

## See you at our 16th Annual Shamrock Auction

If you haven't sent in your Shamrock Auction RSVP by now, please do so today. When you receive your Shamrock Auction program a few days prior to the event, carefully review all of the Silent and Live Auction items in advance so that you'll be prepared when bidding starts on March 12th. Be certain to arrive at The Doral Forresteral by 6:00 p.m. Silent Auction bidding starts at 6:00 p.m. and ends promptly at 7:30 p.m. Join us for what promises to be a memorable evening of fun and festivities with our school and parish community....and provide your support to our PTA's largest fundraiser. Your generous contributions truly make a difference in the educational programs afforded to our children.

### EVENTS

#### BOOK FAIR

**Sunday, March 6 from 9:00 am  
to 1:00 pm and on Monday-  
Wednesday, March 7-9 from  
8:00 am to 3:00 pm.**

**16TH ANNUAL  
SHAMROCK AUCTION  
Saturday, March 12, 2005  
Maureen Scheckel  
609-921-6755**

**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION  
Debbie Rosetty, 609-448-4637**

**MCCAFFREY'S RECEIPTS  
Kelly Clark, 609-924-5184**

## 3rd Annual Father/Daughter Dance A Success

The 3rd Annual SPS Father/Daughter Dinner Dance on February 13th was a memorable day of fellowship for fathers and daughters in our SPS community -- with our biggest turnout ever. Over 250 enjoyed an unforgettable afternoon at Bridgewater Manor, thanks to the generosity of the Vizzoni Family. The venue resembled that of a most exquisite wedding reception and daughters from every grade came in the best party dresses. Our thanks to Linda Daly for coordinating this event for the third year!



## VOLUNTEER VOICE

**And the winner is...**

For the past four years, Nancy Taylor has skillfully chaired our SPS 10 Week Club, a reliable fundraiser for the school – raising over \$30,000 this past year. Starting in October and for 10 subsequent weeks, drawings are held for a variety of gift certificates for the Quakerbridge Mall and Princeton Marketfair.

Nancy's preparations begin in June for the upcoming school year when she applies for the necessary license from Princeton Borough and coordinates the development of all materials needed for mailings to St. Paul parishioners and SPS families. Thanks to support from a hard working group of parent volunteers in early September, Nancy has all materials collated and ready for distribution.

"We have always been extremely pleased by the strong and consistent participation of parishioners and school families in the 10 week club, with over 2,700 tickets sold for this past club," according to Mrs. Taylor. "The 10 week club represents a long standing tradition at SPS and I've been happy to be a part of it all."

Drawing time comes each Monday at 9:00 a.m. in the school office during the 10 weeks. Ms. Foley assists Mrs. Taylor in selecting the winning ticket. According to Mrs. Taylor, "It's so much fun notifying the winners, especially those who just can't believe their good fortune. All the winners are so thrilled!"

At the end of this school year, Nancy is stepping down from chairing the 10 week club. A special thank you to Nancy for all the behind the scenes work that goes into making this fundraiser such a successful one for our school. If you are interested in learning more about the opportunity to chair our 10 week club next year, please contact Nancy Taylor at 609-912-0684.

March 2005



Dear Parents:

The season of Lent is one of soul-searching, repentance and reflection. Lent originated in the very earliest days of the Church as a preparatory time for Easter, when the faithful rededicated themselves and when converts were instructed in the faith and prepared for baptism. By observing the forty days of Lent, we imitate Jesus' withdrawal into the wilderness for forty days.

The purpose of the liturgical calendar is to relive the major events in Jesus' life in real time, which is why Lent is forty days long. If Jesus were born on 25 December, then His conception would have been nine months earlier, on about 25 March. That is when the angel Gabriel would have announced Jesus' birth to Mary. Thus 25 March is known in the historic church as The Annunciation.

