

**St. Patrick
School**

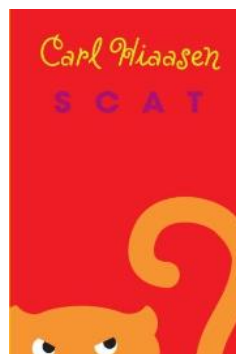
What's The Buzz?

February 2010

Issue

Scat
By: Ryan

Scat is a one-of-a-kind book written by Carl Hiaasen. Hiaasen has written many other novels for young adults, such as *Hoot* and *Flush*. In the book *Scat*, a young boy named Nick Waters has a pretty typical life until his class takes a field trip to the Black Vine Swamp in Florida. Why would a field trip to a swamp change Nick's life? A fire breaks out during the trip and his biology teacher, Mrs. Starch mysteriously disappears. Mrs. Starch is an extremely strict teacher, so most of the students are relieved that she is gone. Mrs. Starch supposedly left on a family emergency, but Nick and his friend, Marta, don't buy it. Nick and Marta go to Mrs. Starch's house to investigate. While there, they see some very strange things and meet a very interesting man named Twilly Spree. Not realizing what they're getting themselves into, Nick and Marta refuse to give up the search for their teacher. They end up getting involved in the adventure of a lifetime. This adventure involves a battle between an endangered Florida Panther and an oil company called Red Diamond Energy Corporation. Along the way they have to get along with a misunderstood boy, a wacky substitute teacher, and a very clever detective. This book will take you on an extreme journey in your head. Once you start reading you won't be able to stop! Enjoy!!



Student Council- Behind the Scenes

Abbey K.

They have been busy like a bee, practicing, probably too much, and doing tours around the school. Guess who? Student Council, that's who! I got to talk to one Student Council member named Thea.

Thea is one of the leaders for Student Council. She said one of the hardest thing to do for this week was running back and forward to Mrs. B's office. She also said that she and Haley N., Tyler T., and Jack N. wrote the script for the Pep Rally. What she liked the most was doing it for people. She was also really proud of the script. What sounded most fun was that she met more of her fellow Student Council members in the process of creating this week.

I hope that you liked the whole week of fun school spirit during Catholic School's week; I know all the hard work they put into it. Thank you Thea for talking to me! Hope you liked reading!



Left to right this is Jack N., Tyler T., Thea P., and Haley N. This Thea with her student council friends (all in her grade) and some of their goofy friends.

**Our next meeting is
Tuesday, March 9
from 2:30 to 3:30
P.M.**

**in Ms. Smith's room.
Sorry Ryan T. We
forgot to put your
name by your
article.**

**Signed,
Editorial Staff**

Are You Nervous?

By: Kara and Angela

In the school yearbook eight grade biography every year, you might see some people who's activities included ACT or SAT. You might be wondering what that is. Well, do you know how sixth and seventh graders take the Terra Nova's in March? Well, the "then" sixth and seventh graders (now seventh and eighth graders) scored in the 90-100% range on this hard test.

If you didn't know, the ACT and SAT are tests used for juniors and seniors in high school, to determine how ready they are for college. The grades on the ACT are rated on a scale from 1 to 36, and the SAT is graded on a 1-2400. It is really a test that will change your future. Talk about pressure!

The students who scored this high are able to take part in either the ACT or SAT. The current eighth graders take the SAT, and the current seventh graders take the ACT. The eighth graders took their SAT on January 23rd, and the seventh graders took their ACT on February 6th. The students told us that they were "very nervous" and "wanted to get a really good grade on it".

Even though the grade they got on this test won't count for their school grades, it is good practice for the real ACT/SAT you will have to take in high school. A seventh grader, Jordan B., talked to us before she took the ACT.

"I'm kind of nervous since I don't know much about taking it," Jordan said. "I definitely think that this ACT will help me prepare for the real ACT I will have to take in high school. I will feel more confident because I will know what kind of questions I will have to answer."

We also talked to Lizzy M, another seventh grader before she took the ACT.

"I'm soo excited to take the test! It makes me feel really smart to be taking such an advanced test. But, I guess I'm a bit nervous. I know that if I do well, it will really build my self-esteem," Lizzy said.

We hope our seventh and eighth graders did a good job!



7th & 8th Grade Valentines Dance

By: Brittany R.

On Friday February fourth in the Old Church basement the 7th and 8th graders gathered for this year's second dance. Being so close to Valentines day, the dances theme was a valentines dance! For the first time, there was a raffle where students purchased tickets and entered to win either a basket filled with goodies, or a bear. There were two seventh grade winners, and two eighth grade winners. Besides the raffle, we did the limbo until there was one boy and girl left. We also collected many canned food items, which every student had to bring to get into the dance. Overall the dance was a success. Everyone that went to the dance had a fun time with their friends. If you couldn't make it to this dance, you should definitely come to the next one on Friday April 16th. Be there or be square!



