

St. Francis School Monthly News

May, 2006

We want to thank everyone who has contributed to an extremely successful admissions season this year.

We already have enrolled more new students – in fact, 30% more – than we welcomed on opening day in August last year, and there are many months to go before the class of 2007 enters.

This winter and spring, our Admissions office has had *double* the number of tours and applications compared to a year ago.

We attribute this increase largely to the efforts of our families who continue to spread the good news about our school, its mission, and the overall quality of the student experience here. We were also delighted to discover recently that some local realtors are endorsing St. Francis as “the place your children have to go.” These and other personal endorsements have led to a steady, ongoing stream of inquiries into our program.

Given that we are experiencing virtually no attrition of current families, we expect next year’s opening enrollment to surpass that of the current year: no small feat considering we are graduating an eighth grade of 44! At this writing, we have only a few spots left in our full-day JK and Kindergarten classes for fall.

Congratulations and thanks to our admissions staff, Krista Wilson and Kristan Murphy, and to all of you who have contributed to a near record-setting admissions season. Our growth confirms the health of our wonderful school.

John Delautre

NEW ADMISSIONS ON THE RISE!

"EAGLE GALA" AUCTION REPORT

-- by Meredith Gault, *development director*

The final figures are in from our auction last March, and we need just two words to summarize the results: Thank you!

Together we raised \$72,000 for our children's SFS education. More than 320 people attended and seemed to have a great time.

Special applause goes to parent volunteer-extraordinaire Elise Whitman for chairing the event.

We also thank . . .

* the rest of our Auction Committee:

Katy Bade	Kim Mackin
Suzy Bagga	Andy McLeroy
Deirdre Barnett	Mark Norman
Kay Chandler	Christina Norris
Lori Dabney	Janet Roxworthy
Amy Frederick	Dianne Siciliano
Ann Hendren	Carolyn Wetterer
Karen King	Abby Yelton

* others who helped with set-up:

Cindy Armstrong	Dorothy Taylor
Bob Barnett	Joanne Shiring
Michelle Jurige	

* all our wonderful teachers and staff members

PREVENTING SUBSTANCE ABUSE

As previously announced, the week of May 8-12 will bring a visit to our campus by a counselor from Freedom from Chemical Dependency (FCD), the country's best substance abuse education program.

The counselor will work with students in grades 4-8.

Parents of students in grade 4-8 are invited to meet with the FCD counselor at 7 PM Wednesday, May 10, in the Main Amp.

FCD counselors are among the most informed authorities on substance abuse among young people, and the particular substance issues affecting our wider community will be one of the main topics on May 10.




ATTENTION: 8TH GRADE STUDENTS & THEIR PARENTS

1. Have you submitted your photos to Rosanne Conlan for the 8th grade DVD? If not, you'd best do so immediately. Don't risk being left off this keepsake.
2. If any student has music ideas for the DVD, requests should be given to Rosanne.
3. Payment for the graduation party is due this Monday (5/1). Please send the check, permission form and classmate memory form to parent Diane Fowler.

NO SCHOOL NEXT FRIDAY (5/5): OAKS DAY

But students in grades 1-8 are eligible to sign up for our annual Derby Camp Adventure Weekend. See details at the bottom of this page.



CONGRATULATIONS TO NEWLYWED Abbey McKenzie Flynn, 3rd grade lead teacher. She and Aron Flynn tied the knot last weekend.

TWO PAINLESS -- AND VERY EASY -- WAYS TO RAISE MONEY FOR SFS

Raise money for our school when you buy groceries at Kroger or shop online at such mainstream sites as Target, Staples, Lands End, Barnes & Noble, CompUSA and many more. Too good to be true? Not in this case!

Attached to this newsletter are two flyers:

* One flyer tells you to register for free at <http://www.SchoolPop.com>, and then use SchoolPop.com as your starting point when you shop online at hundreds of name-brand merchant Web sites. The merchants contribute typically 2 % to 5 % (and sometimes more) of your total purchase to our school with every purchase, at no extra cost to you. For more information, please call parent Cynthia Paris at 228-3743.

