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THE BUSY BEAK

THE ST. FRANCIS DE SALES SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Making Math History

The 6th grade is making history this year, as they are the first 6th grade class in St. Francis to take Pre Algebra! Next year, they will take Algebra 1, and in 8th grade they will take Algebra 2. Only 10% of the students in Wicomico County public schools take this accelerated track, so our math students will be in elite standing. While students have a rigorous program in math, in addition to working on mastery of concepts with pencil and paper, they also have the use of technology as an added bonus. Graphing calculators, Smart Boards, and iPads will all help to enrich their St. Francis math experience. Good luck to 6th grade, and keep working hard!

2012 Annual Athletic Department Golf Classic

The Annual Athletic Department Golf Classic was held at Green Hill Yacht and Country Club on Friday, September 28. This year's tournament raised over \$13,000 and included more than 10 teams. The funds raised will assist the Athletic Department in the rentals of fields, uniforms, official's fees and the purchase of new equipment. This year, the tournament proceeds will also go toward the start up of both boys and girls lacrosse teams in the spring. Thanks to Ryan McLaughlin, Golf Tournament Chairperson for making this such a successful event.



Nicole Wagner shows off her winning form as she tees off.



Ryan McLaughlin, Golf Tournament Chairperson, Father Chris LaBarge and Angie McLaughlin.



Dr. Sara Haverty, Angie McLaughlin, Nicole Wagner and Julie Gardner show off their school spirit.



Kevin Mull and Steve Marsh get ready to hit the links.

New iPads at SFdS



Stefan Swierkosz and Sydney O'Dell use the new iPads to do research for their Language Arts class.

To the delight of all the students and faculty, a surprise arrived at St. Francis just a few days before school started this fall. Thirty new iPad 2s!

These iPads were generously donated by the HSA. Recently, the HSA also bought a MacBook Pro and syncing cart that will sync the iPads together. With 30 iPads, each student can work independently.

According to Mr. Costante, Carl Drawga and Patti Weeg were instrumental in getting these set up for everyone to use. Mr. Drawga spent hours setting up 1-2 iPads at a time. Mrs. Weeg found the applications for the faculty.

The faculty is putting the iPads to good use every day in the lesson plans. For example, Ms. Elle Phillips uses the Spanish vocabulary app in her 3rd - 8th grade Spanish classes. The students tap a picture and then spell it phonetically. Using the iPad camera, the students also filmed a video of themselves and heard their own pronunciation. Another interactive application, called Socratic, is a student response system that provides a quick assessment to see which percentage of the students understood the lesson, similar to a quiz. "The kids love the iPads", Phillips said. "They like the immediate feedback and the instant gratification. Also, they like hearing themselves speak in Spanish."

Everyone at SFdS is enjoying the iPads. At Back-to-School night, Mrs. Traum used the iPad to set up the parent portal for new parents. Mrs. Kelly Aswell, 4th grade teacher, uses the math and Socratic applications. Fourth graders, Camper Marsh and Casey Mull, smiled when asked about the new iPads. "They are great. The apps are awesome, but the math games are the best!"

The 8th graders, under Mrs. Phillips direction, have used the Safari app for their Friday afternoon research projects in Language Arts. One 8th grader, Lani O'Neill-Tarvin, summed it up, saying "I like how modern it is and a lot of different schools are using them. It feels like we, at St. Francis, are more in touch with technology."

This is only the start. The SFdS students and faculty will be finding new ways to stimulate and enrich the learning experiences with these iPads!



FAITH IN ACTION



Dear Rob,

On behalf of the Sisters of Mercy who had been living in the convent in St. Francis de Sales parish for thirty-three years, I wish to thank you for restoring our little chapel there, to its original use. As Principal of our Catholic school, you are certainly tending the spiritual life of the children, and linking them to their history.

That little room had the blessed Sacrament reserved all the time, had daily Mass there, and many long hours of personal prayer by the Sisters. The little room at the back was the sacristy. The altar was to the front, on the small platform. The tabernacle, which the Morris family gave us, was against the wall, and a statue of Blessed Mother Mary and St. Joseph were on the walls either side the sanctuary. Each Sister had a kneeler and a chair.

