

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL

GOOD NEWS BULLETIN

JANUARY 2010

“May the blessed hope that Jesus came to give fill your soul with joy throughout the new year.”

EVERY CHILD BRINGS US GOD’S SMILE

The Supreme Court’s 1973 Roe v. Wade decision has made abortion the battleground over our tradition of inherent human rights and has polarized our society as nothing else has. Over 50 million unborn children have died by abortion since 1973.

Thus in promoting a culture of life, we must give priority to defending innocent unborn boys and girls from direct attack. We must also make it clear how this effort stands for the dignity and well-being of everyone, before and after birth.

Our task is to change hearts and minds, including our own. Nothing does this more effectively than prayer and sacrifices. Through this saving power, and with the prayerful intercession of our Blessed Mother, we can build a culture of life.

REPORT CARDS - Report cards will be distributed to the students on Friday, January 8, 2010.

HOLIDAYS

Friday, January 1, 2010 – School Holiday

Monday, January 18, 2010 - Student Holiday/Faculty Retreat.

Monday, January 25, 2010 – School Holiday/Hallettsville Junior Livestock Show.

Friday, February 5, 2010 – Dismiss at 12:00 noon. NO EXTENDED CARE.

HALLETTSVILLE JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SHOW JANUARY 23-24-25 - The Hallettsville Junior Livestock show will be held on January 23-24-25, 2010.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2010, SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE - The Sacred Heart Catholic School Open House will be held on Thursday, February 4, from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to visit the school, see the classrooms, and view the many displays. Teachers will be in their classrooms from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. The entire community and surrounding communities are invited to attend our open house. Everyone is always welcome.

SOUP AND SANDWICHES – FEBRUARY 4 - The Sacred Heart Home and School Association will be sponsoring soup and sandwiches on Thursday, February 4, from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. in the Sacred Heart Cafeteria. The price will be \$4.00.

SACRED HEART HIGH SCHOOL CORONATION AND TALENT SHOW-THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4 - The annual coronation sponsored by the Sacred Heart Catholic High School Senior Class will be held on Thursday, February 4, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. in the gymnasium. Special entertainment will be provided by students as part of the program. Everyone is welcome.

CELEBRATE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2010

We welcome any and all visitors to come by Sacred Heart Catholic School during the week of January 31-February 5, 2010, and help us celebrate Catholic Schools Week. Please see enclosed flyer about the activities during Catholic Schools Week.

SACRED HEART ANNUAL FUND – Sacred Heart Catholic School’s 2010 Annual Fund materials were mailed out in December. A total of 125 supporters contributed a total of \$37,000.00 to our 2009 Annual Fund. We would like to thank our alumni, parents, faculty, parishioners and loyal friends for their continued support of the Sacred Heart Annual Fund.

The annual fund insures students continue to receive an excellent Catholic education at Sacred Heart Catholic School. Sacred Heart strives to keep tuition affordable for all families; however, tuition only covers 40% of the cost of educating each student. The annual fund provides necessary funds to help support the operating budget, as well as enhance educational programs, improve technology, and enrich faculty development and training. Participation in the annual fund also provides the internal support that is considered when seeking grants and foundation support.

As valued members of the Sacred Heart Catholic School family, we ask that you prayerfully consider making a gift to this year’s annual fund. Your support is an investment in the education of our children.

ELEMENTARY LIBRARY BOOK FAIR - Beginning on Monday, February 1st, we will be having a Scholastic Book Fair in the Elementary Library and Media Center. Please use the flyer your child will receive to review the books before you come by on Monday. In this way you can be assured of helping your child pick out the best books. The book fair will be open Monday, February 1st through Friday, February 5, from 7:45 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Please remember there will be an 8.25% sales tax added to each purchase. On Thursday, February 4, we will have the book fair open during Open House from 5:30 –7:00 p.m.

MAGAZINE DRIVE - The annual magazine drive will begin on February 11, 2010. This is a major fundraiser for the school. Please save your renewal notices and discount coupons and subscribe for your magazines through Sacred Heart Catholic School.

“ALOHA NIGHTS” EXTRAVAGANZA – The “Aloha Nights” Extravaganza will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Saturday, February 6, 2010. Now is the time to make reservations for a wonderful evening of great company, great food and great music. Remember, only 250 tickets will be sold. All proceeds benefit Sacred Heart Catholic School. Tickets are available in the school office and the rectory.