* The other flyer reports how successful we've been in our first year participating in the Kroger Gift Card fundraising program. It's a wonderful program, and wonderfully easy to do. Here's how:

Simply request a Kroger Gift Card from our school office; the cost is \$5, but the card comes with \$5 credit. You then add more money to the card at the Kroger customer service desk or check-out. Our school receives 4% of your expenditures, and it costs you nothing extra. What's more, you can use your own credit cards to "reload" your Kroger card. We all win. Try it!

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES with Mr. Black

This coming school year, Mike Black will offer our SFS community some extraordinary opportunities for extracurricular outdoor adventure. Mr. Black is inviting Middle School students to join him on selected weekends in the fall and winter, and he is inviting adults to experience mountaineering expeditions into Colorado during the early fall.

Information and dates for student adventures will be available at the start of the fall term, and details of the adult trips will be available in the coming weeks.

Preparation for the adult trips will include physical training tips, equipment and food selection and backpacking and camping skills. Please contact Mr. Black at

MBlack@StFrancisSchool.org if you are interested. Trip size will be limited to 8 adults.

Mike Black's backpacking experience: Mike has backpacked extensively in Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Washington and British Columbia. He has summited twenty-one 14,000-foot peaks in Colorado as well as Mt. Rainier in Washington.

Mike has helped build the St. Francis School 8th grade camping trip into a valuable outdoor experience to which our students can look forward.

DERBY CAMP ADVENTURE WEEKEND, May 5-7 – our annual fundraiser that provides fun for the kids while their parents enjoy Oaks & Derby doings. St. Francis students in grades 1-8 are eligible. Children from other schools must be recommended by a St. Francis family. The camp is led by veteran teacher Jane Cox. We offer three options:

Option I - full weekend, for \$350
9 AM Friday - 10 AM Sunday

Option II - Friday only, for \$150
9 AM - 11 PM Friday

Option III - Saturday to Sunday, for \$200
8 AM Saturday - 10 AM Sunday

Friday's activities include a morning of bowling, movie and fun and games at Kingpin Lanes; an afternoon at Renaissance Park; and an evening of dinner, movie and games in our SFS Multipurpose Room. Saturday brings a Kings Island Adventure Day – breakfast, departure from SFS at 8:30 AM, day at Kings Island, dinner during the return trip, movie and games back at SFS. Camp ends Sunday morning with pick up between 9-10 AM.

To sign up, see Mrs. Cox or print and submit this DERBY CAMP APPLICATION FORM (Please include check with application.)

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____ | Child's Name: _____ Age: _____

Parent name: _____ Address: _____

Phone: _____ Emergency contact & phone: _____

Child's Physician & phone: _____ Medication child takes: _____

RELEASE: I understand that St. Francis School, Goshen, KY, or the Derby Camp chaperons will not be held accountable for loss of clothing or other personal belongings or any bodily injury that may be sustained by my child while in the Derby Camp chaperons' care. If my child needs medical treatment for an emergency, I grant permission to the Derby Camp or the Derby Camp chaperons to seek treatment from a physician selected by the Derby Camp.

Parent Signature: _____

PARENT ASSOCIATION NEWS

by Kim Mackin, SFPA president

Watch your mail in early May for a list of Parent Association leadership needs for next school year. Think about where and how you can help, and then contact me (at 228-3383 or KimMackin@bellsouth.net) or Deirdre Barnett (228-6958).

Parents of 7th graders: We are looking for volunteers to chaperone the 8th grade graduation party, 1:30-5:30 PM on May 25. The party will be on the Captain's Quarters restaurant's Princess cruise ship. If you are available to help, please call parent Laurie Kinney at 228-5772. (EDITOR'S NOTE: It is school tradition that parents of 7th graders chaperone the graduation party.)