When your students and staff pray and reflect in this sacred space, they are in communion with the years of prayers and masses offered in the bygone days. I know that the Sisters of Mercy Prayer Room, will bring many blessings on your school community.

I hope to see you all, next time I come to visit...

With prayer-filled gratitude from,

Sister Maura (McCartan)

SFds Class of 2008 Graduates from Local High Schools

In the spring, Principal Costante hosted a reception to welcome back and honor those alumni graduating from our local high schools. In keeping with tradition, this class of St. Francis students, like their predecessors, excelled at the high school level, earning a cumulative average Grade Point Average of 4.08.

The students' activities included Class and Student Body President and other class and Student Government offices, National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta (Math Honor Society), Spanish Honor Society, Latin Honor Society, Science Honor Society, Thespian Honor Society, Quill and Scroll Honor Society, and National Society of High School Scholars.

The students played on varsity football, field hockey, lacrosse, basketball, tennis, soccer and baseball teams.

Students also earned the honors of Science Olympiad Champion, and participated in the Drama Club, Minds in Motion, School Newspaper Editor and Key Club officers. The students were involved in many local

community service projects, as well.

The 2012 high school graduates will attend prestigious universities which include Brown University, Georgetown University, Davidson University, University of Maryland, James Madison University, Loyola University of Maryland, Wofford University, Penn State University, Hofstra University, Eastern University, Elon University, University of Missouri, Canisius College and Salisbury University, to name a few.

The students received numerous academic and athletic scholarships, including the Banneker/Key Scholarship—the most prestigious scholarship in the state of Maryland. Other scholarships included a McKissick Scholarship, Elon Grant Scholarship, Canisius Athletic and Academic Scholarship, a Presidential Scholarship, the JCI Senate Scholarship, MPSSA Scholarship for Athletes, Elks Scholarship, and a swimming scholarship.

Congratulations to the SFds Class of 2008! Good luck in college and continue to make St. Francis proud!



Back row left to right: Matteo Petrera, Donald Parker, Adam Harrison, Matt Stichter, Deandre Molock, Jim Engel, Paulo Demissie, David DiPirro, Matthew Waldman, Casey Weller, Christopher LeCompte, Dan Meehan, Haley Dashiell, Rachel Ingersoll, Alexis Roskovich, Christon Otto, Molly Burns, Robert Gutierrez, Grace Cinderella, Anna Davis, Breck Sullivan, Julia Perrotta, Ellen Gutoskey



Alexis Roskovich, Paulo Demissie, and Dan Meehan



Ellen Gutoskey, Breck Sullivan, and Julia Perrotta

2012 READING CARNIVAL



Dana Redderson, Breana Alcantara and Luke Maciarello dressed in the 2nd grades's *Very Grouchy Ladybug* costume.



Anna Palenchar, Eden Emhoff, Daniela Carrasco-Gonzalez, Mrs. Wallace dressed as *Dragons, Dragons*, and Madison Synowiec dressed as *Little Cloud*.



The Very Hungry Caterpillar (Principal Costante) makes his grand entrance.

Feast of St. Francis of Assisi Blessing of the Pets



Connor Balea and his best friend switch looks for the day!



First graders Sarah Miller, Maria Khalifeh, Mason David, and Cassie Johnston.



Father Aigner blesses all our furry, fuzzy, feathered and scaly friends.

POWER OF THE PENGUIN

FIELD HOCKEY



Liza Ervin dribbles past a Sts. Peter & Paul defender.

The St. Francis Field Hockey season is well under way! Comprised of 18 players from grades 5-8, the team is looking to continue to build on last year's season. While a few key players were lost to graduation, the squad's six eighth graders have stepped up to fill the vacancy by sharing their experience and offering support to the younger players. Offensively, Shayla Houlihan and Lydia Marks lead the pack; while Morgan Hall, Nicole

Baumann, and Claire Bohler look to lead the defense, along with part-time goalie Elizabeth Bragdon. Morgan Hall is optimistic about the season citing that "We are doing much better this year! We're getting the ball up the field and that takes everyone. Defense sends the ball to the mids and the mids get it to the forwards. We all work together!" That dedication and ability to work together has been a key component in this season's success.