The D.J. for the evening preparing for the night ahead of him.

Earthquake in Haiti

By Jacob H.

Over 4 weeks ago, the most tragic event so far this year shook the earth. As on of the poorest countries in the world before the earthquake hit, Haiti is in more need than you think.

On January 12, 2010, an earthquake with a magnitude of 7.0 hit Haiti killing hundreds of thousands of people and injuring millions more. It was very unexpected and most of their helpless buildings were destroyed. A couple days later, there was a major aftershock that hit 6.0 on the Richter scale killing thousands more.

Right now, hundreds of volunteers are helping unpack hundred pound bags of rice in Haiti. they have been working every day for the past five weeks. And now you could help too. People are risking their lives to save others; the least you could do is lend a hand.



Matt Marek helps Jonathon Romelus after he lost his twin brother in the quake.



Basketball, Volleyball... Now Math?

By: Angela

In the classroom with math plastered everywhere, every Friday from 2:30 to 4 o'clock, 12 students gather for snacks and brain exercise.

At the practices, the 12 students from the higher math classes (8A and 7R) practice for yearly competitions at local high schools to compete against other schools on test using math skill and pure speed. The next competition is at Carmel on February 27th, the last Saturday of February. (2010, of course.)

A few things that spice up practice are soda and many, many snacks. Chocolate, pie, you name it, it's for the good of thinking! The good luck charm is a Pepsi can painted with whiteout with a peculiar history.

I asked Mrs. Jennings, the Math Team coach and Junior High math teacher, a few questions after practice.

"How long has there been a math team?"

"I've been here so long... I have to say since 1991"

"How many trophies has the team won?"

"I can't count them all... Just put 'many'."

"How many competitions have there been?"

"One every year since 1991."

"What's the history of the good luck charm? The whited-over Pepsi can?"

"Lizzy K., a graduated student, painted over a Pepsi can, and it eventually became our good luck charm"

"What did you win last year?"

"Last year 7th grade team. Joe K. won first last year, and Madi B. won third."

"Who gets in the team?"

"The top 6 people with the biggest average in the high math classes get in. There are also substitutes."

"Well, what's the most eaten snack?"

"I got to say... Brownies and soda."

The students on the math team for 7th grade are Becky H, Joey H, Drew M, Claire D, Brian C, and Angela A. The 8th graders are Joe K, Katie K, Anna B, John D, Andy U, and Madi B.

No matter it be sports tournaments, math competitions, band concerts or anything else, St. Pats is a well-rounded school with activities for even the pickiest student.



Touchdown!

By: Kara Z.

No matter what team you cheered, here are some interesting facts about Superbowl Sunday.

1. 6% of Americans call in sick to work the day after the Superbowl.

2. 14,500 tons of potato chips are consumed on Super Bowl Sunday.

3. SuperBowl fans spend about \$50 million dollars on food during the four days leading up to Super Bowl Sunday.

4. A 30 second ad during the Superbowl costs up to \$3 million dollars!

5. Half of all Americans would rather go to a Superbowl party than a New Years Eve party.

Good Jobs Saints!



Feature Student

8th Grade

Allison K.

First I asked Sophia, Some of her answers are pretty straight forward.

Sophia E. 8J

1. What do u do out of school?

I pray.

2. Are you excited to get out of St. Pats this year?

Heck Yeah

3. How does it feel to be the "oldest" in the school?

Amazing

4. How long have you been at St. Pats?

since kindergarten

9 years? I think.

5. Where are you going to high school? Are you looking forward to go?

Indian Trail, Very excited to go.

Next I asked Rich B. 8O

1. What do u do out of school?

Play Call Of Duty on Xbox, Volleyball, Snowboard, Hunt, Golf, Basketball, and I Weight Lift.

2. Are you excited to get out of St. Pats this year?

YES!

3. How does it feel to be the "oldest" in the school?

Awesome

4. How long have you been at St.Pats?

9 years, Since Kindergarten

5. Where are you going to high school? Are you looking forward to go?

Warren! Yessss! I'm going to try out for the Golf team, and Volleyball team. I also enrolled in "Project Lead The way."

As you can see Richie really likes the last question... I think. Over all it was great interviewing these 2 students. They were very open to the fact that this was going to be in the news paper. Now you know a little about Sophia and Richie.



A Day for Love

By: **Monica O.**

To some people Valentine's Day is a joke, just a day where girls and boys exchange little cards with little puppies and kittens on them saying, "I'm thinking of you." Or "Have a sweet Valentines" with a small piece of candy taped on it, but to others it is a romantic day to spend with time with the one they love. But many people ask, "How Did Valentine's Day Start", and that is what I'm going to tell you next.