Thanks to parents John and Laurie Kinney, Laura and Wes Johnson, Rebecca and David Najewicz, Elaine Russell, and Tina Smith for volunteering to work the PA concession stand and grill at last Tuesday's Spirit Night. Also, a huge thank you goes to Richard and Charlotte Vowels (Charlotte, thanks for coming back!), Barbara Lega, Kenneth Ward and Larry Wilson for all of their help. We couldn't do it without you!

FINAL CALL FOR PEGASUS PARADE TICKETS: Each year, our friends at the St. Francis High School Parent Association sell reserved Pegasus Parade seats (at Third & Broadway), complete with boxed suppers and nearby restrooms. Choose from \$40 reserved front-row folding chair & supper OR \$30 reserved bleacher seat & supper. Supper choices are meat, vegetarian or PB&J. A soft drink or bottled water is included in the price. To check for availability, contact SFHS parent Teresa Denny at 228-7279 or Teandroses@aol.com.(please put "Pegasus Parade" in the subject line).



UPCOMING LUNCHROOM VOLUNTEERS

NOTE TO ALL 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 Diane Fowler at 228-1256 before your scheduled date.

Monday, May 1 – Debbie Morgan, Jan Cogburn, Carolyn Lichtig
Tuesday, May 2 – Dulce Pereira, Holly Winebrenner, Nancye Faulkner
Wednesday, May 3 – Katy Bade, Brigette Muennich, Sherry Stevens
Thursday, May 4 – Nancy Scott, Cynthia McAfee, Michelle Heit
Friday, May 5 – OAKS DAY; NO SCHOOL

Monday, May 8 – Lisa Wiley, Christina Ullum, Carolyn Wetterer
Tuesday, May 9 – Steve Paradis, Jeanne Sullivan, Holly Winebrenner
Wednesday, May 10 – Amy Dishman, Kay Chandler, Georgette Kidwell
Thursday, May 11 – Lori Buse, Karen Siladi, Janet Roxworthy
Friday, May 12 – Tom Cowley, Anita Meyer, Kelly Farmer

Monday, May 15 – Ginger Campbell, Mary Ann Pollard, Jan Cogburn
Tuesday, May 16 – Kay Chandler, Rene Prize, Nancye Faulkner
Wednesday, May 17 – Katy Bade, Liz Bevarly, Sherry Stevens
Thursday, May 18 – Dianne Siciliano, Cythia McAfee, Michelle Heit
Friday, May 19 – Tanya Greenberg, Charlotte Stites, Carolyn Thebert

Monday, May 22 – Jeanette Gettelfinger, Mary Ann Pollard, Christina Ullum
Tuesday, May 23 – Kathy Broude, Robin LeMastus, Jeanne Sullivan
Wednesday, May 24 – Cookout lunch for final day of school



Samantha Gauss, SFS Class of 2003 and now a junior at St. Francis High School in Louisville, will compete in a fencing tournament tomorrow (Saturday, 4/29) at Tom Sawyer State Park in Louisville.

Samantha fences for the Louisville Fencing Center, the most successful competitive fencing facility in Kentucky. Several graduates of the facility are now on college scholarships.

Tomorrow's tourney is a qualifier for the 17-and-under group for the Nationals in Atlanta this summer.

If you think your child might be interested in fencing, go see the competition. The action starts around 10 AM and finishes around 2 PM. Spectators can come as go as they please. Samantha, who competes in the saber category, will likely see action around 11 AM. You're invited to talk about fencing with her father, Michael Gauss, who says "I will be the father over in the corner doing what most parents do when their child is in a stress situation."

LOWER SCHOOL TALENT SHOW: 1:45-2:50 PM WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

Thank You to teachers Sally Vail and Nicole Hankins for organizing this extravaganza.

END-OF-YEAR EVENTS AND 8TH GRADE GRADUATION:

Please see the attached flyer about our end-of-year events.