

The St. Boniface Blaze

Events, Updates and News from St. Boniface School

Volume XIV, Issue IV April, 2017



Mardi Gras 2017



A great tradition continues! On Great Tuesday, our 8th Graders hosted a Mardi Gras celebration Carnivale for the entire school. There were beads, games with great prizes, dancing, face and hand painting and Mardi Gras sweets (including King cake). Each class had the opportunity to visit the “Carnivale” in the Gym. **Over \$900.00 was raised in support of St. Jude’s Research Hospital!**

Now that’s impressive. Way to go, Grade 8!

LENTEN SEASON

Ash Wednesday arrived and our Lenten observance began with a school and Parish Mass. Continuing a school tradition, each class made an “Alleluia” banner and the “Alleluias” were then “buried”...placed in a folder and not to be seen again until after Easter Sunday. Younger students received brightly colored plastic cross necklaces while our older students received a bracelet to wear as a reminder of their Lenten promises. Prayer Services were held during the following weeks. During Holy Week, Mrs. Childs and her 8th Grade class presented the “Stations of the Cross” outside on several days so that all students could attend and reflect on the Passion of the Lord. An opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation was made available to all Catholic students on Thursday, April 6th. Lenten observances were concluded with an all-school Prayer Service on Holy Thursday.



Welcome Spring!

Although we did not have much of a winter this year, it is always wonderful to see the signs of Spring. The days are longer and warmer, the grass is now green again and flowers and trees are blooming. We see the signs of new life all around us.

Spring also means it’s time to get back out in the garden. Once again, adults and children are welcomed and needed to help with preparing, planting, weeding and watering our Anniversary Garden throughout the growing season. The garden’s success depends on the help of volunteers and many hands make the work lighter! Please call the school office if you are able to help. Working in the garden comes with delicious “perks”...you get to take home some fresh produce to enjoy!



Easter Treats

- Due to the generosity of a perennial donor, students received Reese's Peanut Butter eggs as a special Easter treat – YUM!
- Additionally, students at St. Mary's School in Hyde Park sent Easter treats for all of our students on Monday, April 10th

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of these Easter gifts.



First Communion

Second Grade students Joseph Igaba and Patience Ntunzwenimana will make their First Holy Communions at St. Leo Church on April 30th. Please keep these young people and their families in your prayers as we welcome them to the table of the Lord.

Is your child registered for next year?

Open Enrollment began on February 1st. A number of our classrooms are at or near capacity. If you have not registered and plan to have your child attend St. Boniface next year, please turn in your registration information immediately. **We can not guarantee a spot for your child unless we receive your information.**

Also, if you know anyone who might be interested in having their child attend St. Boniface School, please invite them to visit our website or schedule a tour. We'd love to meet them!

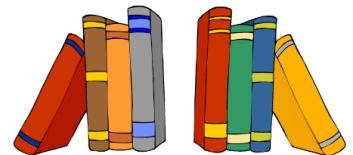
Spring Fine Arts Program



Who *doesn't* love Dalmatian puppies??? Our students in grades 5-8 were the stars (puppies) in this musical performance on Tuesday, March 28th. Members of the **Kids in Action Club** made the stage backdrops to set the scenes and everyone worked hard for many weeks on the acting and musical selections. The chorus was just outstanding, a testament to their practice and dedication. Congratulations to Mrs. Cooper, her assistants and all students involved for a job well done!

BOOK FAIR

was a huge success once again. Students, families and visitors were able to shop during the Friday Fish Fry on March 17th. Additionally, students could shop throughout the following week. Our Library was able to earn almost \$700.00 worth of new books to add to our school collection.



Thanks to all who supported the Book Fair!

Blazer Band

McAuley Band–O–Rama IV

St. Boniface Blazer Band All Stars included Arielle Barnes, Nia Buchannon, Aliyah Davis and Julian Tolbert. After a day of musical workshops and practices, our young musicians performed with the McAuley High School Band.



LaSalle High School Festival of Bands

LaSalle High School also hosted a day for grade school musicians to practice and perform with their high school counterparts. St Boniface participants included:

Julian Tolbert on flute
A.J. Louis on drum and timpani

Alisah Louis on clarinet
Joshua Louis on trombone

Spring Band Concert

Mark your calendars now...Wednesday May 17th at Roger Bacon High School. Our band members will perform with musicians from other schools. This will be the finale of this year's Band program.

*Congratulations to our Blazer Band members!
Many thanks to Band Director, Mrs. Schreck!*

Kindergarten Screening took place on Wednesday, March 22nd and Wednesday, March 29th. Additional Screenings will be scheduled as needed since we still a few open spots for next year's class. If you know of a family member or friend who has a child entering Kindergarten, please be sure to tell them about your St. Boniface experience!



Our Mother of Mercy Bobcat Buddies visited on February 27th. Since then, it was announced that Mother of Mercy High School will merge with McAuley High School in two years and the Mercy campus will be closed. This was difficult news for our Mercy Buddies and we wanted to make sure they knew that we were thinking of them. Students in grades K-4 made "Thinking of You" cards and offered some words of encouragement and support. Sister Ann and Sister Colleen, accompanied by Jacob Heis, Braden Harvey and Elizabeth Louis, personally delivered the notes to Mercy High School on Tuesday, April 4th. We look forward to our final visit of the year with our Buddies on May 12th.

