



St. Edmund's Academy
An Independent School

Susan S. Miller
Associate Head of School

CURRENT HAPPENINGS AT SEA

February 1, 2009

Dear Parents,

The cold winter weather is here to stay for awhile. Please remind your children to wear winter coats, hats, gloves, (and pants/leggings/sweat pants to and from school for our young ladies). Some students arrive in the morning only wearing blazers, walking from the car to the front door, and forget they have recess outside.

In addition, many students are arriving to school on Thursdays improperly dressed for Chapel. I ask for your assistance in either reminding them or 'checking' to see if your children are dressed properly for Chapel on Thursdays (expected Chapel attire can be found in the Information & Guidelines handbook). Thank you for your assistance.

Best regards,
Susan

NOTEWORTHY NEWS

National Geography Bee

- Fifth grader **Jack Chaillet** outlasted twelve other contestants to win this year's school **Geography Bee**. The competition was held on Friday, January 23 in the school auditorium. Jack knew that the Gulf of Guinea is a major offshore oil exploration and drilling zone off the west coast of Africa. His correct response broke the tie with runner-up Sarah Slaymaker, earning him top honors. Congratulations to Sarah and Taylor Scahill for finishing second and third respectively in the bee. Jack has taken the written test given to the school champ, and it will be sent to the National Geographic Society for official scoring. Should Jack's score rank among the best in the state, he will be invited to the Pennsylvania regional competition in the spring. We wish Jack all the best in his efforts to make it to the state finals.

MathCounts Competition

- St. Edmunds **MathCounts** members will participate in the **MathCounts Competition** at Robert Morris University, Moon Township, on Saturday, **February 21 from 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.**, under the tutelage of Mr. Tucek and Mr. Erbrecht. MathCounts team members include Zane S., Adam H., Ben M., Shane O., Joe D., Joey S., Philip K., Regina B., Nathan H., and Caleb S.

IndEE 500 cm Robot Car Race

- Nine St. Edmund's **5th and 6th Grade students** from our Robotics Club will participate in the 2009 **IndEEE 500 cm Robot Car Race** at Carnegie Science Center. Students will have fun while they apply elementary control systems theory, robotics, and mechanical and electrical engineering principles to their cars.

St. Edmund's Academy Max & Erma's Day

- On **Tuesday, February 3**, St. Edmund's PTA will be sponsoring a FUNdraiser at the Shadyside **Max & Erma's**. We hope you'll plan to join us!

Empty Bowls Dinner

- **The Eighth Grade** students completed their bowls for the **Empty Bowl Dinner**. The dinner will be held on March 15th at Rodef Shalom Congregation, Forbes Ave. in Squirrel Hill, from 2 -7 pm. Tickets are \$20.00. The funds raised help support the **Pittsburgh Community Food Bank and Just Harvest**. Last year our students helped raise \$45,000 from the sale of their bowls! You may call 412-431-8960 or 412-460-3663 for tickets.

St. Edmund's Academy Basketball Tournament

- The **St. Edmund's Girl's & Boy's Basketball Tournament** will be held on **Saturday, February 7**, beginning at 9:00 a.m. In addition, we will also host an **Alumni (high school) reunion** from 9:00-12:00 in the field house. Good luck girls and boys basketball teams and welcome high school alumni!

Community Service

- The **Fourth Grade** Sarris pretzel fundraiser to benefit **Niños del Lago** is still underway. Pretzels (\$1.00 each) are being sold during lunch periods on Fridays in January. Unsold pretzels will be available for purchase at the SEA basketball tournament on Saturday, February 7th.
- The **Seventh Grade** will be collecting new or gently worn shoes for a program in South Africa which was promoted by the father of seventh grader Breyne Guy. We are proud to be able to collaborate as a school in his legacy. Please send in shoes with your child between February 2 and March 11 to support the **Seventh Grade 'Shoes for George'** a village in South Africa. There will be boxes in the homerooms beginning Feb. 2.
- The **Eighth Grade** created soup bowls to donate to the **Empty Bowls, Just Harvest** fundraiser through the Pittsburgh Food Bank.
- St. Edmund's will hold its **Third Annual "Valentines for Patients"** community service initiative. For the third year, every student in **PreK- 8thGrade** will create hand-made valentines which will be delivered to hospital patients on Valentine's Day.

