

BEDE BANTER

Weeks of September 19th and 26th, 2005
A semi-monthly St. Bede School newsletter

Welcome back to our former students and parents. Welcome to those students and families just joining us. We are happy you have chosen St. Bede School, and we look forward to a great year of academic excellence, new friendships, and spiritual growth.

The beginning of a school year is a very special time for all of us. A feeling of anticipation is sparked by new teachers, new school supplies, and new classmates. Best of all is the thought that it is a fresh start to a year of great success and new goals.

Keeping this feeling alive is essential, and members of the St. Bede community are dedicated to this goal. In this spirit, we ask that you more than ever, make a special gift of time for your child. We know that busy as you are, it won't be easy; but we also know what a wonderful gift time can be. Take time to listen. Take time to share activities. Take time to show your love and support.

"If the greatest evil in the world is not anger or hatred, but indifference, then the opposite holds true: the greatest love is the attention we pay to each other, and especially to our children. We serve children best by simply noticing them, by paying attention to them." From Endangered

Your prayers, your commitment, your active participation, and your spirit of cooperation are essential as we meet the challenges we face for this 2005-2006 school year. I wish for everyone a truly wonderful and powerful school year.
Mary Drummond



1st Grade: Lines Colors Emotions
Artist: Kirsten Ovick

IN SEARCH OF HAPPINESS, GOD'S WAY: LIVING THE BEATITUDES

A pilgrimage is a journey we make in search of something really important. It's something that makes us happy, but it also requires that we make sacrifices along the way. This year the St. Bede School family is making a pilgrimage of sorts. We are in search of happiness - not the kind the world gives, but rather the kind that comes from the very heart of God. We invite you to join us.

We all want to be happy, and we are happiest when we do what is right. As we grow older and move ahead on our life's journey, we are constantly faced with decisions. It's not always easy to do the right thing. Sometimes it's a struggle that takes both courage and bravery. Which path will we take this year? Will we come to know and love and believe in Jesus and accept what he says, even when it's contrary to what others are saying? Will we reject the lure of sin, however attractive it may be, in order to follow the path to heaven? And how will we know what the right thing is?

We know because Jesus told us. He told us how we can experience joy that never ends. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus

taught us *his* way of life, the Beatitudes, the Magna Carta of Christianity. They are the markers he gave us to direct us on our pilgrimage.

The Beatitudes are a description of Jesus, and at the same time they describe what a Christian should be. By looking at Jesus we learn what it means to be poor in spirit, meek, and merciful; what it means to seek justice, to be pure of heart, to be a peacemaker. Each month we will work on making one of the beatitudes our own in our quest to discover God's way to happiness. September's beatitude is "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of God." We hope the kids hear Jesus saying to them: Happy are those who need me, who depend totally on me, for I will reward them. I will never leave them alone, and I will make them over-the-top happy with me forever in heaven. We invite you to join us in Church on October 3rd at 8:20 as we unveil the next beatitude: Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Nancy Kelly



1st Grade: Lines Colors Emotions
Artist: Liam Parrish

*September's Beatitude:
Blessed are people who know they need God, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to them.*

St. Bede Welcomes...

- 1st grade: Jake Milligan
Meggie Watson
2nd grade: Christopher Perez
3rd grade: Garrett Milliner
4th grade: Tommy Watson
Cecily Milligan
5th grade: Alexandra Delazio
6th grade: Erika Benson
7th grade: Nathan Guy
Daryl Milliner
8th grade: Miranda Johnson

and all of the many new Preschool and Kindergarten students

plus

Terrific Teachers

Crystal Mance, Math 6 – 8, 7th HR
Lori Rongier, French
Catherine Scriven, Spanish



1st Grade: Lines Colors Emotions
Artist: John Graves

PTG POST-ITS...