GOLF TEAM GRABS EARLY SEASON WIN

The SFdS Golf Team opened the 2012 season with a close win over the Salisbury School! Playing at Horsebridge Golf Course, the Salisbury School's home course, the Penguins totaled 257 strokes to the Dragons' 259. The entire team contributed to this first win of the season and had a great time doing it!

This year's team is quite new with 70% first-time team members. Returning team members Jacob Richardson (8th grade), Lani O'Neill-Tarvin (8th), and Samantha Miller (8th) are joined by Alex DiPirro (7th), Teresa Miller (7th), Jonathan Maciarello (6th), Connor Mull (6th), Savannah Scott (6th), Will Todd (6th), and Claire Wagner (6th). Practices this year are again held at SFdS' home course, Green Hill Yacht and Country Club. Thanks go to Green Hill's PGA Pro Mike Callendar for inviting us back again for another year.

SFdS is able to test their skills against the middle school teams from Most Blessed Sacramento, Sts. Peter and Paul and Worcester Prep. Coaches, Dr. William Todd and Dr. Michael Scott have had our team ready to compete each week. When you see a Golf Team Member, be sure to congratulate them and "May thy ball lie in green pastures... and not in still waters!"



Golf team from left to right: Will Todd, Samantha Miller, Jake Richardson, Teresa Miller, Connor Mull, Lani O'Neill-Tarvin, Jonathan Maciarello, Claire Wagner, Alex DiPirro, and Savannah Scott

2012 SOCCER TEAM



The 2012 soccer season is made up of 20 energetic boys who started the season showing good sportsmanship and a positive attitude. The team is very young this year with one 8th grader, five 7th graders, eight 6th graders, and six 5th graders. The team is led by captain Stefan Swierkosz along with his two co-captains Alistair Swierkosz and Owen Peters. The team has a varied level of experience and the players have worked hard to improve their individual skills and teamwork each game. Our second game resulted in a win over Salisbury Christian School led by goals from Stefan Swierkosz (3) and Alistair Swierkosz (3) and Connor Mull (1) and assists by Gregory Treuth, Connor Balea, Stefan and Alistair Swierkosz. The Penguins have had excellent goalkeeping by Nick von Kollmar and the defense has been led by sweeper Owen Peters. The SFdS soccer team is looking forward to a fun and strong remainder of the season.

COMING SOON LACROSSE

St. Francis is proud to announce that this spring will be our debut season of **boys' and girls' lacrosse!** GOOOOOO Penguins!

DID YOU KNOW? Last spring, our 7th grade class was one of five schools from the Diocese of Wilmington who was asked to take part in the TerraNova Common Core Standards Test. With 50% serving as the national mean for this norm referenced assessment, the Class of 2013 scored an 88% in Reading; 90% in English Language Arts and 92% in Math. Accordingly, our students scored 38% - 42% above the national mean score. Our rigorous curriculum, along with our talented teachers, offer continued evidence that when measuring the academic success of young people, SFdS students far exceed both their local and national peers. Well done Penguin scholars!

CALL FOR LEADERSHIP

NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

Immediately following Mass on May 23, 2012, ten new members were inducted into the National Junior Honor Society. Graduating eighth grader, Arthur Carlton-Jones, seventh grader Lani- O'Neill-Tarvin, and sixth graders Kadija Diallo, Liza Ervin, Laney Marsh, Teresa Miller, Abby Reilly, Abby Roskovich, Emily Gutierrez and Nick von Kollmar were added to our membership. Each of these students has maintained a 93 cumulative average throughout middle school and was selected for membership based on their outstanding extra-curricular, community and leadership activities.

The National Junior Honor Society will once again be ringing bells for the Salvation Army and coordinating their Milk Carton Campaign in which school families fill Salvation Army milk cartons with change. The milk cartons are then collected and donated to the organization as part their holiday Red Kettle Campaign. Other service projects are planned throughout the school year to further exemplify character, leadership, service and citizenship which are the basic ideals on which the National Junior Honor Society is built.

