



# “Living out the Mission”

## “What’s Great at Sacred Heart?”

As we get excited about Springtime, it seems like the perfect opportunity to share with everyone all the “great” things that are happening in the classrooms and halls of Sacred Heart School. We are blessed to be welcoming new families to our community and we continue to be called upon for information and tours of this place we call home 5 days of the week. For many of us 5 days is the minimum amount of time spent here.



Smiles to you from  
SHS Students

In the pages that follow, you will hear about everyday occurrences as well as special events. Sometimes students run home to their parents to share what happened in school that day. If you are like many of us, your child will come home and you will ask the question; What did you learn today.” The answer, “NOTHING!” As you well know, there is a great deal more to that answer.

We hope you enjoy hearing about the “happenings.”

Enthusiastically yours,

Lisa Powaser/Principal

## Welcome to Mrs. Loiselle’s Full-Day Kindergarten Class

We have lots of “great” happenings in our room right now. In science we are learning all about dinosaurs! The class loves sharing their dino knowledge as well as discovering new info about these creatures. Another great—addition! Everyone is experiencing success with addition—some by mastering the use of counters and others because they are learning how to add without their fingers! Still others have learned to write an addition number sentence. We are becoming real readers in Kindergarten—very exciting news! Between our sight words and chunks; we can read lots of words and hook those words together and read—sentences. Finally, there is BIG excitement as we are nearing the end of our Bible! A story a day has helped everyone learn more about God, His world and His love for us. Kindergarten is full of EXCITEMENT!

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### Special points of interest:

- What is the big excitement in Kindergarten?
- 2nd Grade students learn about Helen Keller.
- Who are all the furry friends that the 3rd Grade brought to school?
- Reading is Fun!!!!

## Mrs. Dillon has a Class of Bucket Fillers?

Something that I consider "great" in my classroom is the practice of bucket filling. Bucket filling is basically a new twist on the Golden Rule. We start the year by reading the book: *Have You Filled a Bucket Today?* We put the book into practice all year long. The book explains to children that we all carry an invisible bucket in which we keep our feelings about ourselves. When our buckets are full, we are happy; when they are empty, we are sad. It's important to know that we can fill our own bucket and so can others. We can also dip into it.



**Are you a bucket filler?**

The simple metaphor of a bucket helps even Kindergarten children understand the importance of consideration and love, particularly toward those who bully. We keep an actual bucket in the classroom that the students watch "fill up" (with all their good actions.) It definitely keeps the focus on all the positive things they do.

In addition to implementing these ideas in the classroom, I have also tried to make a home/school connection with each family by sharing the book with each of them. Each family participated by reading the book at home with their child and also completed an entry in our bucket filler journal.

## Miss Kelley's 1st Grade Olympians

The First Grade recently finished a three week Social Studies unit focused on the Winter Olympics. We used our Reading, Writing, Math, and map skills as we learned about the Olympic rings that represent the continents, discussed the "journey" of the Olympic torch and the lighting of the Olympic flame as a symbol of peace between the competing nations, learned the Olympic motto, identified a few of our favorite winter sports and athletes, and kept track of the medal count. Students took home their own completed "My Olympics Book-Winter 2010" just before the weekend of the closing ceremony. As we learned about the ceremonies and competitions, the students learned to appreciate and respect the incredible talent and dedication of each of the individual athletes. We will strive to keep the Olympic spirit alive and "go for the gold" in all we do!

**"We will strive to keep the Olympic spirit alive and "go for the gold" in all we do!"**

## Ms. Silvenis has a 2nd grade class that loves learning.



**2nd Grade Learns about Helen Keller**

The thing that excites me about my class is that they "catch the fever" of whatever new things we are learning about. We have an excellent reading series that crosses over into social studies and science quite frequently. Whenever we expand on the topic, the students run with it. We just finished a story on Helen Keller. They brought in every book they could find on Helen Keller and I read many of them to the class. I promised them that we would see *The Miracle Worker* someday. The students thirst for knowledge. We are now studying fossils and dinosaurs, which is a popular topic with second graders, but they seem to go beyond that. Children naturally want to please their teachers, but they continue to amaze me with their degree of interest. I feel like I can't keep up with them and want them to learn more and more.

## The 3rd Grade Wants to Know, “Do you have a favorite furry Friend?”

3rd grade students were asked to bring in their favorite stuffed animal. The assignment that correlates with this is to write a paragraph using as many adjectives as they could to describe their furry friend. The descriptive paragraphs were checked and the students read their report to the class while another student held up the stuffed animal. Did you know that Mrs. Bierut has a favorite stuffed animal too?

The 3rd grade is also enjoying fun math games. Students paired up with a partner to play a multiplication game which involved rolling dice and figuring out the product of the numbers on the dice. They had to record their answers on a worksheet which had rows of numbers. The student who filled in all of the squares first, won the game.



Have you ever written an autobiography? The 3rd grades have just finished theirs. Mrs. Bierut began the lesson by reading them her autobiography which contained her baby pictures. The students wrote their own after finding out where they were born and how much they weighed. They had to draw themselves as a baby and how they look now. They designed a cover and the pages were bound into a booklet for them. They then read them to the class.

Do you know where you were born?

## Learn to Love Reading with Mrs. Soltis and 4th Grade

The 4th grade has something to brag about. 29 students have read a total of 1,144 books since September and a total of more than 108,295 pages. They have increased their reading ability and enjoyment. One student commented to his mother, “I’m addicted to reading.” Some who did not enjoy reading prior to this year have found a favorite author. One such student has read every Louis Sachar book he could find in the classroom and at the public library. He enjoys reading now; at the beginning of the year, he could not find anything he wanted to read.

“I’m addicted to reading.”

The students will celebrate their reading achievements with Camp Read later in the spring.

## Miss Vigilante Keeps 5th Grade Students Very Busy!

The 5th grade just wrapped up a section on economics. They put together their own businesses and shared them with the class. They are currently creating a timeline on one of their family members which includes illustrations and photos. They are also working on a research report on a famous person that has overcome a disability and went on to be very successful. The idea is based off of Sequoyah, a famous Cherokee Indian who invented their first alphabet. Finally, they are working in groups on a skit that they have produced. The skit is about immigrants coming to the United States during the late 1800s and early 1900s. And that is just in Social Studies!



5th graders prove they know their Math.

In the area of Math, the class earned the highest Math scores in the archdiocese for 5th grade. Fantastic! The students are currently doing great with their math facts. They have multiplication teams that compete once a week.

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**Go Shamrocks!**

Sacred Heart Catholic School  
Shares in the Teaching Ministry of  
Jesus by Promoting Academic Ex-  
cellence within a Community of  
Faith and Service.

## **What is an Enrichment Class?**

### Q-What is an Enrichment Class?

A- An Enrichment Class is a special class for students which allows them to explore their gifts and talents in areas other than academics. This is one way in which we address educating the "whole" child.

### Q-What Enrichment Classes are available?

A- Our students in K-8 attend Music, Art, Physical Education and Computer. 1-8 students also attend Spanish Class. K-5 have the opportunity for Library.

### Enrichment Class Happenings-

ART- Grades 3-5 are completing the "Green Schools Initiative" with very creative posters! They will be displayed during April to celebrate Earth Day.

The middle school students are working on paper mache, block painting and perspective drawings.

GYM- Ms. Pakron's 7th grade class has never played badminton and they are enjoying learning the skills involved in the game. There are 3 person teams and everyone plays against everyone.

SPANISH-Battleship in Spanish??? Students play the traditional Battleship game with pronouns and verbs .



**We educate the "whole" child.**