

St. Francis School Monthly News



See you at
our March 9
auction

March 2007

Our community has responded enthusiastically to the new St. Francis viewbook, available in PDF format on our Web home page. The abstract green symbol depicted on the viewbook's cover — and reproduced here, to the right — has raised interest as well as a question as to whether this is the new school logo.

The answer is a resounding: "Well. Not exactly."

Of course the *abacus*, also the name of our yearbook, is the image that has represented St. Francis since the school's move from Harrods Creek to Goshen in 1970. The landmark example that now stands at the entrance to the school was part of the original new-campus design, reflecting founder Frank Cayce's attachment to this ancient symbol of learning. By the way, our abacus apparently is the world's largest.

And, as everyone knows, the *eagle* is our official athletic mascot as well as the image that inspires the school's statement of good character, the Eagle Code. A brand new depiction of the St. Francis eagle appeared about two years ago.

This new item that graces the viewbook, as well our new business cards and stationery, we call the *footprint*. Footprint? Of what? (Or who?!) A few shrewd observers (alas, I was not one of them) discerned immediately that this symbol is inspired by the Goshen school building, designed by visionary architect Jasper Ward and later faithfully enlarged by Rowland Miller.

A glance at an aerial view of the campus reveals that the radiating "arms" of the new image represent the three wings of our building and the small triangle at the bottom depicts, accordingly, the Multipurpose Room. A closer look at these arms suggests the beads of the abacus itself. The color of the footprint reflects our renewed environmental commitment.

So, though the footprint is not the new official (as in Board approved) symbol of St. Francis, you could say that it both incorporates our historic identity and points us to new vistas. Please let us know what you think!

P.S. Speaking of new institutional symbols, stay tuned in the next week for an important announcement regarding the St. Francis School mission statement.

A Bird? A Plane? A New Logo?



ST. FRANCIS
GOSHEN & HARRODS CREEK
KENTUCKY

STARTING MONDAY: SIGN UP FOR PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES (MARCH 15-16)

Conferences will be held in 15-minute blocks (with 5 minutes between each) during these hours:

- * 4:30-8:05 PM Thursday, March 15 (a regular school day)
- * 8 AM - 12:35 PM Friday, March 16 (no classes this day)

Sign up by calling Kelly Hovey in our main office, 228-1197. The sign-up period begins this Monday (3/5) and ends Friday, March 9. Please speak directly to Kelly; don't attempt to set your appointments by voicemail.

NEXT FRIDAY: OUR BIG "EAGLE GALA" AUCTION 6:30 PM at The Olmsted



* Limited seating remains. If you missed our RSVP deadline, act immediately and contact parent Kim Makin, at 228-3383, to reserve a spot.

* Buy/sell our raffle tickets; don't miss your opportunity to split the pot. Return your raffle ticket stubs and money to the office, or bring them to the auction.

* Our auction catalog now contains some 220 items to be up for bid. Browse them at StFrancisSchool.Maestroweb.com

* Our annual auction will have it all: fine food, fun friends and fabulous finds. If you have any questions, please e-mail auction chair Amanda Fields, at amfield-sart@yahoo.com, or staff member Cindy Wood at CWood@StFrancisSchool.org. Or call us at 228-1197.

REMINDER: NO SCHOOL NEXT FRIDAY; LIMITED OPTIONAL CHILD-CARE AVAILABLE

School will be closed for the KY Assoc. of Independent Schools conference. But our Enrichment Program has room for 10 children from 8 AM to 4 PM. The cost is cost \$65, and children must bring lunch. To register, call director Neisja Yenawine at 228-1197 x124.

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN CONSOLIDATED TO OUR GOSHEN CAMPUS

To serve our children better, after this school year we will eliminate half-day Junior Kindergarten at our preschool campus in Harrods Creek. This will help us accommodate both an increased demand to serve a younger population at the preschool and more interest in our full-day Junior Kindergarten on our Goshen campus. This change also should decrease the confusion of having two separate Jr. K programs.

If you have questions, please call Admissions Director Krista Wilson (228-1197 x118) or Preschool Director Shannon Delahanty (228-0165).