2012 STUDENT COUNCIL

The Student Council for this 2012-2013 academic year was inducted at the all-school Mass October 10. They pledged their fidelity and support to St. Francis de Sales School, received their Student Council pins, and the blessings of all the faculty, staff, and priests. The officers for this year are: Elizabeth Bragdon – President, Lydia Marks – Vice President, Hayden Eutsler – Secretary, and Nicole Baumann – Treasurer. Class representatives are: 5th grade – Taryn Houlihan and Stephen Perrotta, 6th grade – Savannah Scott and Will Todd, and 7th grade – Abby Reilly and Nick von Kollmar. As part of their leadership role in school, they will be raising and lowering the flags every morning and afternoon, collecting the paper for recycling, and facilitating social justice throughout the school. We're very proud of these ten students!

SFds celebrates our 3rd class of Pre-Kindergarten



Welcome New Students!



Top row left to right: Jacob Graves, Abby Thompson, Rogan Perunko, Ethan Ortiz, Colter Colletti, Kellen Binstead, Xavier Cobb, Kyle Goblinger, Garrett Cushman, Finley Johnson, Averi Beauchamp.
Bottom row left to right: Rachel Wilson, Mason Egan, Averi Emhoff, Annie Dryden, Luis Carrasco, Leah Rodriguez-Garcia, Trinity Singleton, Evan Pieroni. Not Pictured Evan Bozick.

Back row left to right: Logan Stuchlik, Hailey McBride, Stephanie "Stevie" Novack, Maria Khalifeh, Nicholas Ketcham, Daniela Carrasco-Gonzalez, John Grant, Melanie Sammons, Nicholas Kadera, Colton Thomas, Maya Braxton

HAPPENINGS

NOVEMBER 10

Development Committee
Wine Tasting at
Layton's Chance Winery

NOVEMBER 12

Veteran's Day Prayer Service

NOVEMBER 13

Fall Sports
Recognition Ceremony

JANUARY 27-31

Catholic Schools Week

MARCH 16

HSA School Auction

MAY 5

SFds Class of 2009
Alumni Prayer Service
and Dinner

PENGUIN PICS

CLASS OF 2012

Back row, from left: Richard Duncan, Matt Seidel, Luke Prunty, Arthur Carlton-Jones, Emily LeCompte, Callie Grant, Collin Provenza

Front row, from left: Jessie Willey, Danielle Johnson, William Cooledge



In an awards ceremony held on May 29, the following awards were presented to the 2012 graduates:

The Knights of Columbus Outstanding Artists Award

Has been given since 1982 to encourage interest in cultural arts and recognize talent in a specific area. This award for excellence in art is given to: **Danielle Johnson**

The Knights of Columbus Outstanding Music Award

Has been given since 1985. This award recognizes talent and accomplishments in the area of music. The recipient of this year's award is: **William Cooledge**

The Robert L. Berger Memorial Scholarship Award from the Knights of Columbus, St. Francis de Sales Council #3489:

The students selected for this award represent the principle of the Knights of Columbus, through charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. The recipients of the award this year are: **Matthew Seidel, Luke Prunty**

The Peter Paul Houlihan Award

Established in 1980 in memory of an enthusiastic sports person, this award is given to the eighth grade boy and girl who exhibit outstanding sportsmanship. This year's recipients are: Male: **Richard Duncan** Female: **Emily LeCompte**

The Catholic Daughters Award

This award, in memory of Mary Eugenia McGuirk, a former teacher at Saint Francis, was established in 2000 and is given to students who exemplify Catholic Virtues in their daily life. The award is given to: Male: **Collin Provenza** Female: **Callan Grant**

The Imogene Clark Award

The following award was established in 1978 for best citizenship and is given to: **Arthur Carlton-Jones**

The Philip Long Community Leadership Award

Established in 2000, in memory of a good and outstanding leader, this award is given to: **Jessica Willey**

Sean Houlihan Award for Academic Excellence in Science and Mathematics

The following award has been given since 1989 in memory of Sean Houlihan for academic excellence in science and mathematics. The recipient of this year's award is: **Arthur Carlton-Jones**

The Dorothy Taylor Award

The following award has been given since 1979 in memory of Dorothy Taylor, an outstanding educator on the Eastern Shore. We present this award to **Jessica Willey** for highest academic achievement.

