

Fantastic Fundraising

Our "Save a Bro sport a Mo" fundraiser was a success, staff and students showed support for prostate cancer in November by wearing a moustache. Our male staff stepped up to the plate not only by letting their moustaches grow wild but also colored them crazy colors. Well over \$200.00 was raised.



On the last Thursday before the Christmas break, we had a school wide cake auction fundraiser for Sister Maureen in Haiti. The theme of the auction was Angry Birds Seasonal Edition. The Grade sevens raised the most money in support of this cause and not only got first pick of a cake, but they also earned the "missing" golden egg prize! Congratulations to all of the classrooms! I couldn't be more proud of all of us for collectively raising \$915.50 for the orphanage.

God Bless you all!
Alexis Mitchell



COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Happy New Year to all I hope your holidays were pleasant; I'm looking forward to another great month with your children. If there are any concerns that you would like to discuss please feel free to call me and I will do my best to try and assist you or your child.

Here is a little quote that I came across that I would like to share with you:

"The greatest gifts that you can give your children are the Roots of Responsibility and the Wings of Independence."

Denis Waitley

I hope your month is full of Love and Lite

Sincerely

Patty Gullion

School liaison/Counselor



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St. Mary's Messenger

News You Can Use!

January 2012

Happy New Year!!!

IMPORTANT DATES

- Jan 4 School Resumes
- Jan 8 Epiphany
- Jan 11 Pizza Hot Lunch
- Jan 12 Hot Lunch-Spaghetti & Meatballs, Pudding & whipped topping \$5.00
- Jan 18 Pizza Hot Lunch
- Jan 19 Sloppy Joes, carrots & dip, cookie \$5.00
- Jan 20 Epiphany Mass @ Church 10:00am
- Jan 25 Pizza Hot Lunch
- Jan 26 Beef Stew & homemade bun Jello & whipped topping \$5.00
- Jan 30 PD Day / No School
- Jan 31 Report Card Day New Semester Begins Options Change
- Feb 1 Student-led conferences Gr. 7-12 Pizza Hot Lunch

Welcome to 2012!!

I trust that you all took time to relax and celebrate the Christmas season with your families. As we begin a new year, let's take time to remember the moments of 2011 that have made us stronger and helped us realize what truly is important to us. Now is a time to create a new and positive beginning. The weeks ahead will be busy as we begin to prepare for the opening of the new school in March.

I know I speak on behalf of our staff and students in wishing you and your family a happy and healthy New Year.

"Year's end is neither an end nor a beginning but a going on, with all the wisdom that experience can instill in us." ~ Hal Borland

If I can be of any assistance to you, please don't hesitate to contact me at the school at 780-849-5244.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Nadeau
Assistant Principal

ALL ABOARD...

WHO WOULDN'T WANT TO WEAR THERE P.J.'S ALL DAY??

OUR POLAR EXPRESS AND P.J. DAY WERE A GREAT WAY TO FINISH UP BEFORE THE CHRISTMAS BREAK.

BRAVO!!!

ST. MARY OF THE LAKE PRESENTED "THE CASE OF THE RELUCTANT INNKEEPER" FOR OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT AND A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL. EVERYONE WORKED VERY HARD AND THE MUSIC AND PERFORMANCES WERE AWESOME!



NEWS IN SPORTS



With the basketball season in full swing, the Huskies are howling!

Starting in December, the Huskies had a plethora of games, winning some losing some, and coming away with a bronze medal in the High Prairie tournament stacked with talent and excitement. Some other highlights so far in the year include a triple overtime game against St. Andrews (which we unfortunately lost) and a Whitecourt tournament where we came away with no hardware (that would be medals).

As the new school of St. Francis Athletic Academy opens, we also had to make some changes (namely our team name, and our uniform). To help with this, Moonlight scaffolding showed their incredible generosity and sponsored brand new uniforms for both the girls and boys basketball teams! Thank you Mario and Denise Camaroneiro for this gift! St. Mary of the Lake Huskies have left the building, and are now replaced with the St. Francis Falcons!

We look forward to ringing in the new year flying, and taking our basketball program to new heights. You can look forward to the sports column filled with cheesy new lines that feature Falcons instead of Huskies! As the season progresses, I am excited to show off the new skills that the boys are developing, and the new uniforms that Moonlight Scaffolding has blessed us with.

