

**THOUGHTS FROM THE  
PRINCIPAL**

Dear Holy Spirit Families,

Welcome to Holy Spirit School in March. This month we begin with state testing in mathematics for students in grades 3-8. The season of Lent fills these weeks, focusing our prayers, liturgies and religious education classes on the reflective weeks of preparation for Easter. If all we share during Lent has its effect, the children should deepen their faith in God and His forgiveness while getting to know themselves and their own hearts a little better too.

We will have a Bagpiper, Mr. Insull, to help us celebrate St. Patrick's Day on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Insull is the father of Sarah in grade one.

The drama club continues to rehearse for **Aladdin**, our spring musical. It's fun to listen to rehearsals after school on Monday and to enjoy the performances as they develop.

Tuition rates will be set in March for 2009-10. Thank you to everyone for their consistent commitment to paying the tuition costs. Please know that every effort will be made to minimize tuition increases in this challenging economic year.

On the school side, costs continue to rise. Please support any fundraising efforts of PSA in the months to come. This will help keep tuition costs down. In April, I will share more finance/budget information with you.

As always, thank you for all you do. You are a full shareholder in the mission of Holy Spirit School. We need you, and we thank you.

Roger Rooney  
Principal

**OPERATION RICE BOWL BEGINS**

*The Second grade will be collecting money for Operation Rice Bowl throughout the Lenten season. Please take the rice bowl home and return it to school by April 7<sup>th</sup>. (You may return it to school anytime before April 7th.) Please help us have another great year! Your generosity is greatly appreciated!*

**CONGRATULATIONS**

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate **Christian E.** on his winning entry in this year's Local Traffic Safety Poster/Communication Contest. We are very proud of you!

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK  
POSTER/ESSAY CONTEST  
WINNERS**

Congratulations to the following students who were the winners in the Catholic Schools Week contest:

<u>Gr</u>	<u>Poster</u>	<u>Essay</u>
1	Nicholas G.	Haley E.
2	Michael P.	Brianna H.
3	Michael S.	Alexandra M.
4	Andrea B.	Bryn F.
5	Judith N.	Brevin F.

\* Christian E. received Honorable Mention for both!

**ILLNESS AND HOMEWORK**

**If your child is sick and will not be attending school, please call the office before 9:00 A.M. All class work and homework requests MUST BE MADE before 9:00 A.M. and can be picked up after 2:35 P.M.**

**CALENDAR CHANGE**

Due to the emergency snow closings that we had over the past few

months – school **will be in session** on the following days:

Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>

### **CLASSROOM NEWS**

#### **Day Care Three Year Old's News**

The Three's had a *lovely* month of February. We learned all about Valentine's Day and hearts. We made many decorations for our classroom Valentine's Day ice cream party. We had a fantastic time celebrating and telling our friends and families how much we care about them. We would like to thank all of the parents for making our party super special! We could not have had such a great time without you!

We spent the end of February learning how to take good care of our bodies. We discussed going to the doctor and not spreading germs. We talked about going to the dentist and brushing our teeth, and eating healthy food and exercising. We also learned about the letters **N,O**, and **P**, the number **7**, and the color **pink**.

The Three's are excited for spring to arrive in the month of March. We will learn about spring weather, St. Patrick's Day, and Easter! We will also spend time exploring the jungle, and getting to know jungle animals. We will learn about the letters **Q,R**, and **S**, the number **8**, and the color **yellow**.

#### **Happy Birthday to:**

**Jaheam V. – February 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Cadence M. – March 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Morgan D. – March 15<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Day Care 4 Year Old's News**

**Rowdy the River Rat** was a special guest on February 23<sup>rd</sup>! We really enjoyed our Valentine's Day brunch and the warmer weather! We made a special Valentine surprise for our parents!

In March we will celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday (March 2<sup>nd</sup>) and write our own versions of a Dr. Seuss story with reading buddies. Our beach party will be held on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Reading activities, sand/water projects, and summer games are planned for this annual event. We are keeping our eyes and ears open for a peek at **Lucky the Leprechaun** on March 17<sup>th</sup>!