If you have any creative ideas for a silent auction item or would like to donate an item, please contact Amy Machicek at 798-1208.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER – The annual Sacred Heart Home & School Association Spaghetti Supper will be held on Wednesday, January 20, 2010, from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at the K.C. Hall. Tickets are available from any Sacred Heart Catholic School student or at the following: Beauty Boutique, Hallettsville Pharmacy, Hoffer’s Drive-In Grocery, Sacred Heart Federal Credit Union, The Hair Shop, and Sacred Heart Catholic School, or Sacred Heart Rectory. Your support of this project is greatly appreciated.

CONGRATULATIONS, TOP SELLERS OF TAMALES - The top sellers of tamales for the annual Sacred Heart Band Booster Club Tamale Sale are 1st place Blake Hermes (217 dozen), 2nd place Tessa Stoner (78 dozen), and 3rd place Callie Bludau (59 dozen). The top 3 sellers received a check from the Band Booster Club for their extra hard work and dedication. Congratulations!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE VOICE OF DEMOCRACY WINNERS – Congratulations to the following winners of the Voice of Democracy contest: 1st place – Freeman James, son of Guy and Michel James; 2nd place – Emily Seyl, daughter of Rod and Dee Seyl; and 3rd place – Jeffery Tuttle, son of Jeffery & Dayna Tuttle. Freeman was awarded a \$300.00 Savings Bond, Emily was awarded a \$200.00 Savings Bond, and Jeffery was awarded a \$100.00 Savings Bond for the winning essays. The first place winning essay will now compete at the district level. The Voice of Democracy contest is sponsored and judged by our local American Legion Post 230 and coordinated at school by high school English teacher Sharon Timm.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PATRIOT'S PEN ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS-Congratulations to the following winners of the Patriot's Pen Essay Contest: 1st place Alex Bennett, son of Mitchell & Jennifer Bennett; 2nd place Kelsey Pilat, daughter of Kevin & Anjanette Pilat; 3rd place Taylor Opela, daughter of Keith and Susan Opela. The Patriot's Pen Essay Contest is sponsored and judged by our local Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6382 and coordinated at school by history teacher Trey Kraatz.

THANK YOU, FRIENDS FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION - Sacred Heart Catholic School would like to thank the Friends for Catholic Education organization for their recent quarterly grant of \$7,705.00 . The grant will be used as follows: \$3,105.00 for transportation for students from the Schulenburg area to Hallettsville and back to Schulenburg and \$4,600.00 for a quarterly subsidy payment for high school students from the Schulenburg Deanery.

May God continue to bless you for your commitment and service to Catholic schools.

THANK YOU, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS – We want to thank the Knights of Columbus Council #2433 for their recent donation of \$4,556.83. This donation is the profit from the pork bar-b-que dinner and will be used to finance the new textbooks purchased for the 2009-10 school year.

Your kindness and generosity is greatly appreciated.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS - Homework is NOT automatically gathered when absences occur. Homework assignments must be requested during the first hour of the day the student is absent. Students are responsible for getting assignments in advance of planned absences. Please call the school office when your child is absent.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS RESPOND TO CHRISTMAS SERVICE PROJECTS -We want to commend the Sacred Heart Catholic School students for their overwhelming response to our special Christmas service projects. Service is an integral part of our Catholic education. We are very proud of the support and participation of our students and parents in responding to the needy families of our community and the world.

Over 600 gifts, including \$1,500.00 in cash, were collected for the **Adopt A Family Project** by 100% of the students in grades 8-12. Sacred Heart Catholic School adopted five needy families of our community so their children would have a joyous Christmas. This project is coordinated through our local LAMB ministry. We want to thank 8th grade religion teacher, Mrs. Brenda Etzler and her students, for coordinating this project. It was an overwhelming success. Mrs. Etzler's eighth grade class also assisted in decorating the resident doors at Hallettsville Rehabilitation and Nursing Center.

The kindergarten class collected money for the **Lavaca County Sheriff's Department Deputy Santa Program**. They purchased 30 Christmas gifts with the money they collected and delivered them to the police station. We want to thank the kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Janice Bludau, for coordinating this project. They had a bake sale to raise money for this project.

