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The Emperor

MARCH 2014

WELCOME

By: Faith Lafferty

This semester we have two new teachers! Mrs. Terrell is taking over for third grade since Mrs. Gen Chamberlain had her baby. Mrs. Ledford is working at the library since Mrs. Wallace left. Mrs. Geary is a new math teacher who is helping Mr. Robins teach part of



the 6th and 7th grade classes. Also Mrs. McIntyre took over Computers class and 6th grade Religion. And our new art teacher, Mr. Hooks, is a really fun teacher. We are so very happy that they are at our school! Make sure you say hi to them when you see them!

Feed the Hungry

By: Faith Lafferty

Every month St. Francis de Sales students have a special theme for the month to help our Parish. In February the theme was "Feed the Hungry." Our students donated canned goods to the Joseph House Food Pantry each time they went to mass.

A lot of students donated many canned goods to the Joseph House, and should make for many delicious meals! The monthly themes have been very good for those who are in need. It is showing students how one small gift can make a big difference for many people.

Midterms

By: Faith Lafferty

On January 13th – 17th the 6th, 7th, and 8th graders had to take midterm exams, which are the hardest tests in Middle School! Every year students have to study what they have learned so far in Social Studies, Math, Science, Language Arts, Reading & Spanish. Midterms count as normal test grades, so you better watch out! 8th grader Brittany McMillan said that they were very hard this year.



Ski Trip

By: Kerry Ervin

The 2014 ski trip was a family trip for 7th and 8th graders and their families. We skied and snowboarded at the Camelback Lodge in Pennsylvania. Some people skied and some people snowboarded.

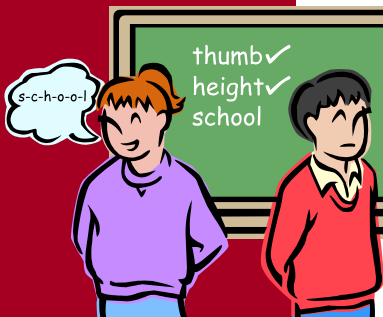
We stayed at the lodge for the whole weekend: February 7-February 9. Liza Ervin hurt her arm while snowboarding so I didn't snowboard at all. I didn't want to take that risk! I had a blast and I'm sure everyone else who went did too!

Spelling Bee

By: Tyler Passarell

The spelling bee was the 23rd of January. The people in the spelling bee were Kerry Ervin - 6th, Faith Lafferty - 6th, Tyler Passarell - 6th, Erin Welch - 5th, Julie Cinderella - 5th, Bradley Richardson - 4th, Nick von Kolmar - 8th, Erin Hall - 7th, Savannah Scott - 7th, Hannah Siegmund - 4th, and Shelby Cummings - 8th.

The winners of our local spelling bee were Shelby and Erin. Mrs. Hastings said it was "tough competition, and neck and neck between Erin and Shelby to the very end." All classes came to watch, and a lot of parents came to watch to. Shelby and Erin then went to the University of Maryland - Eastern Shore on March 1st for the regional competition. Erin earned 2nd place there!

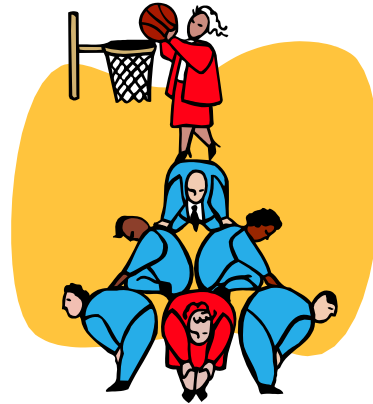


Student/Teacher Basketball

By: Rence Davis

The student and teacher basketball game was on February 4, 2014. The students won 16 to 14. It was a very close game. The teachers who played were Mrs. Chamberlain, Mrs. Terrell, Mrs. Aswell, Miss Phillips, Mrs. Hastings, Mrs. Phillips and Mr. Costante.

They played against the 8th grade. The coaches were Mrs. Hall for the 8th grade and Mrs. Rosenfelder for teachers. The overall record from the student and teacher basketball games is 2 and 2.

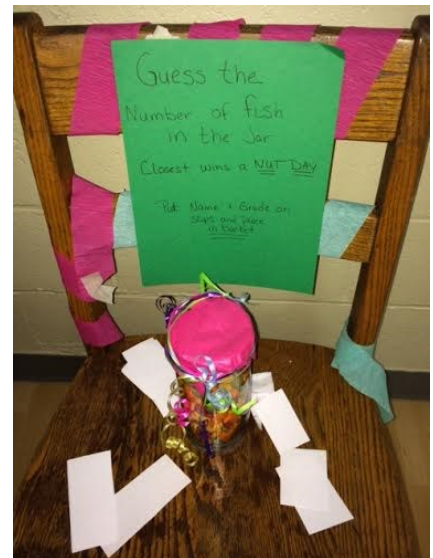


Baby Pictures

By: Faith Lafferty

In the beginning of March, Saint Francis has a contest where 8th graders from the school post their baby pictures, and the entire school has a chance to guess who is who.