Our letters of the month will be **V,W,X,Y,Z**. **Bucky** the bear will continue his weekend visits with more children. We are looking forward to more exciting stories!

#### **Happy Birthday to:**

**Mikayla K. – March 9<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Nursery News**

Nursery School splash painted a heart between 2 sheets of wax paper mixing colors. We splatter painted puzzle pieces and glued them to a heart shaped magnet. On the inside we put a picture of the person our family loves the most...us.

We had a great time at our Valentine's Day party. We mailed our cards to our friends, ate a lot of great food, and played color and shape bingo. We sang I love you to our guests and handed out our handmade gifts.

**Congratulations to Johnny T.– he has a new baby brother, James, born on February 19<sup>th</sup>!**

### Pre-K News

To learn about the letter K we made colorful kaleidoscopes. We read Blue Kangaroo and made blue kangaroos and a very large letter K that looked like a tree for Koala Lou to climb up.

Lizards in L shapes, a grumpy ladybug, and Leo the late bloomer along with his friends helped us with the letter L.

We began numbers and a counting process with 1:1. Using a pattern we beaded we beaded sparkly hearts for our parents as a Valentine gift. We counted each bead and had to repeat the pattern. We also enjoyed a great Valentine's Day party with our loved ones. We played bingo and sang a song for them. We learned about our first President George Washington, and we talked about the cherry tree being chopped down. We learned that you should always tell the truth. We talked about Abraham Lincoln and how he liked to read and was fair and just.

**Rowdy the River Rat** visited us. He along with his friend Margaret read us a story called *Brady Brady*. It had a happy ending. We took home coloring sheets, a signed copy of Rowdy #1, and free ticket coupons. He was great.

**Congratulations to Anthony F. – he has a new baby brother, Nicholas, born on February 19<sup>th</sup>!**

#### Happy Birthday to:

**Paige H. – March 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Anna W. – March 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Gabriella C. – March 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Michael B. – March 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Mason S. – March 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Cailyn T. – March 31<sup>st</sup>**

**Jeremy G. – March 31<sup>st</sup>**

### Kindergarten News

February has been a busy and fun filled month. We celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School. The children enjoyed counting to 100 by 1's, 5's and 1's. The class participated in many 100<sup>th</sup> day activities such as building with a 100 cube links, wooden cubes, and tiles. Seeing how many designs we could make with pattern blocks and foam shapes. The class made a special snack called Hiyaku, which is 100 in Japanese. February has also been the month of red hearts and Valentines. The time of year when we let others know how much we care for them by being kind and thoughtful.

After the winter recess the class learned about the great presidents whose birthdays we just celebrated, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. The class is learning about the special time of year called Lent, a time when God asks us to change and grow as friends of Jesus.

We are looking forward to March and the ocean blue and the antics of the leprechauns.

***Congratulations to the Thoma family. Eli's and John's baby brother, James Billings T. was born on February 19<sup>th</sup>.***

#### Happy Birthday to:

**Eli T. – March 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Tommy Y. – March 24<sup>th</sup>**

### Grade 1 News

We have been learning so many new things in first grade! In math we will be starting our unit on place value. This will be exciting as we have been working on place value during calendar since the first day of school!

In reading everyone is working so hard on becoming an independent

reader! In reading our next unit will focus on the people and things we value most in our lives. In science we will be learning about habitats including the forest, wetlands, oceans, and deserts. We will also be learning about the way of animals survive in these habitats. At the end of this unit we will be creating habitat projects. Information about this project will go home as we get closer to the end of the unit.

During the Lenten season first grade has been working on doing good deeds for others. During this time please keep those that are less fortunate in mind and try to be generous with you contribution when filling you rice bowls!

Last month we enjoyed participating in the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school activities. We also enjoyed our wonderful Valentine's Day party put on by our great room mothers. Thank you Mrs. Silvernail, Mrs. Gabriel, and Mrs. Hromada for your hard work!