Another special service project was the **Advent Mission Collection**. The funds from this collection were used for the missions in Africa, particularly the one served by Sister Rebecca of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament Sisters. Sister Colette Kouba and Sister Emiliana Grafe coordinated this Advent collection for grades Pre-K – 8 and we appreciate their time and effort.

Everyone attending the recent Sacred Heart Christmas Band Concert was asked to bring a non-perishable food item for the **MANNA Food Pantry**. A large number of canned goods, other food items and cash were collected for those in need in our community.

The high school students were involved with service projects at the Hallettsville Rehabilitation and Nursing Center and the St. Nicholas Ministry.

We want to thank all the faculty, staff, and parents for supporting these worthy service projects. May the Good Lord continue to bless you for your kindness and generosity and keep you in His care.

PRE-KINDERGARTEN AND K-2 PRESENT “CHRISTMAS SHOW N’ TELL” AND “FAVORITE CHRISTMAS STORIES” - An exceptionally large crowd attended the pre-kindergarten and K-2 Christmas programs. The Pre-K program was entitled “Christmas Show n’ Tell” and K-2 was entitled “Favorite Christmas Stories.” We want to commend and thank teachers Mrs. Debi Bludau, Mrs. Janice Bludau, Mrs. Kim Henke, Mrs. Pam Bohuslav, and aides Mrs. Sandi Koerth, Mrs. Karen Wysocki, Mrs. Pickle Cash and Mrs. Rhonda Brown for their planning, practicing, and coordinating the program. The students did great and the singing was just wonderful. A special thank you to everyone who assisted in anyway.

GRADES 3-4 CHRISTMAS PROGRAM - A capacity crowd attended the annual Sacred Heart Catholic School Christmas Program on Thursday, December 10 at the gym. The program, entitled “Three Wee Kings,” was presented by students in grades 3-4. The kids did a super job and the musical was enjoyed by all.

A special thank you goes to our music teacher, Candace Hines, for directing the musical. Your extra time and effort is greatly appreciated.

We also want to thank volunteers Angela McConnell, Tim Hines, Lou Kubena, Jack and Kelly Ross, Karen Wysocki, Mr. Bob Weiss, and our faculty and staff for their assistance with the program.

CHRISTMAS BAND CONCERT - We want to commend Mr. William Harrison, the band director, and the band students in grades 5-12 for their wonderful Christmas concert held on December 13, 2009, at the Gymnasium. The music was awesome. We also want to thank everyone for their support of the band program throughout the school year and for bringing non-perishable food items for the MANNA Food Pantry.

NATIONAL VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK –JANUARY 10-16, 2010

The culmination of the Christmas season is celebrated with the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. In Jesus’ time, we are told, “the people were full of anticipation and wondering in their hearts” about who would be the Messiah. At the baptism of Jesus, God revealed to the people what they were longing to hear. The voice of God proclaimed: “You are my beloved Son. On you my favor rests” (Luke 3:22). As followers of Jesus, we too are baptized and blessed by God with this same affirmation: “You are my beloved. On you my favor rests.” By celebrating this feast yearly, the Church is renewed and strengthened by God’s blessing.

National Vocation Awareness Week begins with this feast. We are invited to reflect on the mission of Jesus as our own vocation, to ponder what it means to be God’s beloved, and to know that God’s favor rests on us. Encouraged by this reality, we are empowered to be visible witnesses of Jesus for the victory of justice. The people of the world are still full of anticipation and wondering in their hearts. They need the “good news of peace” proclaimed in good works. Let us deepen our baptismal commitment through reflection and action. May we trust in the power of God’s blessing: “You are my beloved.”

On January 12, our fifth grade class will join fifth graders from all Catholic Schools in the diocese to celebrate Vocation Awareness Week at Incarnate Word Convent in Victoria. They will spend the day in a mini-convention attending sessions by many different speakers. It is an opportunity to get new insights into life as a priest, deacon, or a religious Sister or Brother and missionary. In this year for Priests we are reminded to pray for priests and support them. Our respect and support of priests and religious will help young people realize these are vocations worth following if God calls them.