The President's Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence

Is presented to the following students for educational excellence. They have earned a grade point average of 93 from 6th through 8th grades.

Arthur Carlton-Jones, Emily LeCompte, Matthew Seidel, Jessica Willey

President's Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement

Is awarded to the following students: **William Cooledge, Callan Grant, Danielle Johnson**

The Student Council Certificates:

We wish to thank the eighth grade students who were members of the Student Council for 2011-2012 school year. We are proud of their accomplishments and appreciate all they do to make the year run smoothly.

President: Luke Prunty, Vice-President: Matthew Seidel, Secretary: William Cooledge, Treasurer: Jessica Willey

The Award for Outstanding 8th grade band member: Luke Prunty

The Drama Award: William Cooledge

Choir Presentation: Arthur Carlton-Jones

Altar Servers Presentation: Luke Prunty, Richard Duncan

Joseph House Recognition for Service - Entire Class

Arthur Carlton-Jones, William Cooledge, Richard Duncan, Callan Grant, Danielle Johnson, Emily LeCompte, Collin Provenza, Luke Prunty, Matthew Seidel, Jessica Willey

Welcome Mrs. Rosenfelder! 2nd Grade



Mrs. Rosenfelder comes to St. Francis de Sales Catholic School from St. Mary of the Mills School in Laurel, Maryland. She has been a Catholic school teacher for over ten years. She has a passion for teaching and sharing her faith as she

guides her students to live the Gospel message in their daily lives. She is married to James Rosenfelder and is a mother of two adult children, James and Amanda.

All in the Family

Congratulations to 3rd grade teacher, Miss Gen Lowe. On September 29, she became Mrs. Chamberlain, when she said "I do!" to Nick Chamberlain, son of our very own 1st grade teacher, Mrs. Chrisie Chamberlain. That makes two Mrs. Chamberlains in our school building!



That should make things as confusing as keeping our mother/daughter teachers straight.....Mrs. Phillips and Miss Phillips!

Know someone who isn't receiving the Beak? Need to change your address?

Are you an alumni with some exciting news or updates to share?

We want to hear from you!

Email us at busybeak@sfdscs.org

HAVE YOU VISITED OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE?

Go to www.stfrancisdesales.net and check out all the good things happening at school. Don't forget to visit the Photo Gallery for tons of pictures!

BOOKMARK US!

ALUMNI NEWS

Abby Marsh, 1980



Abby Marsh is a 1980 graduate of SFdS and a 1985 graduate of James M. Bennett Senior High School in Salisbury. In 1989, she graduated from Ursinus College in Collegeville, Pennsylvania with a Bachelor of Arts, and in 1993, she obtained her juris doctorate from the University of Richmond School of Law. Upon completion of her studies, she returned to her hometown and clerked for the Wicomico County Circuit Court. In 1994, she was sworn in as an Assistant State's Attorney in Wicomico County, where she worked for many years. In 2011, she joined the Worcester County Office of the State's Attorney where she currently serves as the Deputy State's Attorney for the Circuit Court. Abby has prosecuted every level of criminal case from minor traffic to homicide. In addition, she worked in private practice for a short time.

Abby resides in Salisbury with her husband, Steve, a civil engineer, and her four children, Keegan, Dulaney, Leighton and Campbell. Keegan is a 2010 graduate of SFdS who now attends James M. Bennett. Her other three children are current students. In her spare time, Abby coaches field hockey, a sport she developed a life long love for while a student at SFdS.

Mark Mowbry, 2009



Mark Mowbry is a 2009 graduate of SFdS and is currently a senior at St. Thomas More Academy in Magnolia, Delaware. In June 2012, Mark was elected the new president of the American Quarter Horse Youth Association. The youth group is one of the largest single breed horse associations in the world. There are over 25,000 youth members in the US and abroad. He will serve as president for a term of one year. As president, he will travel to various equine events and leadership conferences across the U.S.