**Happy Birthday to:**  
**Taylor C. – March 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**Erin P. – March 29<sup>th</sup>**

### **Grade 2 News**

Congratulations to all of the second graders who have recently celebrated their First Reconciliation. We would like to thank Father Joe for taking time to visit our classroom to bless the wonderful crosses we decorated in preparation for First Reconciliation. We are continuing to prepare for our celebration of First Eucharist which is approaching very quickly. The second graders are doing a terrific job participating in Mass and understanding what is happening throughout the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of

the Eucharist. Keep up the good work second grade!

In preparation for the Lenten season, the second grade sent rice bowls home with each child on Ash Wednesday. Please keep those that are less fortunate in mind throughout the Lenten season, and try to be generous with your contributions. The second graders are responsible for collecting and counting the money collected with rice bowl at Holy Spirit School. The rice bowls can be returned to second grade anytime before April 7. Thank you for your generosity!

**Happy Birthday to:**  
**Cael F. – March 15<sup>th</sup>**

### **Grade 3 News**

During this Lenten Season Grade 3 has been concentrating on praying more often and doing good deeds without being asked. We will prepare to attend a special Reconciliation service and fill our Rice Bowls. Grade 3 Mass is Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:00.

Academically, we will spend time in outer space. We look forward to presenting a Space Museum with projects on March 19<sup>th</sup>.

Please keep in mind that we will be taking the NYS Math Exam the week of March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Be sure to have a good breakfast as well as a good night's sleep.

Thanks to our classroom coordinators for a wonderful Valentine's Day Party. The children also enjoyed the 100<sup>th</sup> day centers we had in our classroom. Also, thank you to all the families who continue to send snack items in for me to send to my daughter and friends during their deployment in Afghanistan and Iraq. They are scheduled to return to the States later

this spring, and really appreciate the treats from the children. Your kindness does not go unnoticed.

**Happy Birthday to:**

**Emily Z. – March 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Joseph G. – March 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Grade 4 News**

After a lot of hard work and dedication the fourth graders successfully completed the NYS Math Assessment. This month in Math students will learn about measurement and participate in many hands-on measurement lessons

In **Social Studies**, the students will be learning about the American Revolution from a variety of view points.

In **Science** we will be learning about rocks and minerals and how to classify them.

**Happy Birthday to:**

**Allie R. – March 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Grade 5 News**

Grade 5 wishes you a joyous Lenten and Easter Season.

Grade 5 has been working hard preparing for the New York State Math Test. It will be given March 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>.

In Reading, we will complete the unit on Adapting. Adventures will be next. During the month of March, we will be reading Science Fiction Books.

In Science we will switch our focus to invertebrates. The snail will arrive in the next couple of weeks.

We will continue our Social Studies unit on the Civil War and continue with the formation of the remaining States.

**Nature's Classroom** final deposits are due. Look for more information to follow.

**Happy Birthday to:**

**Ryan F. – March 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Claire M. – March 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Kevin P. – March 19<sup>th</sup>**

**MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS**

*We are proud to announce that the following Middle School students achieved High Honors and Honors during the second marking period.*

**Grade 8**

**High Honors**

**Tammy C.**

**Caitlin C.**

**Lucas C.**

**Lyndsey F.**

**Kathleen K.**

**Megan M.**

**Heidi P.**

**Honors**

**Morgan A.**

**Maria B.**

**Gus B.**

**Paige B.**

**Marisa C.**

**Nyla G.**

**Samantha H.**

**Julie L.**

**Rebecca L.**

**Karen L.**

**Antonio M.**

**Jimmy M.**

**Michael R.**

**Siobhan S.**

**Devin W.**

**Robyn Y.**

**Grade 7**

**High Honors**

Carrianna V.  
Isabella K.  
Matthew R.  
Zoe F.  
Emily L.  
Roan F.  
Kevin B.  
Samantha B.  
Kaitlyn M.

