



Together, We Are Family

February 7th, 2019

From the desk of Principal Gannon



WHAT'S BUZZING AT SCHOOL

After a shortened Catholic Schools Week, due to the cold weather, our students are back to learning and growing. Hard to believe that today marks the mid quarter of our Third Quarter. On Monday, our Fifth Graders welcomed the chief naturalist and three volunteers from the *Foundation for Geauga Parks*. The students participated in their Nature Scopes binocular education program and used their binoculars to learn more about astronomy. Also, on Monday we had students in Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Grade stay after school to prepare for Science Olympiad. On Tuesday our Kindergarten and First Graders celebrated the 100th Day of School. To celebrate the day, the students completed different learning activities to practice working with numbers and sets; all while dressing like they were 100 years old. On Wednesday, our Eighth Graders began their DARE classes with Deputy Lundstrom. Tonight, Jack Murray will be competing in the Geauga County Spelling Bee. The Junior Achievement program, which helps students foster work-readiness, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy skills, began in several of our classrooms. Thank you to our volunteers for helping make this program a success. Our students competed in the Zaner-Bloser National Handwriting Contest in their classrooms this past week. Our grade level winners are Lucy Weaver (K), Blazena Percic (1st), Briana Cramer (2nd), Veronica Romagni (3rd), Stella Morgan (4th), Josephine Mislav (5th), Meagan Passow (6th), Lucy Joyce (7th), and Apollo Percic (8th). Congratulations to our winners. Please continue to keep our students and staff in your prayers as we continue our school year.

MAP ASSESSMENT RESULTS AND MID-QUARTER PROGRESS REPORTS

Student Progress Reports from our winter MAP Assessments are going home in the Thursday folder today. If you need help interpreting the results please contact your child's homeroom teacher or Mr. Gannon. Mid-Quarter Progress Reports are available to be viewed online through GradeLock. Please take time with your child(ren) to review their MAP results and progress reports so they can continue to improve and grow this quarter.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS REGIONAL FREE THROW COMPETITION

The Knights of Columbus Regional Free Throw Competition is taking place this Sunday, February 10th at 4:00 in our school gym. Good luck to our winners Elizabeth Welhouse, Marie Masters, Selina Sparker, Mary Lee, Anna Lee, Joslyn Borah, Anthony Montagna, Sam Barcikowski, Dylan Hoenigman, Mario Romagni, and Luke Wolf this weekend.

STUDENT APPRECIATION DAY AND DRESS DOWN

With the cold days last week, we were not able to have our Student Appreciation Day. We have rescheduled the special day for Wednesday, February 13th. Students will gather in the gym to play bingo for a chance to win prizes along with enjoying no homework that evening; unless they have to finish something from in school that day. In addition to Student Appreciation Day, next week will be our Monday through Thursday dress down week for all students from the cookie dough fundraiser. Students will also be able to enjoy a dress down day on Tuesday, February 19th. For this dress down day, we are encouraging the students to wear their favorite Cleveland or Ohio sports team apparel that day.

CYO TRACK AND FIELD SIGN-UPS

St. Helen School students in Third through Eighth Grade will be running track with Notre Dame Elementary School (NDES) this Spring. Additionally, they are offering a Little Lions track program for Kindergarten through Second Graders. Sign-up deadline is Tuesday, February 12th. Please contact Mrs. Melanie Kilmer for more information at melaniekilmer@sbcglobal.net or at 440-856-3135. The direct link for registration is <https://fs3.formsite.com/ndcl/v9vhhbrumo/indexhtml> or through NDES Spring Sports Link at www.ndes.org/SpringSports.aspx.

CLASSROOM VALENTINE'S DAY PARTY

Attention all room parents. Please make sure that you have contacted your homeroom teacher about planning your Valentine's Day Classroom Party on Thursday, February 14th. If your child will be passing out Valentines in the classroom, please have one for each student in the class. Thank you for helping make this day special for our students.

NO SCHOOL MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18th

In observance of Presidents Day, our school will be closed on Monday, February 18th. Classes will resume Tuesday, February 19th. Have a safe long weekend.

EXTRAVAGANZA NEWS - LIGHTS, CAMERA, AUCTION

The St. Helen School Extravaganza is Saturday, February 23rd at LaMalfa Centre in Mentor. The theme for our Extravaganza this year is Lights, Camera, Auction. If you are in need of another ticket or sponsorship form, please contact the school office or visit the information desk in the church gathering space. We are continuing to collect items for our event. If you can support our event by donating an item, contributing a monetary donation, attending the event, and even helping our event we would be most appreciative. We appreciate any and all contributions you can make to help our Extravaganza. Donations can be brought to the school office or you can contact Mrs. Kate Bores (boresfamily4@gmail.com) or Mrs. Alison Lee (ali3975@yahoo.com).

CHRISTMAS PLAY DVD AVAILABLE

The DVDs for "Crazy, Busy, Peaceful, Holy Night" are now on sale. Order forms will be going home today.

SCHOOL YEARBOOKS

Order forms for 2018-2019 yearbooks are coming home in today's Thursday folder. Each yearbook is \$20. Please send a check for \$20 payable to St. Helen School. The deadline for orders is March 11th.

CANDY GRAMS SALE CONTINUES

A note from our Spirit and Service Squad. "The Spirit and Service Squad will continue selling and distributing Candy Grams next week through Valentine's Day. Candy Grams are 25 cents each or 5 for \$1. They include a small piece of candy and can be sent to anyone in the school building. Spread love and friendship by sending Candy Grams! They will be sold each day before school in the school office."

BREAKFAST BAGS CONTINUING THIS MONTH

A note from our Spirit and Service Squad. "The Spirit and Service Squad will be collecting donations for breakfast bags throughout the month of February. A flyer with a list of the items we are collecting will be in the Thursday folder today. As with the hygiene bags, breakfast bags will be distributed to area homeless through St. Paschal Baylon's Helping Hands Ministry." Thank you for your help and support.

A NOTE FROM THE WHOLE U

Love your heart--Engage in Aerobic Exercise. It brings in more air and oxygen. This makes your heart and blood vessels happy!

SCHOOL CLOSING ALERTS

When we need to close school, we will send out both a text and email alert to the numbers and emails we have in our system. Please make sure you keep the office updated with any changes in your cell phone number or email address. Additionally, you can watch the local news stations to watch for our school name on the scrolling list. The local news stations also have options for you to sign up for text alerts when our school closes. Please check your local news stations' website to sign up for the text alerts of your choice. Below are two links that we have found on the websites <https://www.wkyc.com/textalerts> and <https://fox8.com/closings/closing-text-alerts/>.

MERCHANT CERTIFICATES

Updated merchant certificate order forms are available in the school office. These merchant certificates help support our school. Please contact Mary Beth Lyons at 440-487-6360 if you have any questions. As always thank you for your support.

STILL HAVE A QUESTION OR A CONCERN

If you have any questions or concerns about our school, your child's progress, or if you would like to talk to me about something, please contact Mr. Gannon to schedule a meeting. You can reach me through my email, pgannon@sthelen.com, the school office phone, 440-564-7125, or my cell phone, 440-785-5608. I will do my best to get back to you as soon as I can.