To all returning students and families, welcome back. To our new students and families, welcome aboard. We hope you were able to join us for a cup of coffee on the first morning of school. Thanks to all those who donated the food and coffee on that beautiful morning. Speaking of coffee, Kindergarten parents were able to mingle a bit after their first day drop-off and enjoy a cup together at the playground. Thank you to our Kindergarten Mentors who supplied us with tasty breakfast bites to go with their coffee. We all know that Kindergarten can be a period of adjustment for some little ones and their families and it seems the questions about new school life never end. However, our Kindergarten Mentors are here to help you through the transition. They are happy to answer questions and concerns, and

it's especially comforting knowing that their children have just completed Kindergarten and have moved on to First Grade. Thank you to our 2005-06 Kindergarten Mentors: Gina Ayoob, Jennifer Gold, Robin Maier, Veronica Mellis, Julieanne Statnik, and Chiara Watkins.

The Fall brings with it a number of exciting (and new) fundraisers; hopefully something to interest everyone - - **the St. Bede Spring Bulb Sale**, which will run from September 16-30, co-chaired by Bonnie Youngs and Clare Stephenson; **Kathryn Beich /Otis Spunkmeyer Frozen Cookie Dough**, which will run from October 14 - 28, co-chaired by Anne Moy and Leanna Petrarca-Ballog; and **"A Very Merry Evening" at Kaufmann's**, to be held on November 9 from 6:00 - 10:00 P.M. at the Kaufmann's Downtown Pittsburgh store, chaired by Kathy Brahan. Information about each of these events will be coming home soon!

These are in addition to our annual Fall fundraisers which include: **Triple Three** - sales continue through the end of September **Sally Foster**, which runs through September 23 (remember though - you can order online through December) and, never forget, **Giant Eagle Gift Cards**, which can be purchased year round in the school office and after all Masses.

The School Directory is in its final stages before going to press and we ask and remind everyone to please be sure to turn in your School Directory Form.

~ *Barbara, Diane, Vivian, Donna, and Johnette*



1st Grade: Lines Colors Emotions
Artist: Audrey Ayoob

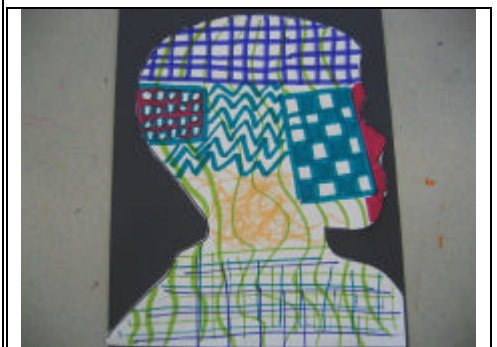


3rd Grade: Silhouettes
Artist: Ben Maher

Jeans and Candy!

How would you like to wear jeans and eat candy in class? If you can convince 60% of your class to buy a Giant Eagle Gift Card during your class month, your class will win a dress down day and a bucket of candy. The month your class has a chance to win is listed below. Good luck!

8th grade: September 1-October 15
7th grade: October
6th grade: November
5th grade: December 1- January 15
4th grade: January
3rd grade: February
2nd grade: March
1st grade: April
Kindergarten: May



3rd Grade: Silhouettes
Artist: Kevin Costello

Box Tops: Stop on a Dime

Take the time to cut out the Box Top for Education stamp on participating manufacturers' labels and help St. Bede earn extra money for the school. For every Box Top turned in, the school earns a dime. Last year, St. Bede cashed in more than 8,000 box tops and the Resulting \$800+ was used for supplies and other important educational material. This year, please take the time to stop on a dime.



3rd Grade: Silhouettes
Artist: Amelia Bartlett

From Student Council...

Student Council elections will be held on Monday, September 26. All petitions need to be submitted for the primary ballot by Friday, September 19. The primary will occur on Tuesday, September 20.