SIX FLAGS SIX HOUR READING CLUB – The Six Flags Six Hour Reading Club is an exciting part of Read to Succeed. Students in grades K through 6 participate in this free program. All they have to do is complete at least six hours of recreational reading. Each student who accomplishes this goal is eligible to receive one free admission ticket valid at participating Six Flags theme parks starting from June 14, 2010 to August 8, 2010.

The students at Sacred Heart Catholic School will begin this program on Monday, January 4, 2010, and end on Wednesday, February 24, 2010. We hope you will encourage your child to participate in this Reading Program and earn a free ticket to a Six Flags theme park.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARTICIPATES IN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

WEEK-Sacred Heart Catholic school participated in International Education Week by welcoming a dozen international high school students on November 20th. International Education week (IEW) is a joint initiative by The U.S. Departments of State and Education. First held in 2000, it is now celebrated in more than 100 countries worldwide.

IEW is an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. This annual initiative aims to promote international understanding and build support for international educational exchange by encouraging the development of programs that prepare Americans to live and work in a global environment.

Exchanges are critical to developing mutual understanding and respect, building leadership abroad, fostering an appreciation for the U.S., and investing in the future relationship between Americans and people around the world.

Sacred Heart presented the visitors with t-shirts and showed them around the school. The international students shared power point presentations about their countries and cultures and answered questions. They joined Sacred Heart students for lunch. We want to thank Ana Henke, our counselor, for making the arrangements for the visit.

The international students are currently living with American host families in the San Antonio and Houston areas and are sponsored by AYUSA International, a non-profit student exchange organization. They attend high schools in those cities and will return to their home countries at the end of the school year.

The students who visited Sacred Heart were Luca Cipolli-Italy, Munia Kittan-West Bank(Palestine), Diyorbek Ganijon-Uzbekistan, Sofia Logge-Germany, Anna Tarasova-Russia, Ayma Tamman-Pakistan, Irakli Malania-Georgia, Gal-Erdene Battsengel-Mongolia, Kuralay Zhamagambetova-Kazakhstan, Frieder Kurbjewit-Germany, Pui-Ki Lee-Hong Kong(China), Shoirah Bahromzoda-Tajikistan.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER -The new year will start with reminders to seniors about completing college applications and scholarship applications. As we receive information on available scholarships, we will begin working closely with the seniors on selecting the scholarships they want to apply for, completing the applications on time, and submitting the strongest applications they can. I will be meeting with the seniors again after our Christmas break to check on their progress about plans for after high school, in order to keep them focused and on track with making decisions about their future. Many of them have come to me asking for transcripts to be sent to different colleges. It will be exciting as they receive their acceptances from different colleges.

I met with all the juniors again to go over their PSAT results and remind them about registering to take the SAT or ACT. All juniors should consider taking at least one of these tests this year. I also met with all the sophomores to discuss the results of their PLAN test and with the freshman to go over the NEDT test results. All students were given their score reports and reminded to share them with their parents.

All high school and junior high students attended a program on internet safety and cyberbullying presented by Cheryl Shamburger with Region III Education Service Center. The program was extremely informative and provided useful information for our students to think about how to make good decisions when posting information on line and through texting and email. For more information and useful tips for parents, you can go to the Netsmartz website: www.netsmartz.org.

I met with the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade classes to present a bullying program where we discussed different types of bullying and things that they can do to stop bullying. Ask your kids about "Mesto."

IMPORTANT DATES

January 5 – deadline to register for the February 6th ACT

January 23 – SAT test date

February 4 – deadline to register for March 13th SAT

February 6 – ACT test date

TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF PRIVATE AND PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS (TAPPS)

TAPPS FAN GUIDELINES

Standards of Conduct For Parents, Students, Coaches and Friends

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all of your strength and with all your mind and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” Luke 10:27

Basic Premises

- Do all for the glory of God
- Every child is equally important
- Coaches and officials, though fallible, are entitled to respect
- Respect one another
- Prayer is a fundamental component of all of our competitions
- The American flag and National Anthem are to be honored

Roles

Understand and follow the distinctions: The coach’s role is to respectfully coach, the officials’ role is to respectfully officiate, the players’ role is to respectfully participate; the fans’ role is to respectfully support.

