



Tiger Talk “It’s About Them. . .



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A Newsletter from the Office of the Associate Heads of School

HELP YOUR CHILD SUCCEED IN SCHOOL

Talk With Your Child:

Conversation requires thinking as well as speaking. People who practice the art of conversation learn to voice their own ideas in their own words instead of just accepting and repeating what they’ve heard others say. How can you get your child to start conversing? Ask a question that will get him/her thinking. Try some of these conversation starters (and be sure to join in the conversations they start):

What do you think about...?

Which books would you take to a desert island?

Which historical figure would you invite to dinner?

Where would you go if you could visit any place on earth?

What would you like to be remembered for?

From Help Your Child Succeed in School-Simple Strategies for Parents

LOST-CHILDHOOD TREASURE

St. Luke’s family, we need your help in finding a James Avery silver charm bracelet with five charms lost last week in dance class. The bracelet was put in lost and found and is now lost again. It would mean a great deal to one of our students to have this special treasure returned. If you find the bracelet or can be of any help, please contact Nancy C. Harwell, Associate Head of School for PK3-4th Grades.

EPISCOPAL SCHOOL SUNDAY

We hope to see all of you as we celebrate Episcopal School Sunday, this Sunday, September 27, 2009. Students who will be performing are asked to report to the school gym at 10:00 a.m. Students are to wear dress uniforms. The service will begin at 10:30. The installation of Dr. Mark Reford as the new Head of School will be a part of the service.

THANK YOU!

A great big TIGER THANK YOU to all of you who served as chaperons at the sixth and seventh/eighth grade dances. You are G-R-E-A-T!

GRANDPARENTS' AND SPECIAL FRIENDS' DAY

St. Luke's will host the annual Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day celebrations in October. The Middle School (grades 5-8) will gather for a special Chapel and Open House on Thursday, October 22 while Preschool and Lower School students will host their guests on Friday, October 23.

We want to make sure everyone is included in this celebration and need your help to ensure the accuracy of the records. You will notice a link on the opening page of the St. Luke's website that will take you back into the grandparent/special friend data collected before the school year began. We ask that you check the information recorded, as this will be used to invite Grandparents and/or Special Friends to our special event. **You may make any necessary additions or corrections until October 1.** Again, the invitation mailing label information will be taken directly from the data in which you have entered.

ATTENTION MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENTS

If your child does not have an art elective, and you want them to participate in the Square One Art Program, their homeroom teachers have the paper! The deadline for submitting artwork is Monday, September 28. Please call Wendy Atwell, 288-5228, if you have any questions.

Lady Tiger Play Strong

Our volleyball team went head to head last week against TMI. The TMI volleyball team was physically bigger, but our girls did not let that intimidate them. Lady Tigers played very well against them. The serves were strong, and the returns were awesome. Way to go Lady Tigers! Please make plans to attend our next game tomorrow night, September 24th against Bracken. Come show your support. Class with the highest percentage of students in attendance wins a pizza party. Go Tigers Go!

Parent Council Activities

What: General Session Parent Council Meeting

When: Thursday, 9/24/09 at 8:05 am

Where: Parish Hall

By virtue of your child's enrollment at St. Luke's, **every parent** is a member of the SLES Parent Council. Join us Thursday after carpool as we review last year's successes and fiscal donations back to the school, recap completed activities for this year, and look ahead to future and upcoming events. This is your opportunity to have your voice heard, make suggestions, and get involved in the process. We hope to see you there!

Get Connected

What: Get Connected - Kinder Grade Level Parents

When: Wednesday, 9/30/09 from 8:15 - 9:15 am

Where: Cafe Salsita (corner of Basse and Treeline)

The Get Connected series provides parents of a particular grade level, in this case

Kinder, the opportunity to meet each other in an informal setting. Some activities will include the grade's children and parents, others are just parent focused. These events are Dutch Treat. If you will be able to join the other Kinder parents, please notify Heather Rubsamen via email at heathermr@satx.rr.com

KINDERGARTEN REACHES OUT TO DISTANT FRIENDS

Ms. Marshall's Kindergarten year-long social studies project began on Friday, September 18th, with an e-mail to the Kopila Valley Children's Home in Nepal. The children are so excited about our new pen pals in Nepal! We will be "penning" an e-mail every Friday to Maggie Doyne and her children. In conjunction with our pen pal project, we (the children) are doing chores around our homes and donating half of the earnings to Maggie Doyne's project to build a school in the Kopila Valley. Look for up updates as the year progresses!

