



FEBRUARY NEWS

Saint Elizabeth Regional School

February 2010

Dear Parents,

Does it seem possible that we are starting our sixth month of the school year? All is going by so quickly. Please tell me you feel the same and it's not that "as we get older the time flies by us." Whatever the reason I wish you a peace filled February.

On Saturday, January 30th, we will have our spaghetti dinner. We begin our celebration of Catholic Schools Week with this dinner – A special thank you to our past and present School Board members for sponsoring this event. Please try to attend and bring your family and friends. Tickets for the dinner can be purchased at school or at the door the night of the dinner.

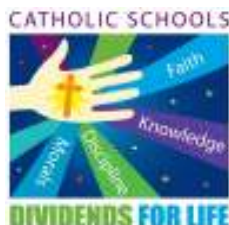
Bishop Barres has prepared a video addressing the schools of the Diocese as we begin our Catholic Schools Week celebration on January 31st to February 5th. The video will be available at www.youtube.com/dioceseofallentown after February 1st. I hope you received the activities sheet that was sent home last Wednesday to inform you of the activities being held during Catholic School Week. Please join us for one of our open house dates and any of the other events that you would like to see. Our Liturgy for CSW is on Thursday, if that day is convenient for you please join us in church.

Congratulations to the students who will receive their First Penance on Thursday, January 28th. All have studied hard in preparing for this Sacrament. A special thank you is extended to Msgr. Muntone, Father Stanley, and the other priests available to celebrate with us. Thank you is extended to Mrs. Spieker and Mrs. Fritchey for all the effort put forth to help make this a importance of regularly celebrating this sacrament.

Please keep in your prayers the Catholic schools in our area that have received word of merging or closing their schools. This is a hard thing for all the schools involved. If you know any of the families affected by this announcement please offer support to them. Let them know about our open houses during CSW encourage them to visit our school and if they would like to join our school community.

Parents please be aware that the weekly white envelope comes home to you every Wednesday. I need you to check the content of the envelope and return the papers that need to be returned. We are having a difficult time getting back communications from homes. I'm not certain if the children are not taking the envelope home or you are not returning items needed in the office.

Let us daily keep each other and the people of Haiti in our prayers.



God bless you!

Sister Bonita

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK



We will celebrate Catholic Schools Week from Sunday, January 31st through Friday, February 5th. This year's theme is "Catholic Schools – *Dividends for Life*". We kick off the week with our famous Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, January 30th and parents of our students will speak at Masses at St. Elizabeth of Hungary and St. Mary parishes, the weekend of January 30th and 31st. We will sponsor two Open House days – hopefully you can make it in for one of them. There will be a variety of activities going on during the week. Look at the schedule of events that was sent home last week for all the activities we have going on or you can find it on the school web page www.sercc.org/school.

On Monday, February 1st author Chrysa Smith will present three assemblies showcasing her books in *The Adventures of the Poodle Posse* series. She will have several books for sale – order forms are being sent home with students in grades 1 – 4.



Report Cards will be issued on Tuesday, February 2nd.

Wednesday, February 3rd is School Spirit Day – a "Dress Down Day". Students should wear nice clothing in "red, blue, and/or white. No clogs, sandals, flip-flops, etc. – all in the name of safety.

Open House is scheduled from 10:30am – 12 noon. There are events in every classroom. Please check with your child or the schedule of events that was sent home or on our website www.sercc.org/school.

Thursday, February 4th we will celebrate Liturgy at 9:00 am in St. Elizabeth Church. All are welcome to attend. In the afternoon, there is a gym show and the annual Student/Teacher Volleyball game. You are more than welcome to visit us then.

Thursday evening at 7 pm we will have Kindergarten registration in the school library. Children must be 5 by October 15, 2010. Letters were sent to all prospective students and their parents from both Saint Elizabeth and Saint Mary parishes. They were also given to students in both pre-schools.

FEBRUARY DAYS OFF

Just a reminder that there is **Noon Dismissal** on Friday, **February 5th** and **we are off** for Presidents Day, **February 15th**. Classes resume Tuesday, February 16th.

FIRST PENANCE

The following students will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time at 7 pm on Thursday, January 28th at Saint Elizabeth Church.