FROM THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

by **Reed Gabhart**, head of middle school

Wednesday's morning meeting was a special one, with several groups of students being honored for recent accomplishments (see the column to the right).

We also read the second trimester Effort Honor Roll. I noted to the kids that there were students who made it the first term, but not the second, and vice versa, which is to be expected. The good news is, all of these students are still eligible to make the Elizabeth Archibald Effort Honor Roll at year's end. Our criteria stipulate that students must make the honor roll either first or second term **and** must be on it for the third trimester. We discussed the reasons for this and applauded the honorees for all of their hard work.

At St. Francis we have always rewarded effort, attainable by all, over sheer academic performance. Our year-end honor roll is named for long-time St. Francis teacher and administrator Beth Archibald and reflects her commitment and dedication both to hard work and St. Francis. Congratulations to these students:

5th Grade

Lila Asher
Bobby Buse, III
Mariah Curtis
Erin Didier
Riley Gregor
Alma Herovic
Matthew Hoagland
Benjamin Kobay
Grace Lancaster
Alex Thebert
Matthew Ullum
Jack Wells
Elizabeth Whitman
Rebecca Whitman

6th Grade

Max Abner
Rahool Bhimani
Anna Cowley
Teddy Finkelstein
Kenny Jackson
Caroline Johnson
Audra Kinney
Olivia Loeffler
Kendall Malone
James Manni
Ellie Najewicz
Anthony Perry
Megan Schrader
Ryan Thebert

7th Grade

Maggie Baucom
Eli Beard
Elizabeth Buse
Katie Cote
Barrett Donovan
Harrison Fowler
Lydia Frenzel-Sulyok
Amanda Greenberg
Megan Hart
Tahlia Hodes
Paul Lacher
Healey Loeffler
Kienan McCusker
Juliette Owen

8th Grade

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|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Brianna Barnett | Claire Johnson | Olivia Rosenberg |
| Julia Bendon | Lexie Lancaster | Savannah Schafer |
| Cooper Burton | Katherine Mackin | Olivia Tennant |
| Lilly Campbell | Marc Maguire | |
| Whitney Eberenz | Taylor Rinehart | |

MP3 PLAYER & HAND-HELD DEVICE POLICY REMINDER

We've reminded our students twice recently of our school policy that iPods, other music players and hand-held video games (etc.) should not be seen during the school day. These devices are fine for the bus rides to and from school and during after-school activities at the directors' discretion. During school, we want our students to be talking, listening, interacting and playing with each other. Parents: Thanks for your support!



SFS TRIO SCORES HIGH AT MATH-COUNTS COMPETITION

-- by **Lou Armstrong**, math teacher & coach

Q: The product of three consecutive odd integers is 1287. What is the sum of the three integers?

That was one of the questions on this year's Math-Counts Regional competition, held at the University of Louisville during Winter Break. The competition featured 168 of the best math students from 26 schools in Jefferson and Oldham counties. Teams consisted of the top four students from each school. We had only three students, so we were forced to take a zero as one of our scores. However, led by Eighth Grader **Daniel Siladi**, we still placed a respectable 14th in the competition.

Daniel's final standing in the competition was the 5th highest ever by a St. Francis student. Seventh Grader **Paul Lacher** also had a very good score, while Sixth Grader **Teddy Finkelstein** placed ahead of nearly half the competitors, a remarkable achievement for a 6th-grader competing against primarily 8th graders. The future looks bright for the St. Francis MathCounts team!

Congratulations to our three mathletes — who, by the way, correctly answered the question above. The answer is 33.

AND CONGRATULATIONS TO ...

* **Julie Meyer**, 3rd grader, who recently participated in the Kentucky State gymnastics meet. Julie placed First on floor and uneven bars, Third on vault and Second all-around in the Level Three 9-year-old Junior Division. Julie also competed in the Circle of Stars Meet in Indianapolis, placing Third on vault, Second on uneven bars and First on floor. She placed First all-around in the Level Three 8 & 9-year-old Division.

* **Teddy Finkelstein** and **Alex Monda**, both 6th graders, whose gymnastics team won First Place in both the Blaine Wilson and the Circle of Stars meets this past week. Alex finished First in both meets in his age group.