FASCINATING FIRST GRADE

First grade has just finished a unit on igneous, metamorphic, & sedimentary rocks. They will be going to a working quarry in October in order to see firsthand how a quarry works. Students will also meet with a geologist who will tell them about the many things in the environment that come from or contain rock. Did you know you brush with rocks? Ask a first grader about this.

WHAT'S FABULOUS IN FOURTH GRADE?

Fourth Grade math classes with Mrs. Urbanowski have been busy investigating convex polyhedrons and Euler's Theorem. This week in math lab students used homemade tools to gather data. Working in groups, they created and analyzed geo-panes, which are defined as the pattern of panes created by dipping shapes into water and soap solution. Students determined the number of edges, faces, and vertices of each geo-pane. This lab gave students a genuine appreciation for geometry and patterns in the world around them.

Fourth graders are in the middle of reading Treasure Island.

In language arts, we are working on the parts of speech and applying this knowledge into our paragraph writing. We are also starting writing portfolios, which we will maintain throughout the year. In social studies, we are learning about the mountains of the world.

FIFTH GRADE ENGINEERS

Speaking on engineering to 5th graders seems a bit advanced, right? You may be right but there is a "back door" way to approach this subject. We call it "**reverse engineering**"! Leading up to invention convention, this fall, students are performing some 'backwards' engineering by tearing into machines and electronics to see how simple machines work as well as observing the "insides" of all sorts of broken down pieces of technology like sewing machines, telephones, computers, copiers, crazy skateboard deathtraps, etc. This may sound crazy to hand 10 and 11 year-olds real tools of destruction! It might be crazy, but the kids really love it, and they are getting

increasingly resourceful and adept at taking things apart. More importantly, they are getting excited about what they are finding inside. Sixth grade students have been learning about simple machines in class and have enrichment class 2 days a week so half of the class goes to the "reverse engineering lab" on Tuesdays and the other half on Thursdays. The numbers are manageable, and the time is worthwhile and productive.

Special thanks to all the parents and kids who have donated items for us to dissect as well as tools for us to use. We could not have done this without you! We have seen the SLES family rally to help in these areas. Thanks again!!!

HEADING TO HIGH SCHOOL

The evening began with a brief presentation from Chadd Bridwell, Director of Admission at St. Mary's University. He spoke with 8th grade students and families about the importance of the first two years of high school to make themselves the best candidate they can be when applying to colleges and universities. He gave students pointers in documenting coursework, philanthropy work, and extracurricular activities. There were 19 schools (8 local Private, 3 Public/Magnet, and 8 Boarding) represented in recruiting our students. The admission director from Pomfret is quoted as saying, "I am so impressed with the dialogue I have had with your students. They are well poised and articulate.

INVITATION

John Webster, Head of School at San Antonio Academy, has very kindly invited St. Luke's parents to two speaker events this Fall that will be held at Christ Episcopal Church from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. The first speaker, on October 27th, is John Rosemond, a syndicated columnist whose specialty is in family psychology and parenting. The second speaker, on November 11th, is Joseph A. Califano. Mr. Califano is the Chairman of the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University. He has held many posts in the United States Government including United States Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare from 1977 until 1979. He is in the process of having a new book published on how to raise drug-free children. As space at Christ Episcopal is limited, I would ask anyone interested to RSVP to Deb Isabelle by email (disabelle@sles-sa.org or phone 826-0664) by Wednesday 30th September.

LOOKING AHEAD:

Change in location: St. Luke's Book Fair, Oct. 29, 2009 @ 5:30-8:30pm at Barnes & Noble (San Pedro Crossing) 321 NW Loop 410 # 104. Costume party, games, student presentations & BOOKS!

Thursday, September 24 8:05 Parent Council Meeting Parish Hall

Friday, September 25 9:00 First Grade Celebration Chapel, 9:00 a.m. in the St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Sunday, September 27 10:30 Episcopal School Sunday & Installation of Head of School, Dr. Reford. First -8th grade students should arrive at 10am. Service will begin at 10:30am

Monday, Sept. 28th @ 1pm. Eighth grade students will go to Trinity University to see the scientific process in action.

Tuesday, September 29 8:30 *Eucharist, St. Michael and All Angels (Dress Uniforms)
St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Wednesday, September 30-Friday, October 2 Seventh/Eighth Grade Outdoor School

Monday, October 5th @ 8:30 Blessing of the Pets South Lawn

REMINDER: Monday, October 11, 2009, is a student holiday.

Learning the Art of Life