

**St. Patrick
School**

Happy Spring!



Our LAST meeting for the year is on **Tuesday, May 19th** from 2:30 to 3:30 P.M. in Ms. Smith's room. We thank our all of our reporters and editors for a wonderful year, and we look forward to bringing you the latest St. Pat's news next year! A *special* thanks and good-bye to our two eighth graders, Brynn and Jane...we'll miss you!

What's The Buzz?

April 2009

Issue

Hop, Hop, Hooray for Easter!

By: Brynn and Jane

One day, a small rabbit was feeling extremely generous, so he decided to leave his best friend a piece of chocolate to surprise him. After he left the candy in a small basket on the friend's porch, he felt very happy.

The next day when he woke up, he looked in his floor-length mirror and realized he had nearly doubled in size! The rabbit tried to figure out what might have caused this strange growth spurt, but the only solution he could think of was that maybe when he left the chocolate some kind of strange magic made him grow. This idea seemed so far-fetched that he decided the only way to figure out if leaving the candy was the cause was to try giving out more candy and see if he got any bigger.

That night, he put baskets overflowing with candy in all his neighbors' houses. Again, he felt happier than he ever had.

When he looked in the mirror the next morning, he noticed he had grown *another* foot taller. He wanted to grow as tall as a mountain, so he decided he would give candy to all the children in the world. However, if he gave candy to every child on earth the trip would take him so long he could only do it once a year. This day is now known as Easter, and now the small rabbit is the biggest rabbit of them all!



What Does Easter Mean to You?

By: Brynn and Jane

Christians are very compassionate about the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The morning after Jesus had been placed in the tomb, Mary Magdalene went to visit the tomb. It was very early in the morning and it was still dark outside. She saw that the stone had been removed from the front of the tomb and that the tomb was empty.

She ran to Peter to tell him what she had seen. Then, Peter and another Apostle, John, ran to the tomb to see for themselves. They noticed that Jesus was gone and the only thing left behind was the cloth that was used to wrap his body for the burial. The Apostles were confused; they did not understand what was happening.

The Apostles returned to their homes, but Mary Magdalene remained by the tomb, crying. Then she turned and saw a man who asked her why she was crying. Mary Magdalene soon realized that the man who was talking to her was Jesus Christ. Jesus had risen from the dead. Mary Magdalene was the first person to see the resurrected Jesus.

Yes, to many of us, the Easter season is about candy and the Easter Bunny, but as Christians it is important to remember about Jesus' resurrection...that He died for us and was risen so that we may find *our* way into heaven. Our challenge is to remember what He went through and to be more like Him every day.

St. Patrick's First Career Day is a Hit!

By: Jacob and Kenny

The first Career Day at St. Patrick School started off with a bang. We had visitors across the board, including employees from companies like Abbot Inc. We also had a CLC professor, and even an employee from Six Flags! There was also a police officer who has been working in Waukegan's P.D. for about 23 years. A retired manufacturing engineer showed us a very fascinating video called "How it's Made," and spoke to us about the growing need for engineers in today's society. A judge was another interesting speaker; he gave us surprisingly unknown facts, like he's never used his mallet before. Students also shuffled into Dyer Hall to meet a chemist from Abbot who spoke about the need for people to develop medicines to save lives. Then there was a project manager who reminded us that we have to be very organized people and able to communicate very well in order to be a successful project manager. In the gym students found our old gym teacher, now a certified personal trainer for five years, who showed us some advantages and disadvantages to being a personal trainer and even taught us some new exercises! Other careers included parole officers and a police-dog trainer. We learned so much from these presentations! It was a fun way to teach us about how what we do in school today may affect our future. We would like to thank all the employees who visited us and told us about their jobs. We look forward to doing it again next year, and we can't wait to see what other interesting careers there are out there!



Waukegan officers visit St. Patrick School to demonstrate to students how police dogs are trained.



Mission Possible Teaches a Valuable Lesson

By: Maggie and Taylor

On April 7th the junior high students were split into groups and were assigned different regions of the world to research. They had to find information on the countries and transform their classroom into those countries. Then on Wednesday April 8th they presented their classrooms to the school. In their exhibits were traditional games, native clothing, models of food, hands-on activities, and native music. The students in junior high had to fill out charts describing what they saw and heard. Everyone had a wonderful time. This project was a neat way to learn about other traditions around the world; it was educational and fun!