* **Cooper Burton**, 8th grader, who was awarded a Head of School Scholarship -- an annually renewable, merit scholarship -- to St. Francis High School.



SIGN UP YOUR LITTLES ONES FOR SUMMER CAMP AT OUR PRESCHOOL

Our 12th annual summer camp at our preschool campus is for children who'll be 2 by October 1 through children who'll enter First Grade in the fall. This year's camp -- Away We Grow! -- offers three 3-week sessions:

* **Critters in the Backyard (May 29-June 15)** * **Our Good Earth (June 18-July 6)** * **Earth Artists (July 9-27)**

We offer 2-day, 3-day and 5-day options. (Also, you may sign up for just two weeks in any session, if that better fits your schedule.) Come join us as we investigate our environment -- from the insects that whirl and slink around us to the earth that provides for us -- and ways we can care for our world by recycling and reusing. Our older children will take a field trip, and visitors will entertain the entire camp each session. We'll also have Splash Days and weekly visits from Miss Cindy, our music and movement specialist. For more information or to request a brochure, please call the preschool at 228-0165.

FIVE SFS "YOUNG AUTHORS" ADVANCE FROM COUNTY LEVEL; MOVE ON TO NEXT COMPETITION

Congratulations to our nine young writers whose works were judged this week at the Oldham County level of The Courier-Journal's annual Young Authors competition. Five of our authors won and will move on to the next round.

Our winning representatives were:

- * Elizabeth Carrigan, 2nd grade
- * Lila Asher, 5th grade
- * Ellie Najewicz, 6th grade
- * Rahool Bhimani and Teddy Finkelstein, both 6th graders, in the middle school "group book" category

Also submitting entries were Braden Barnett (3rd grade), Olivia Vittitow (4th grade), Katie Cote (7th grade) and Brianna Barnett (8th grade).

Congratulations to all!

Our winners' works now go to another round of judging, and in mid-March the books will be returned to the C-J for final selection. By month's end, overall winners will be notified. In April, selected Young Authors' books will be published on www.courier-journal.com. May will bring an awards luncheon and a special Young Achievers' section of the newspaper.

The Young Authors' Program integrates writing as a "real life" experience — leading to publication of a "book" — for students in elementary and middle schools. Award categories are divided by grade levels from 1-8 and by group divisions of K-3, 4-5 and 6-8 and Exceptional Childhood Education. Students may enter only one division of competition each year.



CHESS CLUB NEWS

Good luck to our chess players as they compete tomorrow (Saturday, 3/3) at the Kentucky Team Tournament at Crosby Middle School. Representing SFS will be:

- * K-3 players Gilman Bagga, Braden Barnett, David Hendren, Adam Prys, Justin Stevens and Theo Taylor.
- * K-5 players Roberto Bolli, Alex Koby, Benjamin Koby and Aaron Lattis.

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Here are the results from the Kentucky Scholastic Chess Tournament held Saturday, Feb. 17, at the University of Louisville Shelby Campus:

- * Our K-1 Section took 2nd Place as a team.

PARTICIPANTS & awards:

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|-------------------------|-------------|
| Theo Taylor - 1st Place | Andrew Hoag |
| Christopher Hammond | Adam Prys |

- * Our K-3 Section took 1st Place as a team.

PARTICIPANTS & awards:

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Gilman Bagga - 1st Place | David Hendren - 4th Place |
| Roberto Bolli - 2nd Place | Aaron Lattis |

- * Representing our K-5 Section was Alex Koby, who took 2nd Place individually.



2006 CONSERVATION POSTER & ESSAY CONTEST RESULTS

-- by Jan Wolanin Alexander, science teacher

The theme was soil. Late last fall, our 5th-graders drew posters and our 6th-graders wrote essays. School judges selected three school winners for each contest.

Our in-school poster winners were Bobby Buse, Charis Moon and Jack Wells, and honorable mentions went to Graham Cote, Mariah Curtis, Grace Lancaster and Gavi Shandler.

Our in-school essay winners were Max Abner, Rahool Bhimani and Megan Schrader, and honorable mentions went to Teddy Finkelstein, Patrick Hall and Audra Kinney.

