



St. Edmund's Academy
An Independent School

Susan S. Miller
Associate Head of School

CURRENT HAPPENINGS AT SEA

February 1, 2010

Dear Parents,

As you know, January 15, 2010, marked the end of Semester I at St. Edmund's Academy. At this time, our teachers provided a formal report card for each student. With our new 'semester calendar', students received grades for progress during the first quarter of the semester, Mid-Semester I, which ended on October 30, 2010. Then on January 15, 2010, students received grades for progress during the second quarter, ending Semester I. Thank you for attending Parent-Teacher conferences held during the week of January 25. I am hopeful you had an opportunity to review and discuss your child's Semester I progress and report card.

St. Edmund's Academy has embraced supporting **L'Hopital Albert Schweitzer** in its efforts to provide relief to **Haiti**. Headquartered in Pittsburgh, L'Hopital Albert Schweitzer provides medical care and community health and development programs for more than 300,000 impoverished people in the Artibonite Valley of central Haiti. St. Edmund's has committed to conduct fundraising activities within the school to assist in getting medicine and medical supplies to the region. Several initiatives include: a *Silly Socks* dress down day; *Penny Showdown* between the Lower School, Upper School, and faculty/staff; a *PTA Bake Sale*; a *50/50 Raffle* at the SEA Basketball Tournament in the field house; 1st-4th graders *Running Laps* for pledges before each physical education class from February through May; *Snacks for Haiti* sold in the Upper School during snack time the remainder of the year; a *Mr. T. Tie Day* in February; *Random Valentines* purchased by students to give to other students; *Hoops for Haiti* pledges with the Upper School Teams; the *PTA Store* will contribute **10% of February Sales**; and additional *dress-down days*.

- Students wore **Silly Socks** to school on Monday, January 25; nearly \$200.00 was collected
- In our efforts to help the people of Haiti, Mr. Sciulli will spearhead a **Penny Showdown**. Pennies will be collected beginning February 1, 2010. The *Penny Showdown* will feature a friendly competition including the Lower School, Upper School, and faculty/staff, with the winning group receiving a free dress-down day. So, the next time you see a penny on the ground, pick it up and along with the many, many more donated, let's all help the earthquake victims in Haiti. Remember, these cents make sense. (Mr. Sciulli).
- The PTA will sponsor a **Bake Sale** on Friday, February 5, 2010, in the field house. Many delectable goodies will be available for purchase.
- A **50/50 Raffle** will be held during the SEA Girls' & Boys' Basketball Tournament in the field house on Saturday, February 6, 2010.
- Lower School students in grades 1-4 will be involved in **Running Laps** before each physical education class (up to 5 laps per class). Students will bring home 'pledge forms' for support of their efforts. Students are to return the pledge forms to their homeroom teacher (in the homework folder would be fine) when completed.
- Mt. Tucek will sell **Snacks for Haiti** in his classroom during snack time each day.
- Tuesday, February 9, 2010, will be designated **Mr. T. Tie Day**; \$.50 to participate. PreK-8th grade students may wear a dress shirt and a 'cool tie' (along with their normal Tuesday uniform) just like Mr. T. (Tucek) does daily.
- **Random Valentines** will be sold, beginning February 1 – February 12, 2010. Students pay \$.50, choose a name from a canister, signs her/his name to a 'gift tag', which is taped to a lollipop and delivers it to the recipient. Lower School

students choose from the Upper School canister and Upper School students choose from the Lower School canister. Students are limited to purchasing two valentines per day.

- Upper School 'teams' will participate in **Hoops for Haiti**. Students will rack up as many foul shots as possible in 15 minutes. Sponsorship forms will be provided on Thursday, February 4, 2010. All donations should be turned in by Friday, March 19, 2010.
- The **PTA Store** will contribute **10% of February Sales**;
- Additional **dress-down days** to be announced.

Thank you, thank you, thank you for your support in our school-wide initiatives!

Best regards,
Susan

NOTEWORTHY NEWS

National Geography Bee

- The 2009-2010 Geography Bee took place in the Hillman Auditorium on Thursday, January 21, 2010. Ten contestants, who qualified via preliminary rounds, were seeded and ready to show what they knew about the world. Defending school champ, Jack C., was among the qualifiers. After several rounds of questioning, three remained. Peter Foster became our third place finisher, and then there were two! The two finalists, Alex B. and last year's champ, Jack C., came down to a tiebreaker round. In the end, Jack identified "Nepal" as the Asian country boasting 8 of the top 10 highest peaks in the world, and was crowned school champ for the second straight year. Jack is a student in our 6th grade class. Jack's next goal is to qualify for the regional tournament. Congratulations to all our participants. Results:
 - School Champ – Jack C., 6th grade
 - Runner- Up – Alex B., 8th grade
 - Third Place – Peter F., 5th grade
 - Fourth Place – Daniel Y., 6th grade
 - Fifth Place – Jacob G. 6th grade

St. Edmund's Academy Basketball Tournament, February 6, 2010

- The **St. Edmund's Girl's & Boy's Basketball Tournament** will be held on **Saturday, February 6, 2010**, beginning at 9:00 a.m. In addition, we will also host an **Alumni (high school) reunion** in the field house. Good luck girls and boys basketball teams and welcome high school alumni!