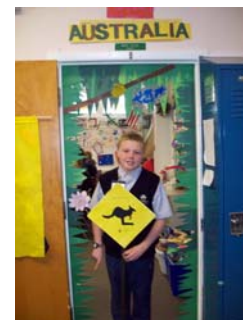
Students transform the rooms: Upper-left is Asian cuisine and flora/fauna, Middle-left is an African hut, Lower-left is a Central American jungle; Just left is a display about Vietnam, Right is a relief map of South America. Students worked for nearly five hours making their classrooms look like a region of the world.



Below, students from other grades visit the classrooms. Bottom-right, a seventh grader welcomes visitors to Australia.



Above and left, students learn about Europe and South America during a presentation / scavenger hunt on Day Two.



St. Pat's Does Service

By: Jane and Brynn

Last Thursday the junior high students created cards for the residents of the Winchester House. The students made up verses for the inside of the cards with many different art supplies. Once they were done they had 960 happy birthdays, thinking of you, Christmas, Easter, and even Thanksgiving cards. We all hope the people that live in the Winchester House like and use the cards that we all made.



Gotcha!

By: Kelly

April Fools Day was started around 1852 in France. Charles IX had just announced that New Years Day was moved from April 1st to January 1st. The news didn't travel very fast, so some people still celebrated on April 1st. Those people were usually known as the village "fools," and people would pull pranks on them. Eventually, this became a tradition. So, watch out or you could be the next victim!

Lights, Camera, Action!

By: Thea and Kelly

A few weeks ago in Language Arts class, eighth grade students had to choose, rehearse, and perform a play of their choice. Ms. Smith evaluated them for their fluency, and how well they got into their character. Here are some thoughts from 8th graders who participated in the Reader's Theater:

- "These were fun plays to do; all of them were interesting to learn about because they were about different things."-Bridget
- "In my play, Ichabod didn't believe in ghost stories about the headless horsemen, but he ended up in trouble and almost dead."-Brice
- "In my play, this Romeo dude fell in love with a Juliet chick, but their families hated each other. Romeo got banned from the city, so Juliet pretended to be dead and planed for Romeo to sneak in and find her. Romeo didn't get the message, so he thought she was really dead and killed himself in sadness. Then Juliet woke up and said, "OMG, my true love is dead!" Then she killed herself, and they all died happily every after! The play was fun! Even though I died, dressing up was cool!"- Lizzy



Above, the nurse talks to Juliet and Lady Montague. Above-right, Theresa narrates. Below, students from 8J perform Romeo and Juliet's fatal ending.



Above, Alice is entertained by her "Wonderland" friends.



Left, Tim plays the part of young Cassius Clay.

Right, Muhammad Ali competes in a boxing match.



Dear Collin,

Okay, well you see, I'm on two different football teams and have been with one of the teams longer than the other, so I have really good friends on that team. But I think staying with my newer team is better for improving my skills. If I leave my old team, the guys will be really mad and might not talk to me anymore. I don't know what to do! Which football team should I choose?

Sincerely,

Football-man

Dear Football-man,

This sounds like quite a predicament! I think that you should do whatever your heart tells you to do. It comes down to two questions: *Do I want to have fun with my friends?* or *Do I want to become really good at football?* Do what you think is right, and don't let other people tell you what to do. Good luck, and remember you always have a friend in Collin.

Sincerely,

Collin

Dear Christi,

I don't know what to do. One of my best friends is going out with this guy, and she is changing in almost every way! I don't like what she's turning into because now she's even somewhat rude to me. She was an awesome friend but now she's not the same, and I don't know if I can trust her anymore. Please help me!
Sincerely,
Dudet-in-distress

Dear Dudet-in-distress,

I know this might be hard for you, but you should really tell your friend how you feel. Maybe she doesn't even realize she's doing anything wrong. If she does do something about the way she's acting then you know she is true friend, but there might be a chance that she will get mad and ignore you. That will show what kind of friend she is and what you mean to her. Just remember that you did nothing wrong. Stay strong.

Sincerely,

Christi

CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS

CSI Meets 8th Grade

By: Maggie

Over the past several weeks, the eighth grade class has been learning about the science of forensics. Each student was assigned to do a project on either fingerprinting, a photo log of a crime scene, a report, or a forensic timeline.



On Thursday, March 12th, the eighth graders took notes on the crime scene that Mrs. Gilmore had organized in her classroom on the previous night. In their science class, Officer Richards had come in to talk to them about crime scenes. He told them that he would have used the mud prints and would have tried to match them to known suspects.

Overall, eighth graders said that they had a lot of fun learning about the science of forensics and enjoyed going beyond the information in the book.

CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS

