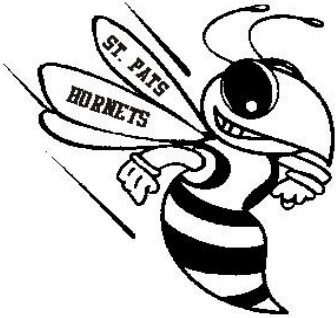


September Issue

2011



ST. PATRICK'S SCHOOL: HOME OF THE HORNETS

What's the Buzz?



The computer lab not only has new computers, but also new student desks — with those bright orange chairs!

New Computer Lab

By: Lexie A.

At the beginning of the new school year, you may have noticed a change in the computer lab new computers and new teacher, Mr. Hoffman. Although we now have Mr. Hoffman we still have Mr. Hoch. These new computers were not donated but bought by the school. Mrs. Bosnak probably thought it was a good idea to get new computers because kids can be more open with the newer models and all the new updates. The new updates did cost more considering that there are so many new ones that have come out like Microsoft word 2007 and other titles that are out there so getting a new computer lab is very costly so next time you see Mrs. Bosnak in the hall tell her thank you for caring about us and updating the computer lab and giving Mr. Hoch more utilities to work with and teach us the meaning of the real world of technology and electronics.

From now on you should be able to be more familiar with the updates and computers thanks to all the staff in giving us a new improved computer lab. From now on everyone will be more appreciative of computer class. Also the staff has many new teaching tools themselves also complements of Mrs. Bosnak so also thank Mrs. Bosnak for that gift to the teachers witch is also a gift to us technically. Just more to thank her about .

Also you might notice Mr. Hoch's front of the room is improved as well he has a big projector in the front of the room also a little pen object to click on the items instead of doing it manually on the computer.

Hola Senora Darida

By: Nora M. and Megan R

This year, St Patrick School has a familiar face joining the staff. Senora Darida is the new Spanish teacher for grades 4-8. The reason she may look familiar is because she taught the after school program for Discovery Language at St. Pat's last year. She decided to teach Spanish when she came across this wonderful program. Senora Darida has taught at other public and private schools throughout Lake County. When asked why she came to St. Patrick, she replied, "The staff and all the students are so kind, and I really think St. Patrick is an excellent school." She enjoys teaching and she is a very understanding and reasonable teacher. She is really happy at St. Pat's because she says the students and staff have been so helpful!

Senora Darida grew up in Grayslake Illinois. She went to school there as well. She and her husband Jeff just celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. They met each other in high school. They have a 17 year old son named Austin. She also has an English bulldog named Lil' Gracie. She says they are her treasures, and she thanks God for them every day. In her free time, Senora Darida enjoys reading, playing board games with her family, bowling, going to the movies, and cooking with her son.

While Senora Darida has never traveled to a Spanish speaking country, she would love to go to Spain. "My best friend is from Spain," she told us. "Her stories and pictures of Spain make me want to go and enjoy the food and beauty of Spain." We at St Patrick's are so glad to have her here with us. We hope she is here for many years to come!



Above is 6Y's Spanish class with Senora Darida.

Lunch Program Article

By: Megan G.

If you haven't noticed already, there has been an extravagant change in our lunch program. Instead of having to buy a week at a time, you can pick the days you like and bring a cold lunch on all the other days. Now, instead of the harvest delights menu, we have the Fresh expectations menu along with the normal menu and salads.

Our lunches are provided by the FSC, or the Food Service Professionals. They are a nonprofit organization that operates for the service of the community. They serve over 30 Catholic high schools and 300 elementary schools. The Food Service Professionals were started in 1970. They were built on dedication to people, quality, and service. They wanted to make sure that every child at Chicago area Catholic schools gets a breakfast or hot lunch for an affordable price. In 1976, they expanded their industry to secondary schools and elementary schools. Now, they have a staff of over 900 people and their own warehouse. They deliver the food every morning in one of their 40 refrigerated trucks. The Food Service Professionals try to feature fresh fruits in every lunch. They have designed one of the best food programs for children. They use dietitians, customer surveys, and taste tests to make sure their food is top notch. They have proved that hard work does pay off because they are serving about 75,000 meals a day. They serve an entrée and vegetables in the hot pack, a dessert, fruit, and a napkin and utensils in the cold pack, and a half pint of milk.

I think that the Food Service Professionals have changed for the better. After all, they are kid-tested and kid approved.



Above, students learn the strategies of chess.

Teacher of the Month

By: Gina L.

Mrs. Oldis is a junior high religion teacher, but how much do you know about her? Here you can find out what the majority of people do not know about her.

