



## WEEK OF MAY 5, 2008 NEWSLETTER

"Let him that would move the world first move himself." - Socrates

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL:** Kathleen A. Razzetti**Building a Community**

Special congratulations go to our first graders who, over the past two weeks, have received their First Holy Communion. I know you join me in congratulating the children, their families, and our teachers, Mrs. Hogan and Mrs. Buono, who prepared them for this blessed event. I also want to thank Sister Marie, our Director of Religious Education, for organizing and overseeing their preparation and the beautiful ceremonies. Thanks also goes out to Deacon Michael Aprile, Deacon Richard Ferri, Deacon John Sheehan, Mary Bushman, & Peter Schubart. Father Rick's words brought special meaning to this day!

This past week our 4<sup>th</sup> graders took both portions of the New York State Science Assessment and the 8<sup>th</sup> graders took the first part of their Science Assessment. They will take Part 2 next week. This assessment, unlike the other state assessments, includes a performance portion. During this section, the students are given hands-on tasks to complete. These require their using and manipulating materials. Students work independently, moving from one table to the next, completing the experiments. The second portion of this assessment is the short answer section. As you can guess, the performance portion is preferred by most students.

As with the other content area state assessments, the Science Assessment is a snapshot of how the student is performing at the specific point in time. It includes material present over the previous years, as well as, the information taught the year the assessment is administered. I'm certain that our children will continue to do well on these assessments!

On a lighter note, I want to share with you a story that represents why I love my job so much! I was observing one of Mrs. Garry's Nursery School classes. Mrs. Garry was teaching the children about Ascension Thursday. During the discussion she asked, "Where did Jesus go after he died?" Obviously, she was looking for the answer, "Heaven". One of her students answered, "Florida!" Don't you just love how genuine children are?

**(Repeat from Last week) Request for Recent Alumni:** As our 7<sup>th</sup> graders are completing this school year, it is time for them to begin to think about their choices for High School. On June 16<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00, I would like to invite some of our recent graduates to speak with our students about their experiences in high school and how St. Martin's has prepared them. If you are or know a current high school or college student who would be interested in speaking, please call the school at 264-7166.

**Gifted and Called:** A special thank you to Natalie & Taylor McIntosh and their grandpa John Dzikowski who spent time last week painting White Hall and two classroom ceilings! They look great! What a special gift he has given all of us! This is a wonderful example of someone using their talents for stewardship within our school!

**"Protecting God's Children"-VIRTUS Training:**

All parents and volunteers who interact with our students **MUST** take the VIRTUS training class. In addition to the parent who participate in **hot lunch, chaperone** class parties or field trips, work in our **After School Care Program**, or **coach** a sport, **ANY PARENT WANTING TO VISIT AND/OR WORK in a classroom, MUST** take this class.

If you do not, you will not be permitted to continue to participate in these programs OR visit the classrooms. The next class dates are listed below. Please call the school (at 264-7166) or send in a note indicating you will be attending so that we have sufficient materials available. Parish members are also invited to attend. You need to attend only ONE session. (Follow-up training is done via the internet.)

Thank you for attending and helping to keep our children safe.

## VIRTUS Training:

Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 1:00-3:00 pm

Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 9:00-11:00 am

Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:00-9:00 pm

- **Early Childhood Program:** This is a playgroup session for infants and toddlers. It is from 11:00- 12:15 pm on Thursdays in our Mommy & Me Room, with Ms. Grace (Ferrantelli) facilitating, under Ms. Garry's direction. There is no charge for this program. (Come join us now!)

- **2 year old program:** This is an introduction to pre-school. Children must be 2 by December 1, 2008. The class, taught by Mrs. Garry, is in our Nursery Classroom. Classes are held Tuesday or Thursday afternoons from 1:00 - 2:15. The cost is \$150 per trimester.

- **Nursery:** Children participating in this program must be 3 by December 1, 2008. Class choices are Mon/Wed/Fri AM, Mon/Wed/Fri PM, or Tues/Thurs AM.

**Pre-K:** Children must be 4 by December 1, 2008. There are 2 sessions: Monday through Friday AM and PM.

**If you are interested in visiting and observing our programs, please call 631.264.7166.**

# STUDENT NEWS



- **GREAT DVD** of our Christmas Pageant on sale \$5.00 per copy. Please contact the Main Office at the School for an order form.



- **School Car Magnets & Cookbooks** — Car magnets can be purchased in the front office for \$5.00 and cookbooks for \$10.00.

- **RE-REGISTRATION REMINDER**—We would like to remind everyone to please send in your re-registration form and fee as soon as possible to ensure your child's seat for the next school year.



- **GOLF OUTING**—The Golf Committee is looking for a few new members to help organize the Golf Outing. Anyone interested please call or email Don .



- **HSA Garage Sale**—Remember to save any treasures for the HSA Garage Sale on May 17th. Donations are now being accepted. Please call Jeanne Rosser at 264-9539 for further information. 35 Bennett Pl. Amityville.



- **Save the date:**  
**Family Beach BBQ Friday May 30th at Amityville Beach Pavillion**

- **Registration for the 2008-09 school year Continues!** We are still accepting applications for nursery through eighth grade for the 08-09 school year. I welcome you to visit our school. If you know families in the community who would be interested in our faith-filled, academically challenging programs, please encourage them to come see us! In addition to our K>8 classes, we have a wonderful early childhood program.

- **Spring Photos**—Pictures are going home. Please return photos or payment for orders by May 16th.

## Important Dates & Events:

- **REMINDER EARLY DISMISSAL**, **MAY 13TH 11:30 AM**—Early Dismissal for students @ 11:30, Professional Development ½ Day for Faculty.
- **Date change** - **National Junior Honor Society induction—May 14<sup>th</sup> 1:00 pm** : 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will be taking the NY State Science assessment on May 7<sup>th</sup>; therefore, the Honor Society induction is changed to **1:00 pm** on May 14<sup>th</sup>. More information concerning this will be sent home with the appropriate grade level students.
- **May 19<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 PM:** **"The State of the Union (Ave.) Message":** Please join the School Board and Mrs. Razzetti for a Town Meeting- **"Celebrating our Past, Evaluating our Present, Planning our Future"**
- **May 24<sup>th</sup>- St. Martin of Tours Students' Art Opening:** Some of our children will be having their art work on display at the Amityville Community Art Gallery from May 24<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>. More will be shared as the date approaches!
- **June 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> will be half days for students.** Teachers will have professional development and planning meetings in the afternoons.
- **June 19<sup>th</sup> is the last day of school for students.** June 20<sup>th</sup> will be the last day of school for the faculty and staff.

## Helping Others:

**Casual Dress Day:** Our next Casual Dress Day will be on May 30<sup>th</sup>. The funds raised from this day will go towards an improvement for our school. The cross on the building used to be lit at night. With the assistance from Mr. Moore, we are going to re-fit the electrical work with energy efficient lighting. This project is part of a larger energy conservation effort for the parish that Keith Mainhart is overseeing.