GO FALCONS!

Coach Evan Mellsen

St. Mary of the Lake wishes Mrs. Belbin a fond farewell

At the end of January, Mrs. Belbin will be formally retiring. She will be missed by staff and students. We all wish her the best as she goes to Australia to be with her son and then back to St. John's to be back with her extended family.

Mrs. Cathy Shultz will be moving from junior/senior high to grade six once Mrs. Belbin retires. Mrs. Shultz has extensive experience teaching students of all grades and is familiar with our grade six class having taught them Music.

Christmas Lunch helps spread Holiday Cheer

In partnership with the Red Cross, we were pleased to provide a festive lunch to students, staff, parents and special guests.

Thanks to those families who made Christmas ornament donations last month. The decorations were graciously accepted by families in need. THANK-YOU!!

Check out the school website at www.stmaryofthelake.ca



PIZZA WITH THE PRINCIPAL QUIZ

Answer the following question correctly and you will be entered into the monthly draw for Pizza with the Principal.

Question :

Who sponsored the St. Francis Falcons new uniforms?

Student's Answer

Name: _____

Grade: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Spiritus Mundi

Welcome to January 2012! In January we celebrate and observe Epiphany, which is the climax of the Advent/Christmas Season and the Twelve Days of Christmas. These days are usually counted from the evening of December 25th until the morning of January 6th, which is the Twelfth Day. In following this older custom of counting the days beginning at sundown, the evening of January 5th is the **Twelfth Night**. This is an occasion for feasting in some cultures, including the baking of a special **King's Cake** as part of the festivities of Epiphany (a King's Cake is part of the observance of *Mardi Gras* in French Catholic culture of the Southern USA). The term *epiphany* means "to show" or "to make known" or even "to reveal." In Western churches, it remembers the coming of the wise men bringing gifts to visit the Christ child, who by so doing "reveal" Jesus to the world as Lord and King. Around January 6, the symbol **+C+B+M+** with two numbers before and two numbers after (for example, **20+C+B+M+12**) is sometimes seen written in chalk above the doorway of Christian homes. The letters are the initials of the traditional names of the Three Magi: Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. These letters also abbreviate the Latin phrase *Christus mansionem benedicat*, "May Christ bless the house." The beginning and ending numbers are the year, 2012 in the example above. The crosses represent Christ.

The following prayer may be said while the entrance is marked:

The three Wise Men,

C Caspar,

M Melchior,

B and Balthasar followed the star of God's Son who became human

20 two thousand

12 and twelve years ago.

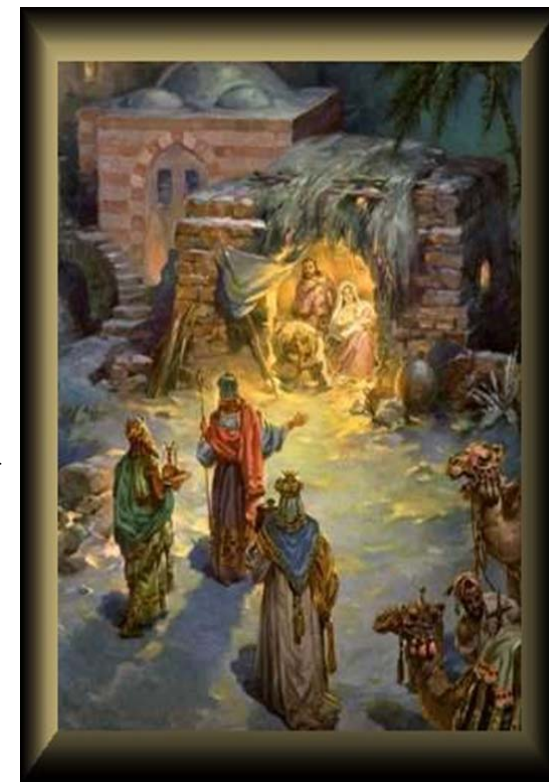
++ May Christ bless our home

++ and remain with us throughout the new year.

Amen.

May this Epiphany Blessing be a reminder that Christ is incarnate in the love and care we manifest to each other in our ordinary daily lives together.

Happy New Year to everyone, and may God continue to bless you and shine His light upon you.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB REOPENING

January 4, 2012

CONTACT ANITA SORENSEN

bgclub.slavelake@gmail.com

Or

Call 780-849-4143