

# St. Francis School Monthly News

November 2006

**This Sunday's Open House signals the official beginning of the admissions season for 2007-08. Our admissions activity up to this point has been unusually strong,** and we have already

received more than twice the number of applications as we had this time last year. The school's commitment to environmental education and our developmentally appropriate approach to homework are clearly reaching an appreciative audience. As a result, we expect that several grade levels will have waiting lists next year, with Kindergarten and sixth grade receiving a record level of interest.

The school's staff works diligently to spread our message and create interest in the program, but it is clear that you, our families and alumni, do the lion's share of recruiting for us. It is your trust in our mission and your willingness to share your St. Francis experiences with your friends and neighbors that have brought about such a dramatic increase in admissions inquiries and tours in the last year.

Typically, it is a St. Francis parent testimonial that results in a new family's visit to the school; once inside the building, the rich experience of the students and the creative work of the teachers seal the deal. One of every four families who inquire about our program eventually sends their children to St. Francis. The NAIS average is one in ten!

We appeal to you then to continue your outreach on behalf of St. Francis. This Sunday's event runs from 2 to 4 and will be hosted by the Admissions Office and the faculty. If you are able to engage a neighbor in conversation about this opportunity between now and then, please do so. And of course all our families are invited to help us welcome visitors to the school on this occasion. Your personal endorsement of our work is still the best way to spread the word about a St. Francis education.

Gratefully,



## SPREADING THE WORD

**THIS SUNDAY AT SFS: OPEN HOUSE, 2-4 PM, FOR PROSPECTIVE NEW FAMILIES**

Send your friends and neighbors to see what St. Francis School is all about.

**TUESDAY IN THE MULTIPURPOSE ROOM: PARENT COFFEE & "INTERNET SAFETY" PROGRAM, 8 AM**

RSVP for our parent coffee on the topic of Internet Safety, featuring a presentation by the Oldham County Police Dept. All parents are invited. If you plan to attend, please call Kelly Hovey in the front office, 228-1197.

**PARENTS OF 8TH GRADERS:**

If your 8th grader is taking the Catholic School Placement Exam in December, please encourage him or her to join Mrs. Greaver and Mr. Delautre for math and grammar drill during Elective Projects time during November. This opportunity is available to all interested 8th graders even if they sign up for another project.



## HAVE YOU NOTICED ...

\* We've rearranged our front office. The reception desk of our administrative assistant, Kelly Hovey, is now stationed on your left as you enter the office from the Main Amp. This not only provides us with a better view of who is at the front entrance, it also helps us greet and sign in our visitors.

\* During school hours, we now string a long cable across the entrance of the driveway leading from US 42 to our Athletics Complex. This helps us restrict vehicle access from that direction while school is in session, including when our students are using that parking lot and field area for physical education or other activities.

## PARADIS BBQ BASH RESET FOR SATURDAY, NOV. 11; ACT NOW TO JOIN THE FUN

The annual Paradis BBQ – postponed on Sept. 23 due to torrential rain – has been rescheduled for 6:30 PM Saturday, Nov. 11.. Reserve your spot to enjoy live music, delicious BBQ, spirits and great company! The gathering, at Riverfarm in Goshen, is an event that's not only fun but also supports our wonderful Preschool and JK-8 programs. **Tickets are \$75 per couple. Reservations can be made by contacting Cindy Wood at 228-1197 x108 or cwood@StFrancisSchool.org.** Openings are limited, so act now. We hope to see you there.

**PARENT ASSOCIATION NEWS**

by **Deirdre Barnett**, SFPA president

**Fall Fundraiser Delivery Coming; Help Needed**

We are expecting delivery of the orders in early November. If you can help unload the truck and sort orders, please call Ann Hendren at 228-1903 to volunteer.

**Holiday Wish Fund**

The Parents' Association will again be sponsoring this program as a way for St. Francis families to thank our wonderful teachers and staff during the holiday season. Watch for information later in November.