Lead Students from September 2008-January 2009:

- September: Zenzele Viorla (6th), Katie Keim (7th), Christopher Rudolf (4th)
- October: Lauren Mc.Kenzie (8th), Matthew Hardiman (5th), Imani Wagner (6th), Savanna Soffer (7th)
- November: Molly Widdoes (4th), Aki Nace (6th)
- December: Ben Molin (7th), Jack Chaillet (5th)
- January: Michael Hoge (5th), Adam Harvey (7th)

BASKETBALL GAMES IN FEBRUARY

~~ **Boys Games** – February 2 (6th grade), 3, 4 (6th grade), 5 (6th grade), 9 (6th grade), 11(6th grade), 12 (6th grade)

~~ **Girls Games** – February 2 (6th grade), 3 (JV), 4 (6th grade), 5, 11 (6th grade)

SEA Girl's and Boy's Basketball Tournament at SEA on Saturday, February 7, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

IMPORTANT FEBRUARY DATES/EVENTS

- Mon., Feb. 2 11:00-12:00 noon, **PreK Hibernation Presentation**
- Tues., Feb. 3 **SEA Max & Erma's FUNdraiser** in Shadyside
- Wed., Feb. 4 8:15 a.m., PTA Board meeting
- Thurs., Feb. 5 Chapel Coffee hosted by 4th Grade
- Fri., Feb. 6 2:00 p.m., **3rd Grade Biography Readings** in the auditorium
- Sat. Feb. 7 **SEA Girl's & Boy's Basketball Tournament and Alumni (high school) reunion**

- Sat., Feb. 7 2009-2010 Admissions Testing for prospective 2nd-8th graders
- Mon., Feb. 9 1:00 p.m., 4th Grade Performance dress rehearsal
- Mon., Feb. 9 Tu B'shvat; Jewish
- Tues. Feb. 10 **8:30 a.m., 4th Grade Performance** for parents & guests
- Wed., Feb. 11 **9:30-12:30 p.m., 3rd Grade visits Carnegie Museum**
- Thurs. Feb. 12 **11:00 a.m., PreK Valentine's Day party**
- Thurs., Feb. 12 **1:30 p.m., Kindergarten Valentine's Day party**
- Thurs., Feb. 12 **2:30 p.m., 1st Grade Valentine's Day party**
- Thurs., Feb. 12 **2:00 p.m., 2nd Grade Valentine's Day party**
- Thurs., Feb. 12 **2:30, p.m., 3rd Grade Valentine's Day party**
- Fri., Feb. 13 **NO SCHOOL**, President's Day long weekend
- Sat., Feb. 14 Valentine's Day
- Sun., Feb 15 Nirvana Day; Buddhism
- Mon., Feb. 16 **NO SCHOOL**, President's Day
- Wed., Feb. 18 **8th Grade ONLY dress-down day**
- Wed., Feb. 18 **PreK Gateway to the Arts presentation**
- Thurs., Feb. 19 **6:00-7:30 p.m., Bingo for Books for PreK-4th grade students** in the dining hall
- Fri., Feb. 20 **1:20 p.m., 3rd Grade Toga Party**
- Sat., Feb. 21 **8:00, MathCounts at Robert Morris University**
- Sat., Feb. 21 **12:00 noon, IndEEE Robot Car Race at Carnegie Science Center**
- Sun., Feb. 22 **Deal?** at the **Oaks Theatre**
- Mon., Feb. 23 **4:00-6:00 p.m., Upper School Ice-Skating Party at Schenley Park Skating Rink; transportation, admission, and rental will NOT be provided**
- Mon., Feb. 23 Maha Shivaratri; Hindu
- Tues., Feb. 24 **6th Grade Mardi Gras** celebration
- Tues., Feb. 24 Shrove Tuesday, Christian
- Wed., Feb. 25 Ash Wednesday
- Wed., Feb. 25 7:00-8:00 a.m., Imposition of ashes at the Church of the Redeemer by Fr. Chuck
- Wed., Feb. 25 1:00 p.m., Kindergarten Performance dress rehearsal
- Thurs., Feb. 26 **9:15 a.m., 2nd Grade visits the Carnegie Museum**
- Thurs., Feb. 26 Intercalary Days begin; Baha'i
- Fri., Feb. 27 **8:30 a.m., Kindergarten Performance for parents & guests**
- Fri., Feb. 27 **12:00 p.m., 4th Grade visits the Carnegie Museum**
- Fri., Feb. 27 **End of Trimester II**

*GOOD LUCK STEELERS,
SUPER BOWL XLIII!*