A huge thank you to everyone who donated to our "Dress Down Day" to help the victims of Katrina. We raised \$1437.00. Currently we are holding a raffle to raise more money. We have two tickets to the 4:15 Steelers versus New England Patriots game on Sunday, September 25. If you would like to purchase raffle tickets they are \$5.00 a ticket or 3 for \$10.00. Please help the victims of Katrina by purchasing some raffle tickets. You never know, you might win!!! Go Steelers!

BOOK IT! Once again St. Bede students in Levels K-6 will be eligible to participate in the Pizza Hut sponsored reading incentive program called "BOOK IT". The program runs from October 1, 2005 until March 31, 2006. Students are rewarded with a coupon for a free personal pan pizza, if they meet their reading goal each month. Look for BOOK IT forms to be sent home at the end of September.

-Mrs. Goldcamp (Librarian)

fun fact find

What is the theme for this school year?

Enter the answer and return to the office. Correct answers will be entered into a drawing Wednesday, September 28th!

NAME:
GRADE:

The St. Bede School Library has a special program called the "Birthday Book Club". Students may donate books (hardback please), reference materials (atlases, almanacs, biographical dictionaries, etc.), CD-ROM Encyclopedias, magazine subscriptions, and book report books to our library in honor of their birthdays. A placard is placed inside each donated book stating the donor and year it was donated. This is a wonderful way for our library to receive new materials, while teaching the children the importance of giving. If preferred, you may send in a check, made out to "St. Bede School", to Mrs. Goldcamp's attention, and I will sit down with your child and we will choose a book from one of my catalogs.

-Mrs. Goldcamp (Librarian)

**MISPLACED THE LUNCH SCHEDULE?
DON'T WORRY... YOU CAN FIND IT
ONLINE AT <http://www.catholic-church.org/stbedepgh/>**

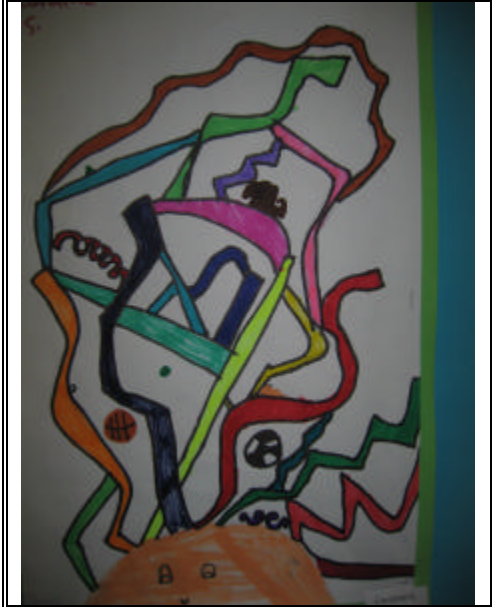
Triple 3 fundraiser needs our support!!

If you've been thinking of buying a Triple 3 Club membership -- or selling one to family or friends -- now is the time! This fundraiser contributes more than \$20,000 annually to our school budget, but to hit that goal we need to sell out all 333 club memberships. As of this week, there are 128 memberships still available, a total quite a bit behind last year at this time.

Here's how the club works. For a \$100 contribution, each member gets three chances every Saturday (starting Oct. 1) to win a \$150 prize, plus chances to win more cash prizes including the \$1,000 grand prize at the annual members party. Each membership gives a \$55 fundraising credit toward our goal of \$390 per student.

Memberships forms are available in the school office or on the St. Bede Web site. Questions? Contact Marybeth Olander 412-247-5511; Gina Ayoob, 412-362-5533; or Christine Zapinski, 412-421-3387

*Psst...Everyone wish Ms. Casper (Sept. 16th) and Ms. Handrahan (Sept. 27th)
A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!*



4th Grade: Crazy Hair Day
Artist: Caroline Seekings

Meet the new teachers:

Crystal Mance, our new 7th grade and math teacher, received a B.S. in math from Allegheny College, and an M.A.T. in Education from the University of Pittsburgh. Last year she completed her M.A.T., teaching by day at Chartiers Valley High School and attending classes by night. Her favorite subjects in elementary school were math and science.