If you match all the pictures to the correct students, you get a “sweet” prize! Adriana Costante, Timmy Synowiec and Abbey Reilly were the winners this year.



Above: a “guess the number” game from Grandparents Day

Catholic Schools Week

By: Camper Marsh and Casey Mull

Here is a summary of the exciting events of this years’ Catholic Schools Week:

Student Appreciation Day: Everyone in the school had a N.U.T day and the theme was sports or spirit wear. The students had no homework that day!

Parent Appreciation Day: There was a talent show after morning meeting. The students dressed up as their parents in the ‘Blast from the Past’ theme .

Teacher Appreciation Day: The teachers slept in until second period. The students enjoyed a special afternoon movie.

Grandparents Luncheon: The students had a half-day and enjoyed lunch with their grandparents. There also was a prayer service for the grandparents. Afterwards, students could go to the annual book fair.



Left: annual book fair; **Right:** Grandparents Day Luncheon

Book/movie Review

By: Tyler Passarell

The Lost Hero is a book about a Roman demigod named Jason. He wakes up with two Greek demigods named Leo and Piper who somehow know him. When Jason wakes up, he has forgotten his past and does not know who he is, or know Leo or Piper. After they are talking for a while, demigods in a flying chariot take them to Camp Half-Blood, the Greek camp. But the Greek demigod Percy Jackson and his girlfriend are missing.

When everything is going great, Jason finds out that he is the son of the God Jupiter, God of the skies. Leo finds out he is the son of Hephaestus, God of metal working. Piper is the daughter of Aphrodite, the Goddess of love. The three are chosen to go on a quest and are to save Hera, the queen. They proceed with the long and dangerous quest. They are to save everyone they care for most from the evil Earth Mother Gae.

The author of The Lost Hero is Rick Riordan. If you want to understand who Percy is and what he has done in his long and dangerous past, Rick Riordan also has another series about Percy Jackson that you could read. The series will start you off in a new world—a dangerous one, too. I recommend this book to all who enjoy some action and adventure.



Snow Day

By: Rence Davis

I asked kids at the school what they did on the snow day on January 30, 2014. On the January 29th, the kids were very excited when they looked out the window and saw that it was snowing. They were super happy when they heard there was no school that day.



Charlie Lagueux said he spent time with his family because he cares about them. Noah Ortiz said that he played with his little sister in the snow because he wanted to have fun. And Camper Marsh went sledding at his friend Vincent's house.

Wax Museum

By: Camper Marsh

The 2nd grade wax museum project was presented on February 27th. The students read biographies about famous historical people all while being dressed in costume as that person. Some of the biographies were Bethany Hamilton, Helen

Keller and Amelia Earhart, just to name a few. They did a fantastic job! I learned many historical facts. Mrs. Rosenfelder organized the entire event, and deserves much recognition.

The Big “?”

By: Kerry Ervin

I asked students **The Big Question:**

If you could have any super power in the world, what would it be and why?

“I would shape-shift because I could turn into a hippo and lay on my brother’s bed and I could turn into a mouse and watch my sister gossip over things.”

- Camper Marsh, 5th



“Super strength, because I could save people.”

- Charlie Lageux, 3rd



“I would have all of Superman and Flash’s powers, because I could probably go into the Olympics and win as the fastest swimmer. I would be unstoppable and I could have laser eyes to warm up my coffee.”

- Casey Mull, 5th



“Flying so I wouldn’t have to walk up the stairs.”

- Paige Jansen, 6th



“Hypnotizing so I could put the bad people to sleep.”

- Sarah Miller, 2nd



The Elemental Adventures of Maddie Mercury

Into the Darkness part 1

By: Jayden Overton-O'Hara

It has been a week since Maddie and her friends have been at the School of Elements. Everything has been going well. Maddie has made new friends, is getting good grades, and is working to control her powers. Just when Maddie's life is finally settling down, something BIG happens....

Today is the day. We finally get assigned our squads! Maddie thought. Maddie was in Mr. Thatcher's class. She had been waiting for what seemed like an eternity for this moment.

"Here is how this is going to work," Mr. Thatcher announced. "We have put you all in teams according to your compatibility with each other. When I say your name, stand up and walk to the front of the classroom."

Since there were only ten new students, there would only be two new squads. Mr. Thatcher cleared his throat.

"Squad number one. Harry Helium...", A boy with short brown hair walked to the front of the classroom. "...Cody Chromium, Tanya Titanium, Matthew Magnesium, and Natalie Nickel." Mr. Thatcher then told the five kids to shake hands and sit down.

"Now for squad number two. Maddie Mercury...", Maddie stood up and nervously walked to the front of the room. "...Zulfy Sulphur, Callem Copper."

Yes! I knew Callem and Zulfy would be in my squad! Maddie thought.