A long time ago in ancient Rome, there was a day called the Lupercalia. On this day the Romans praised their gods, Lupercus, Faunus, Romulus, and Remus. They would also draw names from two boxes, a box with the names of single men in the Roman Empire in it, and a box with the names of the single women on it. The two names that they picked out of the boxes were then meant to be together. It wasn't until later where they got the name Valentines Day. Later in Rome there was a man named Valentine was told to give up his faith as a Christian. Valentine refused and was sent to jail. He later fell in love with the jailer's blind daughter. It is said Valentine wrote a letter to the girl on signed it saying from your Valentine. Valentine is St.Valentine.

Many people today celebrate Valentines Day by giving the ones they love romantic cards, chocolates, and bouquets of flowers. Valentines day is truly an amazing day. Happy Valentines Day!!!



6th Grade Feature Student

By: **Abbey K.**

This is the sixth graders feature student! I am your host Abbey. I got to interview one of them, Kylie N. She were both randomly chosen to be our featured student.

Kylie thought adjusting to Jr. High was simple, because she had an older sister to help along. Her favorite thing to do out of school is basketball, and that is her favorite thing to do in the winter too. Something that people might not know Kylie is that she has a pug named Lucy. Her favorite class is Science, Mrs. Gilmore teaches the Jr. High science class, and favorite teacher is Mrs. Jennings, she teaches the Jr. High math classes. That is all about Kylie today.

That is our 6th grade feature student! With your host Abbey, stay tune with our 7th and 8th grade feature student, both by Jenna W. (doing the 7th grade featured student) and Allison K.! (doing the 8th grade featured student)

7th Grade Feature Student

By: **Jenna W.**

We decided we wanted to interview someone from each class in Junior High. I had seventh grade. We randomly chose the people, and I was given Bernie C. in 7O and Italy N. in 7C. First, I interviewed Bernie.

I first asked, "Do you feel older than you were in sixth grade?"

"A little bit, I guess," Bernie said, blankly.

Next, I asked, "What do you like to do outside of school?"

"Play video games, play outside, and go swimming," he replied.

"Are you in any school sports or activities?"

"I'm in volleyball and band, obviously." Bernie said.

Lastly, I asked, "Do you like to be in band? Why or why not?"

"Yes, because it is fun to play the drums and hit things with a stick," he said laughing.

Next, I interviewed Italy.

"What was it like moving to a full-sized locker in August?" I asked.

"It was better. There's more space."

"How is it being in the "middle"? There's sixth, seventh, and then eighth grade."

"It stinks because you're not the oldest but you're not the youngest either."

"What do you enjoy about school?"

"Hanging out with friends but you still get to learn."

Now I hope you have the courage to befriend one of these kids. They're very nice students.

I hope you make some more friends and get to know people better.

Groundhog's Day and February

By: **Taylor W.**

Who is Punxsutawney Phil, and why do we care if he sees his shadow on February 2? The groundhog is the only animal to have a day named after him. Groundhog's day is not a federal holiday and nobody gets a day off of school or work. Since 1887, members of the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club in western Pennsylvania have tried to see the first appearance of the rodent they call Punxsutawney Phil. It is believed that if Phil comes out of his burrow and into sunlight on February 2nd, and sees his shadow, then he's said to go back underground leaving us to six more weeks of winter. When this day is cloudy, resulting in the Groundhog not seeing his shadow, it is then believed that we will have an early spring. Groundhogs day came to the U.S in the mid-18th century with German immigrants. It is a very very old holiday. February comes from the Latin *mensis Februarius*, month of purification. February is the shortest month in the year and is the only month that has less than 30 days, it is only 28 days. Every four years when we have a leap year, February will have an extra day, making it 29 days. A leap year consists of 366 days, where other years, called common years, have only 365 days.

Lights, Camera, Action!

By Kevin

The 6th grade had been working very hard on some plays in their English class this month. Some of the plays they performed were *Romeo and Juliet*, *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*, *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, *I am the Greatest!*, and *Little Women*. They worked a lot on each of these different plays. The 6th grade practiced their lines, used props, and worked on many skills such as projecting their voices and speaking clearly in front of an audience.

After practicing for a while, each group performed their play in front of the rest of the class. Whether it was Muhammad Ali winning the heavy weight title in *I Am the Greatest*, Alice growing bigger and smaller in *Wonderland*, Icahbod Crane losing his head in *Sleepy Hollow*, Hank freeing Camelot from slavery in *King Arthur's Court*, Romeo trying to find love with Juliet, or all the sisters in *Little Women* caring for one another, all of these plays were very interesting to watch.

All of the plays were just as fun to see as they were to perform. I personally was part of *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*, which was very fun to perform. The plays taught the 6th grade teamwork and how to really get into character. When Tommy, a cast member of the *Legends of Sleepy Hollow* play, was asked what he thought of the plays in English Class, he said, "It was fun to do theater. I think the choices for the plays were good." Above all, these play the 6th grade performed were fun, entertaining, and very enjoyable.



The 6S cast of *Alice's Adventure's In Wonderland* smiles proudly after their performance.