During Jesus' forty days in the desert, Jesus faced temptation, suffered hunger and thirst, and suffered the agony of crucifixion. He did this so we, his followers, would have dignity for all those in the world who suffer.

As we continue through the season of Lent, please take time to reflect on the great sacrifice of Jesus Christ, and how his resurrection gave us the belief of eternal life. Reflect on how you can help alleviate pain, suffering or loneliness of your fellow man, whether it may be shoveling snow from the walkway of an elderly neighbor, giving a smile to a person you pass on the street, or simply acting just a little kinder to anyone who enters your daily day.

More importantly, enjoy the season of Lent as a time to reflect and take in the beauty of the world and the goodness of each other. Look forward to a beautiful Easter morning and celebrate the Easter Eucharist in our parish community. And, welcome Easter as a new beginning for you and your families to get closer to God. I thank you for all you do for St. Paul Parish and I thank you for sharing your faith with your beautiful children. Happy Easter.

Monsignor Walter Nolan



## PRINCIPAL'S POST

### Dear Parents/Guardians



As we enter the last few weeks of Lent, it is evident that our students are well prepared for the joy of Easter and the Risen Christ. The walls are covered with little signs of the renewal of faith and of learning. It's obvious that our students continue to receive a quality academic education, which is rooted in strong moral and spiritual ground.

We are most fortunate to be a school that is highly respected and in demand and we thank you for choosing St. Paul School. We are committed to doing all that is possible to make our school even better. As parents, you are our best public relations people. Please continue to spread the "good news" of St. Paul.

Thank you for your cooperation with the registration process. Please remember that financial aid is available to those who might qualify for financial assistance.

In his "Little Black Book", Bishop Untener tells us that the Latin word "praeconium" means a "town crier" and/or the news that the town crier announces. The angel's words, "He has been raised" are referred to as the "praeconium paschale", the Easter proclamation. "HE HAS BEEN RAISED!" Jesus has gone through to the other side of death! He has opened the way for us! We are free, free at last!

This is news worth shouting about. Let this "good news" (the meaning of the word "gospel") ring out in our towns, in the countryside, in the whole world. Let there be singing and dancing!

With sincere warm wishes for a Happy Easter,

Elizabeth A. Barrella

Principal



## Congratulations to all the 10 week club winners

Week 1: Liza Daturio

Week 2: Josie Johnson

Week 3: Mr. And Mrs. A. Tompa

Week 4: Marion Procaccino

Week 5: M. Curran

Week 6: Basil Ferrara

Week 7: Anne Marie Venio

Week 8: Joyce Blackburn

Week 9: Mary Bartolino

Week 10: Kathrynne Cappucci

## SOUP AND SALAD SUPPER Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross are held every Friday during Lent. Our Saint Paul School sixth grade students together with students in our Religious Education Program will be presenting the Mime Stations of the Cross on Friday, March 18, at 7:30pm. All those attending Stations of the Cross are warmly invited to stop by for a light soup and salad supper held by the Knights of Columbus at 6:30pm in the Church Hall. Please keep this date in mind for a pleasant and prayerful evening.

## Each Child is Unique

by Barbara Litt, Resource Teacher

Children of all ages need encouragement and inspiration. Each child is unique. Our goal as teachers is to help each child in our care find success. Occasionally, children may need some extra help in acquiring necessary skills. When this is evident, teachers will contact me. We will collaborate on a plan for intervention. Implementation may take place in the Resource Room or within the child's classroom (in-class support). Help is given on an as-needed basis. Some children may be seen once or twice. Others may need ongoing assistance. When a child is struggling academically, we focus on the child's behavioral and learning style, in addition to those skills and deficits in need of reinforcement or remediation. We strive to help each child reach his/her potential. That is our goal.



