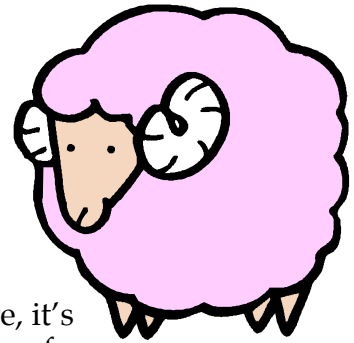


March 2, 2006



In like a lamb. At least the weather. As far as activity around here, it's more like a lion! Lent is upon us - one of our best teaching seasons of the year. The auction is only three weeks away, and with spring coming, outside activities are gearing up. Here's this week's update:

WEB SITE

Our long anticipated release of the new web site is here! You can now see us at www.smsbellevue.org. While not all the content has been moved over, we expect that to happen soon. Make a new bookmark as we hope this will become your information warehouse about school news and events. A formal notice should be sent out this week via e-mail. Many thanks to teacher Karen Pasqualetto and her former business contacts for their work and funding of the site!

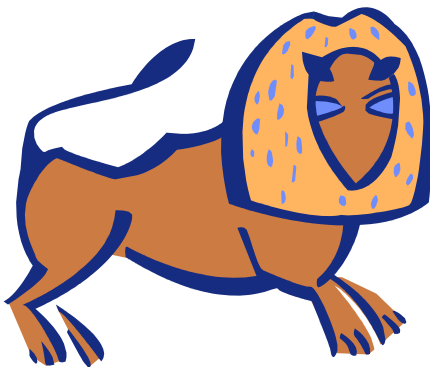
NEW BOOKS

The Kloeck and Daniels families have donated nearly 200 books to augment our sprouting classroom libraries. We are DEEPLY grateful! On the new web site we'll be posting a list of the titles we hope to add over the next year. They will be linked to our Accelerated Reader program. (If you ever used the old SRA reading program with its different color levels, you know a bit of what AR is like, only now the tests are on our network.) Great tool to encourage challenging reading. You'll hear plenty more about this over the next years. Thanks to our generous benefactors!!

WELCOME

Today we welcomed new first grader Satchel Becker and mom, Sarah, to our school family. Satchel had the chance to visit before the break and fit right into the classroom.

REGISTRATION



Applications for next year from returning and new families keep arriving, as do calls from far and wide for new packets. It continues to look like we'll exceed our anticipated enrollment for next year. No way we'll be able to squeeze into one small section at Mass each Wednesday. Please make sure to get your forms in as soon as possible. I'll be listing job openings by the end of this month.

AUCTION

Trips, dinners, tickets, artwork, and hundreds of other great items will go up for bid on Saturday, March 25 at the third annual SMS Auction. Don't be left out. Seats are going fast. If you need additional invitations, we have them in the office. And if you haven't heard yet, the fund-an-item this year will be a brand new play structure for the parish campus. If we achieve the

target goal, we can have it installed before the end of this year. Watch for more details on the web site and in the auction announcements.

Although the deadline has passed for your procurements to be listed in the catalog, we are still accepting auction items. An addendum will be published listing those items and will be available that evening.

And we're still looking for sponsors and ads to help pay for the auction catalog. Prices vary by size. Give us a call for more details.

EASY FUNDRAISING

We've received our first "kick-back" checks from the WaMoola and Ink Cartridge Recycling programs. With very little fanfare or effort, we have nearly \$200 in hand. Our web site has more information. Look under "Parents" for fundraising opportunities.

TEACHERS MISSING

Over the next few weeks, more of our teachers will be spending a bit of time away at other schools as part of site visit teams for accreditation through the Western Catholic Educational Association and the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools, the regional accrediting body. While helping the host school finalize their self-study to fulfill accreditation status, they also bring back a wealth of knowledge about other schools and their programs. This will benefit us in moving toward our full recognition over the next few years. If your child's teacher is gone for three days, this is the most likely reason. All of us either have, or will be, participating during the months ahead. I appreciate our staff's dedication to take on this significant extra assignment.

Finally...

Right after we printed my newsletter before the break, we got the great news that middle school teacher Karen Pasqualetto and her husband, Chris Hartinger, are expecting their first child. Baby is due this summer and she plans to return in the fall. A sure sign that spring is coming! Congrats to mom and dad. Life continues to grow at St. Mad's.

Have a fantastic weekend! WCC Tournament time. Go Zags!

Dan