**Honors**

Zachary D.\*\***(Correction: Please note that Zach also made Honor Role for 1st quarter, however his name was not on the list.)**

Sydney W.  
Cassidy P.  
Regan M.  
Shayne B.  
Kyla K.  
John E.  
Cullen U.  
Samantha T.  
Phyllis R.  
Mihee Pai  
Elizabeth M.  
Christine B.

**Grade 6 High Honors**

Christina B.  
Ethan D.  
Althea M.  
Dominique S.

**Grade 6 Honors**

Cole B.  
Sarah D.  
Stephen J.  
Christian L.  
Jacob L.  
Robbie M.  
Logan R.  
Kathryn S.

**Amelia Stapleton**

**From Mrs. Voellm**

**Middle School** had a great time at the Valentine's Dance! We will be hosting an activity night in March.

**Middle School Math**

**Advanced Grade 5** has finished their unit on angles and triangles. They are well prepared for their Math test on **March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>**.

**Math 6** has finished their unit on expressions and equations. They are working on practice NYS tests and preparing for their test the week of March 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>.

**Math 7 and Advanced 7** have finished their unit on surface area, volume and graphs. They are also practicing and getting ready for their test the week of March 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>.

**Math 8** has finished their unit on functions and are preparing for the State test as well. Middle School Math classes will all be excited on March 13<sup>th</sup>.

**From Mrs. Giabanis**

**Middle School Social Studies  
Grammar 8; & Literature 6**

**Social Studies 6-** Ancient China has been our most recent focus. We are learning about The Great Wall, various dynasties, and Confucius. The students are embracing these interesting concepts and new ideas. The students are continuing to bring their insightful questions, wonderful energy, and love of history to class each day!

**Social Studies 7-** We are learning about the Constitution. We are learning about how our "new nation" learned to govern itself following the American Revolution. Students will be

doing various writing assignments during this section to show their understanding of the material.

**Social Studies 8-** We are currently studying about World War I. The students are understanding the causes of the war including: Militarism, Imperialism, and Alliances. Students are understanding that the United States role as a "World Power" is developing at this point in history and its involvement in WWI shapes our future foreign policies.

**Writing Workshop 8-** We are working on DBQ (Document Based Questions) skills unit. Students have been practicing the essential skills of document and photograph analysis, as well as understanding bias as it pertains to propaganda and point of view. In addition, students are writing complete DBQ essays and incorporating the studied documents that have been studied. They are doing a wonderful job!!!

**Literature 6-** We are reading *Tuck Everlasting*. Students are learning about the different characters and showing their understanding through class discussion, readers journal entries, and other writing assignments.

**Happy Birthday to:**  
**Cassidy P. – March 4<sup>th</sup>**  
**Isabella K. – March 10<sup>th</sup>**

**From Mrs. Kennedy**  
**Middle School Literature and**  
**Grammar**

**Literature 8-** Students will be reading *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee in one class and *Roll of Thunder, Hear my Cry* by Mildred Taylor in the other. Both novels tell the tale of a young girl facing challenges in the South during the Great Depression.

**Literature 7-** One class will be finishing *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton, while the other will be finishing *The Giver* by Lois Lowry. Both novels explore young adults' quest to make sense of the society in which they live.

**Literature 6-** The students will be finishing *The Cay* by Theodore Taylor. In this book, a young boy is stranded on an island with a complete stranger. Through this experience, he learns survival skills, as well as the true meaning of friendship, love, and sacrifice.

**From Ms. Colangione**  
**Middle School Spanish**

The grade 6 students have finished their unit of study on the body and are presently studying foods, table settings, and recipes. We are having a lot of fun with all the Spanish words and meals from Spain and Latin America. We have found many of these meals to be very similar to, and in some cases, just like ours. It is fun to be able to use another language, especially at the dinner table! The next units of study will be weather and clothing.

