally starting after Labor Day, and building 4 snow days into the calendar would mean that La Salle students would not complete the school year until the third week in June. By starting the 2009-2010 school year on Tuesday, September 1st, students would then be able to complete the year in the second week of June.

Students would come to school on Sept. 1st-3rd, have off for Labor Day on Friday Sept. 4th-7th, and return on Tuesday, Sept. 8th.

Family Open House—Sept. 10th,
Back-to-School-Night—
Sept. 17th.

La Salle's Christmas Program—Dec. 18th
7PM.

Early dismissals
before Thanksgiving and

Christmas. Christmas vacation starts on Dec. 23rd noon until Jan. 5th.

Catholic Schools Week runs from Jan. 31st through Feb. 5th.

Easter vacation is April 1st through April 5th.

May Procession is May 5th with 8th grade graduation tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, June 9th.