At an Awards Banquet held this past Monday at the John Black Community Center, we found out that 854 posters and 179 essays had been submitted from 10 Oldham County schools.

The Oldham County judges placed our in-school poster winners in this order: Jack Wells, 1st; Bobby Buse, 2nd; and Charis Moon, 3rd.

Our in-school essay winners were ranked this way:

Rahool Bhimani, 1st; Megan Schrader, 2nd; and Max Abner, 3rd.

Rahool then placed second out of all Oldham County entrants with his essay, "Soil Conservation in Kentucky."

The contest was jointly sponsored by The Courier-Journal and the Conservation Districts of Kentucky.

Additional awards were given to high school FFA students, conservationist farmers and teachers. Our own Mrs. Stevenson was recognized for her environmental contributions (among them recycling every Thursday, serving as the faculty liaison to the school board's Garden Committee, and teaching a 2nd grade bird-feeding unit). Mr. Delautre and the principals of other county schools were recognized for their environmental leadership and support of teachers. Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Alexander were recognized for sponsoring the poster and essay contests at St. Francis.

Congratulations to everyone for your hard work. The Lorax would be proud! (FYI: "The Lorax" is a wonderful environmental book by Dr. Seuss.)

A REPORT FROM LAST WEEK'S MINNESOTA CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING TRIP WITH MIKE & RITA BLACK -- by parent Tom Cowley

Mike and Rita Black led an enthusiastic group of skiers to the North Shore of Lake Superior over Winter Break. The group included three parents, 10 SFS students and one older sibling. They were: Janet Hodes and her daughter, Tahlia (7th grade); Tom and Marianne Cowley and their children Anna (6th), Sam (5th), Tevy (3rd) and 16-year-old Ben; Healey Loeffler (7th); Ashley Albert (6th); Quinn Hillerich (6th); Caroline Johnson (6th); Cole Steiner (6th); and Kyle Muennich (4th).

We saw bald eagles, wolves and fake moose. We are planning a bigger outing next year, so mark your calendars. To see some pictures, visit <http://crosscountryskitrip.blogspot.com>.



FEBRUARY LUNCHROOM VOLUNTEERS

Please find a substitute if you are unable to work on your scheduled day. If you are unable to find someone to work for you, please call Chef Matt Gasper (228-1197 x112) AND parent Dianne Siciliano (292-3295) before your scheduled date.

Monday, March 5 - Ginger Campbell, Mary Ann Pollard, Catherine Chandler
Tuesday, March 6 - Lana Tyulmenkova, Michele Monda, Laurie Kinney
Wednesday, March 7 - Carolyn Wetterer, Vlasta Ross, Gretta Manni
Thursday, March 8 - Nancy Scott, Patti Adkins, Ann Hendren
Friday, March 9 - NO SCHOOL; KAIS CONFERENCE

Monday, March 12 - Lisa Wiley, Christina Ullum, Rene Prys
Tuesday, March 13 - Robin LeMastus, Suzy Bagga, Dianne Siciliano
Wednesday, March 14 - Sherry Stevens, Kim Mackin, Diane Fowler
Thursday, March 15 - Michelle Heit, Cynthia McAfee, Ann Hendren
Friday, March 16 - NO SCHOOL; PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Monday, March 19 - Dace Maki, Mary Ann Pollard, Amanda Fields
Tuesday, March 20 - Kathy Baucom, Steve Paradis, Lisa Fleming
Wednesday, March 21 - Katy Bade, Georgette Kidwell, Laurie Kinney
Thursday, March 22 - Mary Herrmann, Ann Hendren, Patti Adkins
Friday, March 23 - Amy Lavin, Carolyn Thebert, Tanya Greenberg

Monday, March 26 - Jeannette Gettelfinger, Janet Hodes, Al Kirby
Tuesday, March 27 - Nancye Faulkner, Holly Winebrenner, Rene Prys
Wednesday, March 28 - Amy Dishman, Abby Yelton, Beverly Lancaster
Thursday, March 29 - Michelle Heit, Cynthia McAfee, Ann Hendren
Friday, March 30 - Laurie Kinney, Debbie Morgan, Levetta Perry

PATRONIZE OUR AUCTION DONORS: Last week we urged you to peruse our auction catalog at <http://StFrancisSchool.Maestroweb.com>, follow the links to our donors' Web sites and consider patronizing those donors.