For Spanish Night the grade 6 students will be visiting a grade 7 team. They will gain understanding of the project, the steps to take, the report, the presentation, and the teamwork needed to successfully complete the task. They have chosen the project with which they will be involved and have already met a few times with the grade 7 students.

The grade 7 students are getting ready for Spanish Night which is April 2<sup>nd</sup>. They are finishing their written reports and working on their presentations which incorporate tri-fold boards technology, and other resources. Some of their topics include Spanish

Dance, the Conquistadors, Spanish Houses, Spanish Foods and Desserts, Spanish Holidays, Tennis and Soccer, and others. Everyone is welcome to join us!

In addition, the students have been studying a unit on community and neighborhood, learning a multitude of vocabulary words which can be used on a daily basis. Each day the students continue to develop verbal skills for every day communication. The students are also learning more advanced sentence structure and concepts by writing and speaking brief letters and peer interaction. Their next unit of study will be health and welfare.

The grade 8 students have been working on their Spanish projects which include: Bull Fighting, Spanish Cuisine, Spanish Pop Culture, Traditional Spanish Holidays, El Futbol, Mexican foods, the Quinceanera, Pinatas, Madrid, Spanish Dance, Barcelona, Day of the Dead and others. They will have completed their written reports within the week. The next phase of the project is to prepare an oral report about the project using technology, tri-fold boards and other resources. Spanish Night is April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Everyone is invited to join us for a delightful evening of learning and fun.

In addition to their projects the grade 8 students are presently studying a unit focusing on private and public services. They continue to learn more advanced grammatical concepts for both verbal and written use of Spanish. Also, everyday the students work on their speaking skills, doing conversations with peer partners. Preparation for the proficiency exam is well on its way!

### **From Mrs. Bullock**

### **Middle School Religion**

Lent began with the entire school attending the Holy Spirit Parish Ash Wednesday celebration. As we continue through Lent we will be discussing in all classes the ways we can observe the season and how we can make Lent more meaningful for each of us.

There will be a Reconciliation service for the students during Lent and individual classes will be praying the Stations of the Cross in Holy Spirit Church.

### **From Mrs. Valley** **Middle School Science**

This month the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Earth Science class completed a unit on weather. Students became familiar with several variables that are involved in weather forecasting, and completed a week long lab to produce a synoptic weather map.

In advanced physical science we studied the “visible” signs of a chemical reaction, and then tested our skills in lab analyzing several reactions. We also had an introduction to radioactive decay and completed a lab on half-life. We are now beginning a 3 week lesson on motion and forces.

### **From Mr. Neubert** **Middle School Science**

#### **Science 6 – Earth Science**

The Earth Science class is currently studying minerals and preparing to begin a Unit on rocks. The Scotia-Glenville traveling museum will be at Holy Spirit on March 12 to teach the Rocks Rock enrichment program.

#### **Science 7 - Life Science**

The Life Science classes have begun to study genetics and human inheritance. We're currently learning how to use

punnett squares and pedigree charts to predict the inheritance of certain genetic traits.

**Science 8** – The Physical Science classes are finishing up a Unit on force and getting ready to begin a Unit on simple machines. After school review sessions to prepare students for the upcoming New York State Science Test will begin soon.

### **From Mrs. Girvin**

#### **Math Course A**

**Advanced Math 6** students have spent much time working with percents, decimals, fractions, and solving problems with proportions. We will begin preparing for the NYS Math 6 Exam which will be given in early March.

**Algebra** students have been learning more about linear equations, using slope-intercept, standard, and point slope forms. They have been writing equations of lines through specific points and writing equations of lines parallel and perpendicular to other lines.

#### **Art**

Pre-K fashioned 3 little mice running for some swiss cheese for the letter M of the week.

Kindergarten is fold over printing some pretty butterflies with tempera paints. As the wings are folded and opened a beautiful symmetrical design is revealed.

Grade One has just finished a wonderful laying down cat in crayon and sharpie marker. The rug beneath her is crayon and watercolor paints.