Mrs. Oldis has been teaching religion for about thirty years now. You may be thinking, "Wow! Why does she like it so much?" The answer to that question is, she thinks that religion is not just something you do and follow, but something that is a part of history. I also asked her a similar question, "Why do you find religion so important to teach?" She said that she wants to teach children that it is important to learn about your background. I personally think that those are some pretty good reasons to teach.

There are also some fun facts about our beloved teacher. Her favorite colors are blue and yellow, she is very keen on pizza, and she absolutely adores dogs. She has won some awards too. The first award that she won was in 1999 called the *Heart of the School Award*, St. Patrick's School presented her with this award. The second award that she won was the *Teacher Service Award in 2010*, which was given to her by the *Archdiocese of Chicago*. Both of these awards show what an astounding teacher Mrs. Oldis really is.

Hopefully, what you read gave you a better understanding of what an incredible teacher Mrs. Oldis is. Some students have discovered that she is not just a superb teacher, but also a good and fascinating person.



The picture on the left shows Mrs. Oldis teaching the 8th graders about the gifts of the Holy Spirit before they get confirmed on Saturday the 29th of October.

Chess Club 2011

By: Isa A.

Last year, a few 8th graders gave Mr. Yelk the idea of creating a Chess Club for the Jr. High. The first meeting was successful and fun; everyone who attended enjoyed it. We learned how to play chess with a few new tactics and strategies while we listened to some music. This year, Mr. Yelk has decided to resume Chess Club, and there are now more members than last year. Everyone in the Jr. High is allowed to join, even if he or she doesn't know how to play chess. Most of the new members are 6th graders and a few 7th graders. There are a few, as Mr. Yelk calls them, "veteran players" that will help all the new members learn and play chess correctly. Mr. Yelk is letting anybody join at any time. You just have to ask him. Since last year, everybody has become more enthusiastic about chess club and more people have joined. We have all come to play and enjoy chess.

Jog-a-Thon Team Spirit!

By Izzy C.



On September 30th of this year, St. Patrick's school held the annual Jog-a-Thon. The Jog-a-Thon is the day when we, students and staff, get to enjoy and raise money for our school. The students look forward to playing

fun games, dancing to music, jogging, and spending time with their friends.

In the school there are teams for every class. Within many teams was good team spirit, but only two teams out of the whole school had the best team spirit. The two teams were Miss Murnik's class



and Miss Smith's *Sassy Smith's*. The two teams put a lot of time and effort to help with their banner and represent their team.

The school's total for fundraising was over \$30,000. The teams that had raised the most money were Mrs. Gilmore's 6th grade class and Mrs. Christian's 5th grade class. Their reward is lunch with former Bears player, Jay Hilgenburg. The school also had excellent participation with the fundraising, so the whole school was given a t-shirt day and homework passes. The whole school had made great efforts to represent the school, but the fun doesn't stop there. There were five people who won a signed football by Jay Hilgenburg also.

This year's Jog-a-Thon was a huge success and was very fun for everyone. We all danced had the time of our lives and enjoyed every moment of it. It's true that the students and staff members made many new memories and are most definitely looking forward to next year's Jog-a-Thon.



Jog-a-Thon

By: Jacob L.

Now in its 24th year, St. Pat's annual Jog-a-thon was held on Friday, September 30, 2011. The day was partly cloudy with cool temperatures, but the students' excitement warmed the air. There were many activities for students of every age. Mrs. Bosnak was asked to reflect on why we do Jog-a-thon. She explained, "We do Jog-a-thon to teach students how to raise money for the school and have fun." Miss Smith seconded this opinion in stating, "It's a positive fundraiser and it's fun for the kids."

One of the most popular activities was face painting done by Mrs. Grabowski and Mrs. Morse. Many parent volunteers and teachers helped to organize games and prepare a delicious meal for lunch. My favorite comment came from a kindergartner, Alex S. who told me, "It was a time to play with your friends with no uniforms and no homework."



This year's Jog-a-thon was a smashing success. The school's fundraising exceeded expectations through one hundred percent participation from the students. Many of the students showed their school spirit and team colors in their costumes and banners. Most importantly fun was had by all because of the efforts of our teachers and parent volunteers. Thank you to all those who without them, the Jog-a-thon would not be possible. See you again, next year!



A Goose On Vacation?

By: Catherine P.

I am sure you have looked up at the sky at some point during the Fall, and spotted a flock of geese flying over in a “V” formation. This is usually a good indicator of the cold weather approaching. But what is the real story about this yearly migration?