### SPELLING BEE

The annual St. Paul School Spelling Bee was held during Catholic Schools Week January 29. The winner was (left) Brennan Maragh in 7A and runner up was Oisín Friel in 6A. Congratulations Brennan and Oisín

## A Measure of Success

As you know, last week, the students at St. Paul School from grades two through seven took the TerraNova Test, an innovative assessment series. St. Paul School, and all Catholic schools throughout the Diocese have purchased the second edition of the TerraNova test series. The series is developed by CTB/McGraw-Hill to meet the needs of our school and diocese. TerraNova uses advanced multiple measures to ensure reliable assessment of a wide range of skills and proficiency levels. The unique scoring method integrates selected-response and open-ended questions, so students are able to show what they truly can do. The content of the TerraNova is strongly aligned with state and national standards, instructional practice, and curricula nationwide.

Sometime in late April or early May, the results of the tests will be sent to our school. The Home Report, intended for parents/guardians, will be sent home as quickly as possible after it arrives. It will provide norm referenced information in a clear, easy to understand bar chart. This report is specifically geared to the individual and describes what that student can do in each content area assessed and what areas need to be improved. The school receives Individual Profile Reports and Assessment Summary Reports. These reports provide comprehensive information teachers need to understand each student's performance, including both objective-level and subject areas data. Once again, these results will tell us what the students can do and what areas need to be improved both by the individual and by the class/group/school. The National Percentile (NP) represents the percentage of students in the norm group whose scores fall below a given student's score. For example, a student whose NP is 65 scored higher than 65% of the students in the norm group.

During the summer months, the assessment summary is analyzed and teachers are presented with a document of analysis for planning that indicates the strengths and weaknesses of each grade.

An example of what a teacher might receive is: "This school year's \_\_\_ grade students show mastery in Reading, Language Arts and Math. The teachers of that grade should place more emphasis on writing strategies even though students scored an average of 18 points higher than the national norms. The major area of need is problem solving and reasoning." Each teacher receives a similar statement.

Overall, the TerraNova test scores for 2003-2004 were all above the national norms in all grade levels. This is an affirmation to the dedication and hard work of the teachers. Even the areas of "weaknesses" within the school still show higher scores than the national norms. One should always keep in mind that standardized tests are only one measure of success.



### SISTERS OF MERCY

Also during Catholic Schools Week, the Sister of Mercy were honored during Vocation Appreciation Day. Accepting flowers were Sister Donald, Sister Terena and Sister Jane.

# CLASSNOTES

## St. Paul Parish Celebrates 125 Year Anniversary of St. Paul School 1880-2005 And Honors the Sisters of Mercy

St. Paul Parish is proud to announce the 125 year anniversary of St. Paul School. St. Paul School was established by Reverend John Scollard in 1850 who determined that the "little ones of the growing flock" might be educated in a Catholic atmosphere. So he opened the first Catholic school in Princeton in the basement of the existing church located at 182 Nassau Street. The present school site was erected in 1880 under the leadership of Father Moran with Mother Mary Regis Wade as Superior and the staff of five additional sisters: Sister Mary Gabriel Redican, Sister Mary Austin Tierney, Sister Mary Isadore Talty and Sister Mary Agnes Lockable. In addition to the school, the sisters also taught the Parish CCD children and administered to the sick.

Over the years under the pastoral leadership of St. Paul Parish, St. Paul School population has grown and the school has expanded with a new kindergarten wing and state of the art science lab providing children in grades K through 8 with the Catholic teachings and academic excellence. Today, St. Paul School remains as Princeton's only co-ed Catholic elementary school. It is truly a Parish school dedicated to providing a Catholic education in the Princeton area.

It is in this great tradition of the Sisters of Mercy and their commitment to Catholic education that St. Paul Parish will hold a 125th Anniversary Celebration on the lawn of the school on Saturday, September 17 at 7:00 pm where the Sisters of Mercy will be honored and thanked under a lighted tent on the foundation of St. Paul School. Proceeds from the fundraising event will benefit St. Paul School, McCauley Home for Retired Sisters of Mercy and Our Lady of Lourdes in Uganda, Africa, St. Paul's twin parish.