Thanks, Bobcat Buddies! We think the world of you!

Blazer Sports

Girls' Volleyball

The girls' seasons ended with Championship matches on Sunday, April 9th. Despite some challenges, our girls learned new skills and had a great time.

Thanks to Coach Mrs. Karen Meyer and Mr. David Routt for their efforts and time this season!

Little Dribblers Basketball

Little Dribblers is a program for our young athletes in Kindergarten – Grade 2. Beginning on Tuesday, March 21st and running every week until the end of May, Little Dribblers is a great introduction to Basketball basics, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

TKD

After Spring Break, Master Park will begin additional Saturday sessions for nine students who are eligible and preparing for their Black Belt Test. We wish them luck as they work toward this major goal. Look for more information to follow.



Gwynedd Mercy University

Five students, along with two staff members, arrived this year during the week of March 6th to spend part of their Spring Break with us. These young volunteers, once again, accomplished a great deal. They cleaned, sorted and organized our school uniform supply, cleared items from the attic, cleaned the Library, put up new bulletin boards outside the Library and in the Staff Room, scrubbed tables and the Pre-K classroom chairs AND still managed to spend some time with our students during lunch and recesses - *WHEW!* - What a busy crew! We are blessed to have had them choose to return this year and we are most grateful for their energy, enthusiasm and willingness to help!

Gwynedd Mercy is a Catholic university near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It was founded by the Sisters of Mercy in 1948.



Thanks for your help!

The Lenten Fish Fry Fridays continue to be a source of revenue for our school. We appreciate all who helped by providing desserts or working one or more Friday evenings. The Fish Frys are always fun, as well as, the perfect opportunity to meet your neighbors, parishioners, and fellow school parents...all while enjoying a great meal!

C.I.S.E. BANQUET

The annual Archdiocesan event took place at the Xavier University Cintas Center on Thursday, March 30th. This year, we had 4 staff members who were recognized for some rather impressive career accomplishments. They are:

Sister Ann Gorman, RSM has served in Catholic Schools for **55 years**.

Sister Mary Ann Trotta, RSM has served for **45 years**.

Sister Patti Zureick, OSF was acknowledged for **25 years** of service.

Ms. Bernice Thompson has taught in the Archdiocese for **15 years**.

That's 140 years of dedicated service to educating children!!! We are blessed to have all of them in our School Community and congratulate them on their milestone celebrations!

St. Boniface Tidbits

- **Grades 6, 7 and 8** visited the **National Underground Railroad Freedom Center** on Friday, March 3rd.
- The **Dental Smiles Program** was at school in February and provided free dental exams to 60+ students.
- **Grade 5** attended a full day program at **Camp Joy** in Warren County on March 31st. Activities focused on team building, love of nature and learning!
- Students in grades Pre-K, K, 1, 3, 5, & 7, as well as any new students, received **hearing screenings**
- **Grades 4 and 5** participated in the **Nature Connections Classes** through the Hamilton County Park District which concluded with a trip to Avon Woods on April 6th. The day included a hike followed by a lesson on habitats for grade 4 while grade 5 learned about ecosystems.
- Students from McAuley High School visited the 5th grade on March 16th. They put on a Science "show" which included demonstrations and taught a lesson about solids, liquids and gasses.
- **Grades 2 and 3** visited the **Art Museum** on Tuesday, April 11th.

Third Quarter Honors Assembly

On Wednesday, March 29th, the entire school gathered in the auditorium for the Honor Awards Assembly. Attached you will find a complete list of the student honorees.

Congratulations and Keep Up the Good Work!



Enjoy your Spring Break!

See you back at school on Monday, April 24th!

From the desk of Sister Miriam...

Greetings!

We are definitely into the final stretch of the school year, and well into the testing period. We finished the IOWA tests of Basic Skills in mid-March, and will be completing state tests in language arts, math, science and social studies with grades 3-8 between now and mid-May. If the teachers and children look a little glazed-eyed when the word “test” comes up, there is good reason for that! Hopefully, all this testing will give us good information for better teaching and learning. We’ll be sharing as much of those results as we can, when we get results in.

This is also the season for more field trips and outings. Several classes explored the outdoors, including Avon Woods and Camp Joy in Clinton County.

We aren’t slowing down any as the school year rushes to its finale. The eighth graders will be busy about many things, including a FAMILIES (school groups, that is) retreat, May Crowning, and learning to “throw” ceramic pots later in May. The seventh graders will be wrapping up their Leadership Scholars sessions for the year. Kindergarten through fourth graders will pay a final visit to their Mercy Buddies at Mother of Mercy High School on May 12, while the Pre-K’ers share Muffins with Mom. Our Band students will also be participating in a joint band concert at Roger Bacon High School at 7PM on May 17.

This summer St. Boniface will be hosting a summer session for its own students here from 9AM to noon, Monday through Thursday, in June. Because we know the children, we anticipate that we can offer a program that better meets their needs and helps to keep up the reading and math skills they have been working on all year. We’ll see!

New registrations continue to come in almost daily. We already have a couple waiting lists, so if you know of families interested in enrolling, do encourage them to get their names in soon!

Blessings on your Easter Celebrations!

Sister Miriam