The most obvious question is why do they migrate in the first place? The main answer is food. All the berries and grasses that they usually feast on during the warm months, die away in the chilly weather. The ponds freeze over, encasing all the water insects and the usually rich variety of water vegetation.

So now that we know the reason behind their migration, what is their trip actually like? Just like us packing before a trip, the geese have to prepare as well. They take many test flights as a flock, and eat as much food as they can hold to build up their body fat. In total, one goose may fly as much as 3,000 miles in one migration season! Their strong, muscular wings allow them to travel up to 40 to 60 miles per

hour. But why the famous “V” shape? This formation allows all of the members of the flock to see the up coming obstacles or bad weather. Also it makes flying more efficient because the lead goose breaks through the wind resistance allowing the other geese to glide easily in the draft.

Many scientists have mixed opinions on how the geese find their way back. Almost always, the geese will return to the exact location where they were living before they migrated. Some say the geese follow the stars back home. Others declare that their keen natural sense of direction navigates them back. We may never know the truth of this miraculous achievement.

So next time you hear or see a flock of our fine feathered friends outside your window, remember that even though they are heading South, their trip is far from a vacation!



Fall Haiku

By: Catherine P.

**Leaves shiver below
Wind whistles its chilly song
Breath fogs up the night**



"Nothing Spreads Like Fear"

By: Jenna W.

Many have been talking, including myself, about the new drama out in theaters, *Contagion*. This film featuring Matt Damon and Laurence Fishburne reminds viewers of the whole "2012 theory", specifying the end of the world.

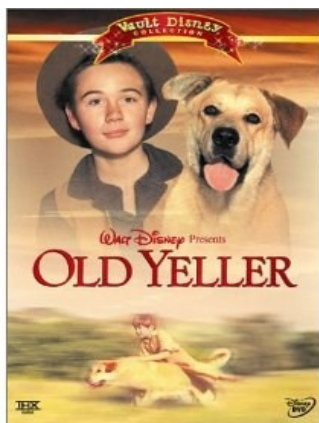
It does this through the film by using the plot of an extremely contagious disease spreading all around the world. It takes people back to the H1N1 in 2009; many people from all over were afraid they would catch it. But with this disease, or contagion, it is likely people would get it just by touching someone with it, and he or she will die of it. The fear of it spreads more than the contagious, dangerous disease!

This movie keeps viewers entertained with the drama and chills. I would recommend going to see it if you like crime scene investigation or mild horror movies. It is definitely worth others talking about it, and it is worth staying to listen to their input.

OLD YELLER

By: Haley L.

Based on the novel by Fred Gipson, *Old Yeller* was set in Texas in 1869. While his father went away on a cattle drive, 15-year-old Travis Coates took care of the management on the family cattle ranch. With a strict business rule, Travis was extremely irritated when his lying, younger brother, Arliss, took in a ugly, thieving, tame, stray dog. But soon after the dog moved in, Travis was as happy with the dog as everyone else in the family. The family ended up naming him Old Yeller, who was an excellent guard dog and friend. But Old Yeller fought off a wild wolf with rabies, saving the family, but got infected with the disease. Even though Yeller seemed uninfected at first, he started behaving so viciously that Travis had no choice but shooting their dog, even after Old Yeller saved the family. A long talk between Travis and his father, an adoption of one of Old Yeller's stealing puppies, and Travis' gift horse from his father created a very happy ending; making *Old Yeller* a great book for anyone to read, thanks to an outstanding author, Fred Gipson.



Junior High Girls Volleyball

By: Kate O.

The Junior High girls volleyball teams are doing great!!!! Great start to the season! The girls started this year in later August, just before school. They had practice for weeks, and are doing their best. It's a dramatic improvement from last year!

6th grade girls are doing great this season and have improved from last year. Everyone has gotten their serves over the net. "We strive for better, while having fun" says 6G's Chloe S. A massive 24 girls signed up this year. They split up this year into two teams, the green and white team.

7th grade girls are doing great also. "Wins and loses we still have fun and strive to win and have fun," says 7th grades Meleny C. 7th grade girls are feisty and doing fantastic. They came in high places in a tournament and are having so much fun.

8th Graders are doing fabulous and are great sports! Marnie an 8th grader on the team says, "Volleyball is going amazing we have so much fun and we are learning. We strive to first of all have as much fun as we possibly can and second of all we want improve and learn, and we are." This season is such a learning experience and I am thankful to have my two coaches Mrs. Fabry and coach Rapp! 8th grader Catherine says, " We have improved on sportsmanship and having fun!"