**Teacher Appreciation Luncheon**

Many thanks to all the 8th Grade parents who generously donated all the delicious food for the year's first luncheon, held last Friday. Kim Mackin and Carolyn Wetterer did a great job of organizing everything! The next luncheon will be Friday, November 10, and will be hosted by 7th Grade parents.

**Box Tops and Labels**

We've had a great response to our two collections: the General Mills Box Tops for Education program and Campbell's Labels for Education program. Thank you to everyone who has brought in tops and labels. Keep them coming! Look for collection box in the Main Amp. For more information on how to participate, please call parent Reed Inwegen at 896-8453. Or visit these Web sites:

<http://www.boxtops4education.com>    <http://www.labelsforeducation.com>

**Used Book Sale**

Because our Used Book Sale was such a success at this year's Eagle Festival, we have decided to make it an annual event. Start saving those nearly new and gently used books for next year's sale; the Eagle Festival is just 10 months away!



**DONATIONS OR DISCOUNTS SOUGHT FOR MATERIALS NEEDED FOR OUR NEW "CHILDREN'S GARDEN"**

A group of parent volunteers is now busily planning our Children's Garden — an exciting resource that will provide valuable hands-on lessons for our students *and* produce fruits and vegetables for our school community.

Now the planners need to know if some necessary items can be donated or discounted for us before we start buying.

The plan calls for building raised planter boxes from a variety of possible materials. Please step forward if you could help provide any of these:

- \* recycled plastic planter boxes (for the ground)
- \* large square stones (need to be set)
- \* bricks (need to be laid)
- \* untreated lumber
- \* fencing
- \* topsoil

If you have access -- or know anyone with access -- to any of those materials or the expertise to install them, please contact parent Dace Maki at 243-8989 or [dacemaki@mac.com](mailto:dacemaki@mac.com).

**OUR ANNUAL FUND NEEDS YOU!  
PLEASE RETURN YOUR PLEDGE CARD**

We hope you received your Annual Fund letter in the mail and been able to review the information. We will be tracking the progress of our Annual Fund each week in the newsletter as we strive to reach our giving and participation goals.

Besides our goal of raising \$160,000 this year, we have targeted family participation as a focus for improvement. Last year, fewer than half of our parent body participated in the Annual Fund. Please keep in mind that in supporting our Annual Fund you support more than just the school's financial operation; you endorse an institution and mission that is unlike any other in Louisville.

As you consider your gift this year, please check with your employers to see if they offer corporate matches; many corporations offer a 2:1 or better match on dollar donations. Your Human Resource department will be able to explain any matching plan and provide the appropriate paperwork.

All donations received by December 31, 2006, are eligible for current year tax benefits.

**2006-07 ANNUAL FUND APPEAL**

Dollars Raised to date		JK-8 Family Participation to date	
Goal	Actual	# families	# contributing
\$160,000		165	
\$150,000		160	
\$140,000		150	
\$130,000		140	
\$120,000		130	
\$110,000		120	
\$100,000		110	
\$90,000		100	
\$80,000		90	
\$70,000		80	
\$60,000		70	
\$50,000		60	
\$40,000		50	
\$30,000		20	
\$15,000		10	
\$10,000	\$13,483	5	4
\$0		0	



## NOVEMBER 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 at 228-1197 x112 before your scheduled date.

Monday, October 30 - Jeannette Gettelfinger, Bob Barnett  
Tuesday, October 31 - Nancye Faulkner, Holly Winebrenner, Rene Prys  
Wednesday, November 1 - Amy Dishman, Abby Yelton, Beverly Lancaster  
Thursday, November 2 - Michelle Heit, Cynthia McAfee, Ann Hendren  
Friday, November 3 - Laurie Kinney, Debbie Morgan, Terri Erwin