The only people who talk to officials during a competition are the coaches, captains or school administrators, not fans or parents

The only people who talk to coaches during a competition are other coaches, officials or student participants, not parents or fans

Purpose

Interscholastic competition exists for students to foster sportsmanship, physical fitness, leadership, and teamwork. Although this is not intended to be an exhaustive list, coaches, players, and fans should exemplify good sportsmanship by:

- Applauding excellence
- Cheering for successes
- Respecting opponents
- Respecting facilities
- Respecting school traditions

Coaches, players, and fans should always conduct themselves as an example of Christian behavior. Behaviors unacceptable include:

- Taunting opponents
- Immodest dress (Shirt required)
- Profanity
- Singling out a player
- Booing opponents or officials
- Disrupting play
- Derogatory messages in signs, chants or social messaging arenas.

Coaches, players, and fans should support and encourage in everything they do and say; they should never verbally or physically assault others.

Players should be respectful at all times and practice good sportsmanship

DREAM STUDENTS – Dream Students display the following characteristics: have good Discipline, are Responsible, give lots of Effort, work hard in their Academics, and show good Manners. The students were recognized with a picture in the local paper and received a special prize for their outstanding achievement. The November DREAM students are

Kindergarten Patrick Fields 1st grade Graci Shimek 2nd grade Ella Harper

DYNAMITE STUDENT – The 3rd and 4th grade are looking for Dynamite Students. The student must exhibit these qualities: a positive attitude, good sportsmanship, be a team player, and be very enthusiastic.

The November DYNAMITE students are

3rd grade Maddie Boone 4th grade Hailey Steffek

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

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| 2 Landon Leopold Hailey Smith 4 Raven Smolik Hailey Steffek Hannah Hines 5 Sr. Emiliana Grafe Feast Day Mrs. Carol Bludau 6 Jacklyn Saulnier 7 Destiny Ruthart 8 Callie Bludau 9 Hayden Grahmann Graci Shimek Sadie Bludau Amber Smolik 10 Derrick Janak Mrs. Karen Zavesky 11 Mrs. Pam Bohuslav 13 Alyssa Tobola | 14 Danson Bludau Justin Brown Sr. Emiliana Grafe 17 Mrs. Margaret Henneke 21 Michael Herndon 22 Jordan Janak 24 Angela Ivey Ann Estelle Brown 25 Adam Pavlicek Mason Hall Mr. Trey Kraatz Mrs. Jackie Pettus 27 Kristin Popp Mrs. Kay Jones 28 Briana Haas Bailey Grahmann 30 Jyllian Hicks Tristan Smolik Margaret Alvarado |
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ANNIVERSARIES: **January 10**-Pat & Gayle Henke **January 15**-John & Ruth Barton

CONGRATULATIONS, TAPPS 2A-ALL-DISTRICT FOOTBALL PLAYERS

1st Team All District Offense

Line: Clay Bludau, Dillon Hollas; **Back:** Trentin Pilat; **Receiver:** Colby Mikes; **Kicker:** Justin Brown

2nd Team All-District Offense

Line: Matthew Jirkovsky; **Back:** Justin Brown; **Receiver:** Ricky Fenner

Honorable Mention Offense

Line: Cody Dornak, Landon Hatfield

1st Team All District Defensive

Line: Dillon Hollas, Trentin Pilat; **Linebacker:** Justin Brown; **Secondary:** Kyle Rother;

Punter: Cody Dornak

2nd Team All-District Defense

Line: Chance Rath; **Linebackers:** Matthew Jirkovsky, Colby Mikes; **Secondary:** Justin Brown

Honorable Mention Defense

Line: Ryan Kubena; **Linebacker:** Daniel Halata; **Secondary:** Ricky Fenner

CONGRATULATIONS, TAPPS 2A-ACADEMIC ALL-STATE FOOTBALL PLAYERS

Clay Bludau Cody Dornak Colby Mikes Kyle Rother

CONGRATULATIONS, TAPPS 2A-ALL-DISTRICT VOLLEYBALL PLAYERS

1st TEAM Alexandra Bludau and Kayla Harmon

2nd TEAM Shelby McElroy and Makayla Geistman

CONGRATULATIONS, TAPPS 2A-ACADEMIC ALL-STATE VOLLEYBALL PLAYERS

Alexandra Bludau