Grade Two is working on a First Eucharist project. Today we cut a chalice from yellow construction paper and glued it to a purple background. We

have just finished drawing a cluster of grapes and vine on the cup. We will continue our designs in pastels next week.

Grade Three has just completed a drawing of Garfield the Cat sitting atop a submarine sandwich in crayons and cut paper.

Grade Four is finishing up their alien and his planet project. We will be working on a Dagwood sandwich in cut paper next.

Grade Five has mythical beasts that are almost finished. Some students have added pastels, some watercolors or markers to work up some very interesting pieces.

Grade Six is currently working on some Pointillism projects. These tiny (index card) works of art in watercolor markers feature optical blending in the style of Georges Seurat. They are made from dots.

Grade Seven is in the middle of a crayon batik portrait of Jesus or Mary. We are crayoning our artwork heavily in preparation for a purple tempera paint bath. Cool results coming soon!

Grade Eight is working on a Me Collage. We are using several symbols of things about ourselves – favorite vacation spot, musical instrument, sports, hobbies, pets, etc. to create a piece that is unique to each student. Markers, crayons, pastels or paints can be chosen to create a design.

**Please note the flyers that went out for Mrs. Cahill's Summer Art Workshop have a mistake!!! The last workshop is actually August 24-28. Please check a backpack near you!**

#### **Spanish**

**Kindergarten** has been working on the Spanish alphabet book. We

colored one paper sheet every class and practiced the words that go with the letter of the day. We are continuing with our warm up activities. Keep up the good work!

**Grade One** students just finished the animal book in Spanish. We practiced the words and completed the farm paper. Keep up the good work.

**Grades Two and Three** will be working with opposites (opuestos). We will practice words, and work with work paper sheets and crossword puzzles. Keep up the good work!

**Grades Four and Five** have been working on unit #10 Art (Arte) and learning facts about artists. We are working on exercises from the book. We just finished the unit on body parts. We practiced the words and completed the exercises in the book. Keep up the good work.

### Library

February is *I love my library* month  
So we decided to celebrate  
In Grade 4 and 5 we're using Publisher to create  
Posters to advertise books that we think are great!  
Grade 3 has been learning about the Dewey Decimal System  
We've made collages for each category, and learned a little about Melvil Dewey's life story  
Next we'll be using the online catalog!  
Grade 6 has been keeping a reading log  
To help with their book talks—  
Which we hope will get their classmates interested in reading  
Outside the box...  
Grade 7 is working on fairy tales, analyzing and reading

These traditional tales are planting the seed in

The new fractured tales they are writing  
Creating new versions of these tales will be exciting

Grades 2 and 1 have been reading  
E books that have won the Caldecott.  
We've enjoyed the illustrations and stories a lot!

We even created our own book award!  
Kindergarten and Teddy Bear are moving forward

Reading through the alphabet and seasons

Keep up the great work  
Keep Reading!

### Music

The **Kindergarten through Third Grades** have begun learning their music for the upcoming Spring Concert. The theme of this year's show is My Planet, Your Planet. The children are learning ways in which they can help the environment, and we are learning fun songs as we go! We can't wait to sing them for you. We are also singing songs for Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, and the 100th Day of School!

The **Third Grade** class is also still playing the recorder. They are getting better and better. We are learning new rhythms, and new notes. Juba Jive is a very enjoyable one, with half the class playing recorder and the other half clapping and stomping a beat.

The **Fourth Grade** class is completing a recorder song called Eine Kleine Recorder Music, an arrangement of Mozart's Eine Kliene Nachtmusic. They also learned a great deal about Mozart's life, and I was impressed with how inquisitive they were. They asked insightful questions and even brought in cds and books to show me. They are a

joy to teach.

The **Fifth Grade** class is beginning a unit on creating their own household percussion compositions. You might soon have your fifth grader asking if he could borrow a pot or pan from home! They will be performing their compositions for the class once they are completed. These were inspired by our viewing of Stomp.