Monday, November 6 - NO SCHOOL; Professional Development  
Tuesday, November 7 - Lana Tyulmenkova, Suzy Bagga, Michele Monda  
Wednesday, November 8 - Carolyn Wetterer, Vlasta Ross, Gretta Manni  
Thursday, November 9 - Nancy Scott, Patti Adkins, Ann Hendren  
Friday, November 10 - Karen Siladi, Risa Koby, Christine Speck

Monday, November 13 - Lisa Wiley, Christina Ullum, Rene Prys  
Tuesday, November 14 - Robin LeMastus, Suzy Bagga, Dianne Siciliano  
Wednesday, November 15 - Sherry Stevens, Kim Mackin, Risa Koby  
Thursday, November 16 - Michelle Heit, Cynthia McAfee, Ann Hendren  
Friday, November 17 - Laurie Kinney, Catherine Chandler, Tracy Lattis

Monday, November 20 - Patti Adkins, Mary Ann Pollard, Amanda Fields  
Tuesday, November 21 - Kathy Baucom, Steve Paradis, Dace Maki  
Wednesday, November 22 - Noon dismissal for Thanksgiving Break  
Thursday, November 23 - NO SCHOOL; Thanksgiving Break  
Friday, November 24 - NO SCHOOL; Thanksgiving Break

Monday, November 27 - Jeannette Gettelfinger, Weasy Middleton  
Tuesday, November 28 - Nancye Faulkner, Holly Winebrenner, Rene Prys  
Wednesday, November 29 - Amy Dishman, Abby Yelton, Beverly Lancaster  
Thursday, November 30 - Michelle Heit, Cynthia McAfee, Ann Hendren



## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9: "EARTH AND SKY NIGHT" FOR FAMILIES OF STUDENTS IN GRADES 4-8

The excitement begins at 5 PM with the "Earth" portion and continues with the "Sky" portion after dark. Be sure to plan your own dinner; food will **not** be provided. Bring a flashlight. Stay as long as you wish.

Here is the schedule:

\* 5 PM: student-led hikes through the Nature Preserve. Go through the Main Amp and out the Library door and meet at the Play Shelter.

\* 6 PM: Presentation by the Louisville Astronomical Society, in the Main Amp.

\* After the presentation: Telescope viewing of the night sky, behind school.

### MISSING FOSSIL

No, it's not Mr. Gabhart. It's a 3rd-grader's white quartz fossil, and it disappeared about three weeks ago from the Lower School area. If found, please return to the front office. Thank you.

### THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT SAYS THANK YOU TO:

\* Dr. Marianne Cowley for visiting the third grade to teach us about how our eyes work and sharing about her work as an ophthalmologist

\* Barbara Lega (of our Buildings & Grounds Dept.) and the Muennich family for sharing their reptilian pets with the first graders (other students enjoyed them as well!)

\* Gretta Manni for her continued work in cleaning up and maintaining the science garden.

All of the volunteers help make our science classes more interesting and educational.

**THANK YOU TO** the following students for donating their outgrown toys and trinkets to the Lower School "Math Store":

Braden Barnett  
Jackie LeMastus  
Shelly Lancaster  
Lillian Hobbs  
Cassie Stevens  
Alex Barker  
Chris barker  
Clayton Thebert

### DIRECTORY UPDATE

New address:  
Christin Rutley (4th grade)  
Douglas & Barbara Rutley  
11717 Paramount Way  
Prospect, KY 40059



**DO YOU RECEIVE OUR NEWSLETTERS & ALERTS VIA E-MAIL?**

We rely on e-news updates and alerts to provide much information to you. If you aren't receiving our e-mailings, contact us at [News@StFrancisSchool.org](mailto:News@StFrancisSchool.org)

### REPEAT REMINDERS

\* Our Parent Association's Landscape Committee needs volunteers to help weed the many gardens around the school. Meet and weed with the group, or work on your own. Contact parent Laurie Kinney at 228-5772 or [kinney1@bellsouth.net](mailto:kinney1@bellsouth.net).

\* Bring in your old cell phones and empty printer cartridges to recycle.