One shopkeeper now reports that she reaped three new clients thanks to us!

If you support our donors, tell them how you heard about them. They'll be more likely to help us again. Here are some ideas:

-- Summer Camps --

Jewish Community Center: It's time to think about summer camps for your kids. The JCC offers camps for ages 20 months and older. From art camp to basketball camp, the JCC has something for everyone. Register by March 16 and receive an early bird discount. For information, call 459-0660 or visit <http://www.jccoflouisville.org>.

See their auction donation in our online catalog under [Health and Beauty](#).

Blairwood: Located off Linn Station Road, Blairwood offers swim and tennis camps for ages 5 and older throughout summer. Attend from 9 AM till noon or 4PM for swimming and tennis, or choose a tennis camp only in the afternoon. Call 426-8820 for details.

See their auction donation in our online catalog under [Sports](#).

St. Francis High School sports camps at our Goshen campus: Coaches from St. Francis High will offer summer sports camps at our own SFS campus for 5th-8th graders. More details will be coming. For now, see the St. Francis High School auction item in our online catalog under [For Children](#).

-- Fun & Games --

Kingpin Lanes: Located on Taylorsville Road in Jeffersontown, Kingpin Lanes caters to everyone from casual to competitive bowlers to families. Kingpin Lanes has a café and state-of-the-art arcade with 50-plus games. For hours and rates, call 719-5464 or visit <http://www.bowlkingpin.com>.

See their auction donation in our online catalog under [Travel & Entertainment](#).

Rocksport Climbing Center: With more than 10,000 square feet of climbing surface, Rocksport has walls for children and walls for beginning, intermediate and advanced climbers. Call 266-5833 or visit <http://www.climbrocksport.com>. See their auction item in our online catalog under [Sports](#).

"SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR" REPORT

A big Thank You goes out to the many volunteers who made our recent Scholastic Book Fair a success. Our gratitude goes to Book Fair coordinators Amy Hanekamp and Laura Johnson and their volunteer crew of Brad Asher, Deirdre Barnett, Liz Bevarly, Kay Chandler, Michelle Costel, Lori Dabney, Diane Fowler, Ann Hendren, Kim Mackin, Pinky Jackson, Dace Maki, Michelle Monda, Abby Yelton and Neisja Yenawine.

The bottom line: Thanks to your Book Fair purchases, our school earned \$1,917.

SUMMER "CAMP INVENTION" RETURNS FOR K-5TH GRADERS; ALSO BRINGS JOB OPPORTUNITY

Be sure to leave June 18-22 free for your child to attend Camp Invention, our summer camp for inquiring minds.

Take advantage of the discounted pricing by enrolling early. For more information, please contact camp director Brigette Muennich at BMuennich@StFrancisSchool.org.

SUMMER PROGRAM FOR "GIFTED STUDENTS" IN GRADES 4-8

Contact our Student Services office -- Julie Marks or Nikki Durst -- for information about a summer, residential (sleep-away) program for gifted students in grades 4-8.

FINAL REMINDER: HEAR MADELYN SWIFT ON THURSDAY (3/8)

Attend at a free presentation on March 8 by Madelyn Swift, author, educator and international speaker on discipline and communication issues for parents and children. Her theme will be "Discipline for Life: Getting it Right with Children."

The presentation will be 6:30-8 PM at Kentucky Country Day. Swift's visit is sponsored by the Kentucky Association of Independent Schools' Teacher Service Committee. On Friday morning following her public talk at KCD, Swift will present a teachers-only program at our school. To read some of Swift's writings, visit <http://www.childright.com>.

INSPIRATION FOR YOUR FAMILY: Sit together to watch and discuss Building a Dream, an Oprah Winfrey special about her new girls' boarding school for 7-8th graders in South Africa. The show airs at 9 PM Saturday on ABC-TV. Find discussion ideas at http://www2.oprah.com/presents/2007/academy/kids/kids_main.jhtml