The **Sixth Grade** students are playing rhythmic compositions with both Orff instruments and body percussion. We are working in small groups and are playing three part scores.

The **Seventh Grade** class is discussing Bach, Mozart and Beethoven. This class has been incredibly interested in the composers and their music, and it has been a treat for me to teach them this unit. I am really proud of them.

The **Eighth Grade** class is about to begin singing in two and three part harmony. The music is challenging but I think they will enjoy it.

Our Handbell rehearsals are going well. Please be sure that your child attends all scheduled practices. Thank you.

### **Technology News**

Our Future City Presenters were honored at the Engineers' Convention at the Marriot Hotel on February 5, 2009. I am very proud of our team. Congratulations on winning Second Place!

Technology Fair of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany will be held March 2, 2009 at the St. Joseph's Provincial House on Route 7 in Loudonville. Schools of the diocese will be demonstrating their technology projects. Holy Spirit School will be

represented. The Fair will be opened from 10AM to 3PM and from 6 – 8PM.

**K-2** Students have been using KidPix CD to create a Color Demonstration in Spanish. They are naming colors in Spanish and inserting graphics to illustrate each color.

**Grade 3** Students used the website [http://www.edheads.org/activities/simple\\_machines](http://www.edheads.org/activities/simple_machines) to learn to identify the uses and the descriptions of Simple Machines. This will help them in their Grade 3 Science Unit on Simple Machines.

**Grades 4** is beginning to learn how to create and animate slides using the Microsoft program Power Point. They will create slides about themselves and insert their pictures on the slides.

**Grade 5** is doing a project for the Tech Fair that describes the important cities of Spain. They each choose 1 city to research. They then created 1 slide in Power Point that described their city and its important features. I combined all the slides into One Power Point Slide Show which will be shown at the Tech Fair on March 2.

**Grade 6** Acrostic Research Students are choosing a historical figure and researching that person's life. They then are using each letter of the historical person's name to create an acrostic poem. Lastly they are creating a Power Point Slide Show illustrating what they have learned.

**Grade 7** Fractured Fairytale Cartoons. Students will create animated cartoons using the fractured fairytale stories they created in Language Arts Class. Some of the students in this class have also created Spanish Brochures for the Tech Fair.

**Grade 8** is working on their Research paper. This is an integrated Library, Language Arts and Technology assignment.

### **Parent School Association News**

#### **Spring Fundraiser**

*As a reminder, the Spring Fundraiser is underway. The money for the sale of candy and raffle tickets, as well as the raffle ticket stubs, must be returned to school by **Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**. The raffle drawing will take place at the **Athletic Banquet on Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup>**.*

#### **Box Tops for Education**

The PSA would like to encourage all families to clip Box Tops and submit them to school. Box Tops can be found on many products including General Mills Cereals, Ziploc Bags, Juicy Juice, and Pillsbury rolls. Holy Spirit will receive 10 cents for each Box Top. In February we invited families to participate in a raffle using their Box Tops as raffle entries. The family who wins the raffle will receive an out-of-uniform pass for every child in the family. We hope to hold more contests like this in the future! Please clip Box Tops and make a difference for our school!

#### **Lunch Program**

Please remember to utilize our school lunch program which is provided through Mary Lou Chestara. The program needs your support in order to be successful. The lunches are nutritious and a variety of sandwiches and meals are offered at a great price. Please consider ordering lunch for your children through this program. **On behalf of the**

**Parent School Association we would like to thank Mary Lou for her hard work dedication and support of our school and our children.**

#### **School Banking**

Please remember **Thursday is School Banking Day**. The drop box is located in the school lobby. The banking program is a good way to teach our children the value of money and how to properly handle it. If you wish to open a new account for your child or have any questions please contact Heidi F., or Mrs. Ritz.

**The next PSA meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 2nd at 6:45 PM in the School Library. All parents are invited to attend. We hope to see you there! If you have any questions, please call Patti P. at 479-3016**