We invite all alumni and parishioners to join us in this very special celebration. A commemorative program journal will be printed and an ad form can be downloaded from the SPS website. A parishioner has generously donated the printing of the program journal, so all proceeds for the ad sales will directly benefit St. Paul School. Invitations will be mailed to all parishioners and SPS parents on June 1. For more information, or if you would like to help in the planning of the 125th Anniversary Celebration, please call Robin Conti at 609-773-0042.

### Kindergarten

The children in Kindergarten have been very busy, especially during the month of February! We reached a very important milestone in the school year, our 100th day! We enjoyed the day with lots of counting to 100, stringing 100 fruit loop necklaces, writing to 100, making hats and wearing badges of honor and last but not least, celebrating with a cake in the shape of 100 and you guessed it...decorated it with 100 M&M's. We were also happy to welcome Dr. Reso who came to teach us about good dental health. We enjoyed our special visitor very much! We've also been remembered by our friend Frank Tylus, who gave to the children another collection of cherished teddy bears. They were added to their bag of valentine goodies. Thank you Mr. Tylus!

### First Grade

First grade has been studying dental health during the month of February. We have been learning how to brush our teeth and what foods are best for healthy teeth. The children studied the parts of a tooth and we did an experiment with eggs that demonstrate the effect of acid on the enamel of a tooth. We would like to thank Dr. Rizzi for coming in and explaining what happens when we visit the dentist. He also brought along a model of teeth and a set of braces and explained good dental health practices. When asked what they liked best about the unit on dental health the children said... *I liked learning about fluoride. I liked the tooth model with the braces. I liked learning about the acid. I liked touching all the teeth. I liked learning about the parts of the teeth. I liked the goody bags Dr. Rizzi gave us. Thanks Dr. Rizzi!*

### Second Grade

The second grade students have been busy preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and 2A received this Sacrament on Tuesday, January 25th and 2B on Tuesday, February 1st. To indicate their "change of heart" after receiving the sacrament, the students will wear a heart necklace to school and Mass on Sunday. Please keep our second graders in your prayers as they prepare to receive the sacrament.

### 3rd Grade

**Music Notes:** In 3rd grade the music curriculum has introduced recorder to all students in 3A and 3B. Both classes have enjoyed applying note reading and music skills on their new instrument. The students are following the "Recorder Karate Technique," which introduces songs that get progressively harder. When each student tests and passes a song, they get a "Karate belt" to hang on their recorder. The students are also rewarded beads to hang on their belts for attendance and good practice habits. They are all doing great!! In May they will perform their songs for the school. Keep up the good work 3A and 3B!!!

### Message from Sister Jane Higgins-Mission Coordinator

The students of St. Paul School have been most generous in giving to the needy of the mission world. As of February 2005 the students have contributed \$4,726.50. Their kindness will assist our Holy Father in making the comforting presence of Christ known to those who suffer greatly, thus enabling them to live healthy, productive and faith filled lives. Their support of the missions is also an expression of their desire to walk in the footsteps of Jesus. Their aim is to raise \$6,000 by June of this year.

Congratulations to the teachers and students of St. Paul Catholic School.

Social Justice lives on outside the doors of St. Paul School

Both Bridget (1B) and Maura Kelly (1A) wanted to do something to help the Tsunami victims in South Asia. So, the girls thought selling donuts would be ideal, especially on a cold Sunday morning in January...and liked the way that donuts resemble lifesavers! The catchy theme "Donuts for Donations" was born, supplies purchased, and posters made. With five-dozen Dunkin Donuts on hand, people stopped by with donations far exceeding the price of the donuts they walked away with. Several customers stopped by only to make a donation and to compliment the girls on their efforts. A total of \$227.00 was donated to Catholic Relief Services. Bridget and Maura's first community service project was a good learning experience and successful in many ways.