Mark was also selected as one of ten youth to attend the 2012 American Quarter Horse Youth World Cup held this year in July in Kreuth, Germany. Mark served as an ambassador for the United States and the American Quarter Horse Association. While in Germany, Mark served as a leader for Team USA. Seventeen other countries participated in the ten day event. Team USA took 3rd place overall, while Italy won the competition, with Germany as the reserve champion.

Christopher LeCompte, 2008



Christopher LeCompte graduated from SFdS in 2008 and James M. Bennett Senior High School in 2012. Christopher was accepted into the University of Maryland Honors College and was then awarded a Bannaker/Key Scholarship. The Bannaker/Key Scholarship gets its name from two very prominent figures in American history, Benjamin Bannaker and Francis Scott Key, both of whom resided in Maryland. This exceptional scholarship opportunity is offered to only a select group of applicants who have demonstrated significant academic leadership and accomplishment in high school. In addition to his many academic awards, Christopher was also a member of the soccer, basketball and tennis teams. He completed many hours of community service and was a member of Appalachia Service Projects for the past three summers. Christopher is the son of Bryan & Whitnie LeCompte and the late Catherine LeCompte. His sister, Emily is a 2012 graduate of SFdS and currently attends James M. Bennett.

An update on Alice Truth , 2011 featured in our last issue...



Alice represented Salisbury and her swim team, Coastal Aquatics, at the U.S. Swimming Olympic Trials in Omaha, Nebraska June 25-July 2. Alice competed in the Women's 200 meter backstroke and finished with a time of 2:18.52. Alice's time was faster than almost half of her competitors and she finished the event ranked 102 in the United States! And, she is only 15 years old! Most of her competitors were in college or even older. Alice has a promising swimming career ahead of her. Congratulations, Alice!!

NEWS FROM THE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Busy Beak is a mission of the Development Committee

The St. Francis de Sales School Development Committee is organized to promote, market, and solicit financial support for St. Francis de Sales School. The funds raised through the efforts of the Development Committee are used to subsidize the operating expenses associated with the school budget in some of the following areas: teacher salaries, improvement of school facilities and the procurement of property. The principal raised is an endowment. The committee, with the approval of the pastor, shall decide how to raise funds and how to spend investment income.

If you would like to help us in these efforts, please send your tax deductible donation to 500 Camden Avenue, Salisbury, MD 21801. Checks may be made payable to St. Francis de Sales Catholic School with a reference to "Development Fund" included in the memo section.



THE BUSY BEAK
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SFds AUCTION PROVIDES THE RIDE OF A LIFETIME



Not many members of our school family can claim to have traveled nearly the speed of sound, but one surely can. Kimberly Wilson, mother of Savannah (6th grade) and Caroline Scott (4th grade) was lucky enough to bid on and win a ride in a fighter jet at the 2012 SFdS School Auction. On June 8, 2012 in town for the Ocean City Air Show, the Black Diamond Jet Team (<http://www.blackdiamondjetteam.com>) agreed to let Kim co-pilot a Czechoslovakian-made Aero L-39 Albatros jet – as well as have her family and friends meet the crew, explore the airplanes with a private tour, and watch Kim make her debut jet flight from the tarmac of the Salisbury Airport.

Kim was in good hands as her pilot, Major John “Slick” Baum of the US Air

Force, has over 4,500 hours in combat aircraft and continues to serve our country as an active duty pilot. Once a mandatory safety briefing was given, including detailed and terrifying instructions on what to do if the ejection procedures do not work (!), Kim donned a flight helmet, climbed up into the cockpit, and spent the next 15 minutes on the ride of her life. Once back down on the ground safe and sound, to the cheers of friends and family, she proclaimed she was ready to go up again!

Needless to say, without the efforts of Patty Ervin (who made the contact with the Black Diamond Jet Team) and the rest of the SFdS School Auction team, this amazing experience would never have been possible. We can't wait to see what's in store for this year!

Mark Your Calendars and Join Us Saturday, March 16th for the 2013 SFdS Auction!