Sean Brosious	Erica Love
Abraham Chore	Vivi Nguyen
Hannah Daboura	Cameron Reifinger
Kadyn Faustner	Noah Renner
Alan Garger	Isabella Ronco
Morgan Guiher	Anthony Shak
Madison Holland	Sidney Smith
Noel Yacoub	

We ask you to keep all of these children in your prayers, as they prepare to receive their First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 1st.

EIGHTH GRADE PARENT MEETING

The 8th grade parent meeting will be held **Thursday, February 25th at 7 pm** in the classroom. Important upcoming dates will be discussed as well as other issues concerning graduation and the class trip. Please make sure at least one parent attends this informative meeting.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



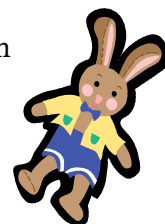
The students in 7th grade will lead us in praying the *Stations of the Cross* on all Fridays during lent beginning on February 19th, at 1:45 pm. You are more than welcome to join us in St. Elizabeth Church at this time. Look for other dates in March.

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Student Council will sponsor *Dress Down Days* on:

- ☺ Wednesday, February 3rd – School Spirit Day – wear school colors – Free
- ☺ Friday, February 26th – Earthquake relief in Haiti – cost is \$1 or any amount you would like to donate
- ☺ Wednesday, March 17th – wear green for St. Patrick's Day – 50 cents

Look for an Easter Raffle in March – from March 22nd until March 31st – a BIG stuffed animal and an I-tunes gift card will be raffled. Tickets are 25 cents each or 5 for a \$1.00



Catholic Schools - Dividends for Life

CONGRATULATIONS

Alyssa Aviles, Brett Mathews and Charisma Perry were winners in the "Keep Christ In Christmas" poster contest sponsored by Catholic War Veterans Post 454. Congratulations to all of you!

STUDENT EVENTS



On Saturday, February 27th, Hannah Pruzinsky and Natalie Schrantz will take part in PJAS (Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Scientists) at Easton High School. PJAS is a statewide organization of junior and senior high school students designed to stimulate and promote interest in science among its members through the development of research projects and investigations. Good Luck!

SCHOOL YEARBOOKS

Don't forget to order your copy of the 2009/2010 Saint Elizabeth Regional School yearbook! A reminder notice will be sent home in early February. The Yearbooks are \$21 each and money is due by February 19th. Don't miss out on a wonderful remembrance of your child's school year! Place your orders now so you are guaranteed a copy. There will not be any extra books to purchase in the spring. Please remember... all checks for yearbook orders **MUST** be made out to **Saint Elizabeth Regional School**, not to the yearbook company.



ADMINISTRATOR ASSESSMENT

The tradition of a quality Catholic education in the Diocese of Allentown is based upon the collaborative partnership between parents/ guardians and the school. As part of the routine Diocesan Administrative Assessment Process, a random sample of school families will be selected to complete a parent/guardian component of the Administrator Assessment.

The input from this assessment will be kept confidential and will only be reviewed by the Diocesan Office of Education. In order to ensure a more thorough assessment this process is taking place in a three year cycle. 2007 – 2008 Catholic Schools in Berks County; 2008-2009 Catholic Schools in Northampton and Carbon Counties; 2009-2010 Catholic Schools in Lehigh and Schuylkill Counties.

WELLNESS CORNER

Oral Health for Children

From the Colgate World of Care Webpage

How Do I Help My Children Care for Their Teeth and Prevent Cavities?

Teaching your child proper oral care at a young age is an investment in his or her health that will pay lifelong dividends. You can start by setting an example; taking good care of your own teeth sends a message that oral health is something to be valued. And anything that makes taking care of teeth fun, like brushing along with your child or letting them choose their own toothbrush, encourages proper oral care.

To help your children protect their teeth and gums and greatly reduce their risk of getting [cavities](#), teach them to follow these simple steps:

[Brush](#) twice a day with ADA accepted fluoride toothpaste to remove plaque-the sticky film on teeth that's the main cause of tooth decay.

[Floss](#) daily to remove plaque from between your teeth and under the gumline, before it can harden into tartar. Once tartar has formed, it can only be removed by a professional cleaning.