Lori Rongier, our new French teacher, earned a Bachelor's Degree in German at Penn State in 1988. She earned a Master's Degree in British and American Studies and Teaching French as a Foreign Language at Universite Paris VII in 1999. She came to Pittsburgh in 2000 from France, and has spent the past two years at home with her 18 month old. Her favorite subjects in elementary school were English and Foreign Language, of course!

Catherine Scriven, our new Spanish teacher holds a B.A. in Latin American Studies from the University of Colorado, an M.A. in Archaeology from King's College, University of London, a P.G.C.E. (Postgraduate Certificate in Education) from the University of Surrey, England, and a Theology Certificate from St. John's College, Nottingham, England. She spent last year teaching 9th grade biology and 10th grade earth science at a private school. Her favorite subjects in elementary school were reading and carpentry!

We're glad you're here!!

4th Grade: Crazy Hair Day
Artist: Michael McInerney

Calendar:

Sunday, September 18:

- 12pm cross country meet

Monday, September 19:

- 2:30 – 4 pm future city
- 3 pm volleyball 5 vs. 6
- 3:45 pm volleyball 1 vs. 3

Tuesday, September 20:

- student council primary voting
- 2:30 – 4 pm art club
- 6:30 pm cross country practice

Wednesday, September 21:

- 3 pm fencing

Thursday, September 22:

- 9 am 4th grade to Frick Art Museum
- 2:30 – 4 pm future city
- 2:30 – 4 pm art club
- 6:30 pm cross country practice

Friday, September 23:

- 9 am School Mass, 4th grade
- 2:30 pm tennis

Saturday, September 24

Sunday, September 25:

- 11:15 am Children's Mass

Monday, September 26:

- student council elections
- 1:45 pm student council speeches
- 2:30 pm future city
- 3 pm volleyball 2 vs. 6
- 3:45 pm volleyball 4 vs. 5

Tuesday, September 27:

- Happy Birthday Miss Handrahan!!!!
- Individual pictures P3, K-3

- 2:30 – 4 pm art club
- 6:30 pm cross country practice

Wednesday, September 28:

- individual pictures P4, 4-8
- 3 pm fencing

Thursday, September 29:

- 2:30 pm future city
- 2:30 – 4 pm art club
- 6:30 pm cross country practice

Friday, September 30:

- Early Dismissal!!
- Midreports issued
- Spring flower bulb orders due
- 9 am School Mass, 3rd grade

Saturday, October 1:

- Tuition due
- New season for 333 club drawings begins

Sunday, October 2:

- 12 pm cross country meet

St. Bede School recently received a check from Target's "Take Charge of Education" School Fundraising program for \$654.39. Thank you to all who participated!!

4th Grade: Crazy Hair Day
Artist: Jack Donaher

Submissions to the Bede Banter

May be made to the School Office
C/o Robin Maier

Please note...student's work is representative of classroom work & selected for that reason

(Please be patient with the new and struggling editor!)

Sbaa stats

The athletic association welcomes the students and their families back to school. The cross country season is underway at St Bede and a record number of boys are participating with the East End Athletic Association football program. Good luck to all during the season.

Basketball will be getting underway for grades 3-8 in mid October. We are in the process of identifying head coaches for each team. If you are interested in a head coaching position, please contact John Bush at jrbush@mycingular.blackberry.net.

4th Grade: Crazy Hair Day
Artist: Mackenzie Chene

Children's Mass

School has started again and so has the Children's Mass! We are scheduled for 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at 11:15 in the gym. There will be coffee, donuts and conversation after the Mass. We need volunteers to help out with readings, setup, bringing up the gifts, etc. If you would like to be included on the email list, contact Mary Conway at mlcon@verizon.net. Plan to join us in celebrating our faith with our young families!

www.catholic-church.org/stbedepgh
Check the School Calendar for the latest on events and activities and the Homework Calendar for just that.