As Zulfy and Callem walked to the front of the room, Mr. Thatcher announced, "...Nathan Nitrogen and Callie Chlorine." A boy with light brown hair and hazel eyes behind a pair of glasses stood up and walked to the front of the room. At the same time a girl with long, almost black hair and dark green eyes slowly walked to the front of the room.

After Maddie and her squad shook hands, Mr. Thatcher explained what would happen next. The two squads were going to head outside and do group exercises to become more familiar with one another. Once they were outside, Mr. Thatcher explained the instructions to the first activity.

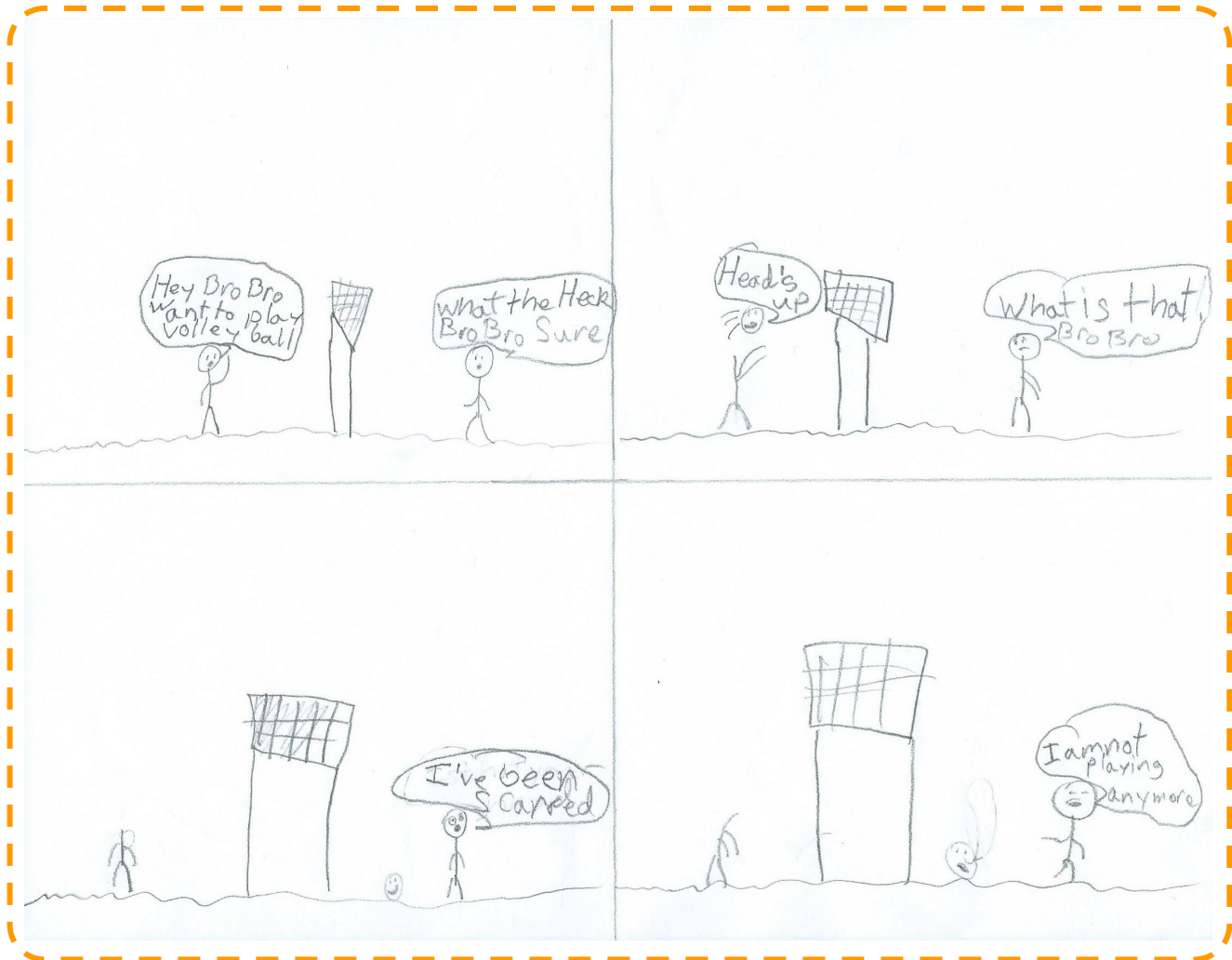
"What you all are going to do is sit in a circle and share information about yourselves. So let's begin." Maddie sat down in a circle with her squad.

"I guess I will start," said Zulfy. Once Zulfy got them started, it went smoothly. After that, they did an obstacle course. They were doing pretty well until they got to the bridge.

Want to know what happens next? Be sure to read the next issue of *The Emperor!*



By: Casey Mull & Camper Marsh



STAFF

Rence Davis, 5th

Camper Marsh, 5th

Casey Mull, 5th

Kerry Ervin, 6th

Faith Lafferty, 6th

Tyler Passarell, 6th

Jayden Overton-O'Hara, 8th

Taylor Wilson, SU Intern

Mrs. Phillips

Mrs. Ledford



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