Eat a well-balanced diet that limits starchy or sugary foods, which produce plaque acids that cause tooth decay. When you do eat these foods, try to eat them with your meal instead of as a snack-the extra saliva produced during a meal helps rinse food from the mouth.

Use dental products that contain fluoride, including toothpaste.

Make sure that your children's drinking water is fluoridated. If your water supply; municipal, well or bottled does not contain fluoride, your dentist or pediatrician may prescribe daily fluoride supplements.

Take your child to the dentist for regular [checkups](#).

REMINDERS

- ✓ **Please call the school office or send us an email if your child is going to be absent from school or late because of an appointment.** When the child returns please send a note in to the child's teacher.
- ✓ **Anytime you change phone numbers (home, work, cell, etc.) we need to know!** Please give us a call, send a note, or send an email to school@sercc.org, to let us know of any changes as soon as possible. Thanks!

- ✓ Please continue to send in your cancelled stamps, empty ink cartridges, Campbell's Labels, Boxtops for Education, Redner's Save-a-Tapes and aluminum can tabs.
- ✓ Don't forget to use www.goodsearch.com when searching for things on the internet. Go to the site and select Saint Elizabeth Regional School as "who you'd like to search for". Each time you do a search the school gets 1 cent.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD

Does designer clothing at clearance prices pique your interest??? Come to our women's Designer Clothing Sale on Saturday, February 20th from 3 – 6 pm and on Sunday, February 21st from 8 am – 12 pm in the Parish Hall. Snow date is March 6th and 7th. The designer clothing is 70% off regular prices. Proceeds from the sale benefit Saint Elizabeth Regional School.

Mark your calendars for a *Night at the Races!* Anyone who attended last year can tell you that a fun time was had by all. The event will be held on Saturday, March 13th starting at 7 pm. There will be 10 horse races with 10 horses in each race. Tickets and horses will be sold after all weekend Masses beginning February 6th. Tickets are \$15 per person which includes food, beer, and snacks. Why not get all your friends together and enjoy a fun night out! All proceeds benefit our school.

We will participate in the Allentown St. Patrick's Day Parade which will be held on Sunday, March 21st. Why not come out for the wearin' of the green and show your school spirit? More information to come...

Once again, we will sponsor a Walk-a-Thon to benefit our school. The event will be held on Thursday, April 22nd. We will be seeking business as well as personal sponsors. More information to come...

HOME and SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Celebrate Catholic Schools Week with a night out at Friendly's! Join HASA and your family and friends for *Family Fun Night* at Friendly's on MacArthur Road (by the Lehigh Valley Mall) on **Tuesday, February 2nd from 5 – 8 pm**. During these hours, Friendly's will donate 10% of all sales (dine in and carry out) to SERS! No registration is required, simply come and enjoy!

HASA's Basket Social Fundraiser will be held on **Saturday, April 17th and Sunday, April 18th**. This will be our major fundraiser for the year – we are

looking for your help to make it a success! Information will be sent home in the next few weeks. Please consider how you can participate: baking, volunteering, sponsoring a basket or helping in the kitchen!

Family Bingo will be held on **Friday, May 14th** – mark your calendars!

SAINT ELIZABETH ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION NEWS

Upcoming Saint Elizabeth Athletic Association important dates:

January 28th – Last night for Softball/Baseball sign ups from 6 – 7 pm in the gym.

February 13th – Valentine's Day Social – Please support the SEAA and attend this fun event. Info went home from school last week and is also in the Church Bulletin.

July 2nd – Third Annual SEAA night at the Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs. More info to come.

SAINT MARY'S NEWS

Bingo will be held on Sunday, February 14th at 1 pm. Kitchen opens at noon and take-out is available.

PRE- SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Saint Elizabeth Parish Pre-School is now taking registrations for the 2010 – 2011 school year. Classes for 4 year olds are held Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from 9 – 11:30 am and 12:30 – 3 pm and Tuesday and Thursday from 9 – 11:30 am and 12:30 – 3 pm for 3 year olds. If you are interested in registering your 3 or 4 year old, or know of someone who may be interested, please call Mrs. Hock or Mrs. Gnall at 610-266-0450 between 8:30 am and 3:00 pm.