MathCounts Competition, February 13, 2010

- St. Edmund's **MathCounts** members will participate in the **MathCounts Competition** at Robert Morris University, Moon Township, on Saturday, **February 13, from 8:00 a.m-2:00 p.m.**, under the tutelage of Mr. Tucek. MathCounts team members include Zane S. Adam H., Joe D., Aki N., Philip K., Zoe L., Carlisle T., and Reed W.

IndEEE 500 cm Robot Car Race, February 20, 2010

- **Upper School students** will participate in the **IndEEE 500 Robot Car Race** at the Carnegie Science Center on February 20, 2010. Students will apply elementary control systems theory, robotics, and mechanical and electrical engineering principles to their cars.

Community Service

- **PreKindergarten II** will begin their yearly community service initiative. In partnership with local charities in Pittsburgh, PreK II will collect **pajamas and bedtime stories** for children in our area who may not otherwise be fortunate enough to have their own. One of the best parts of the day is snuggling up with your little one to read a

favorite story! The drive will begin on Friday, February 5 with a **PreKindergarten II Pajama Party** and continue through Friday, February 19.

- **The Fifth Grade** will kick off their **Used Book** community service initiative on Monday, February 22, 2010. Please drop off gently used books in Ms. Gregory's or Mr. Holey's (5th grade homeroom teachers) classrooms.
- **Seventh Grade** will collect new or gently worn shoes for a program in South Africa, **Shoes for George** which was promoted by the father of eighth grader Breyne Guy. We are proud to be able to collaborate as a school in his legacy. Please send in closed shoes (not sandals) with your child between February 15 and March 12. There will be boxes in the homerooms available for collection.
- The **Eighth Grade** created soup bowls to donate to the **'Empty Bowls' Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank and Just Harvest** fundraiser through the Pittsburgh Food Bank.
- St. Edmund's will hold its **Fourth 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.
- **The Fun-Sizers Upper School Team's** Community Service Project to benefit **Eye Care International** collected 48 pairs of eyeglasses. Thank you for your donations!

Lead Students from September 2008-January 2009:

- September: Alecia S. (8th), Charlotte R. (7th)
- October: Isabella V. (5th), Sarah W. (4th), Davis L. (6th), Nick A. (7th), Ashley A. (5th)
- November: Ben S. (4th), Carlisle T. (6th)
- December: Claire A. (7th), Peter F. (5th gr.)
- January: Gray G.(6th), Kendal T. (4th), Dylan F. (7th)

BASKETBALL GAMES IN FEBRUARY

~~ **Boys Games** – February 1 (7th& 8th grade), 2 (6th grade), 4 (7th& 8th), 8 (6th grade), 10(6th grade), 11 (6th grade), 16 (6th grade)

~~ **Girls Games** – February 1 (7th& 8th grade), 3 (7th& 8th grade), 4 (varsity), 10 (6th grade), 11 (6th grade), 16 (6th grade)

SEA Girl's and Boy's Basketball Tournament at SEA on Saturday, February 6, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

IMPORTANT FEBRUARY DATES/EVENTS

- Wed., Feb. 3 8:15 a.m., PTA Board meeting
- Thurs., Feb. 4 **Chapel Coffee** hosted by 4th Grade
- Fri., Feb. 5 **6th grade ONLY** dress down day
- Fri., Feb. 5 **PTA Bake Sale** to support Haiti
- Fri., Feb. 5 **Ms. Verna visits PreK I** to talk about hibernation
- Fri. Feb. 5 **PreK II Pajama Party Service Project** 'kick off'
- Sat. Feb. 6 **SEA Girl's & Boy's Basketball Tournament and Alumni (high school) reunion**
- Mon., Feb. 8 3:30-5:30 p.m., **7th & 8th grade Musical rehearsal**; all cast
- Tues. Feb. 9 **Mt. T. Tie Day**; \$.50 donation for Haiti relief
- Tues. Feb. 9 **PreK I Pajama Day**
- Tues., Feb. 9 10:00 a.m., 4th grade dress rehearsal
- Tues., Feb. 9 3:30-5:30 p.m., **7th & 8th grade Musical rehearsal**; all cast
- Wed., Feb. 10 **8:30 a.m., 4th Grade Performance** for parents & guests
- Wed., Feb. 10 3:30-5:30 p.m., **7th & 8th grade Musical rehearsal**; all cast

- Thurs., Feb. 11 **11:00-12:00 noon, PreK I Valentine's Day party**
- Thurs., Feb. 11 **1:30 p.m., Kindergarten Valentine's Day party**
- Thurs., Feb. 11 **2:30 p.m., 2nd Grade Valentine's Day party**
- Thurs., Feb. 11 **4:00-6:30 p.m., Upper School Ice Skating party at Schenley Rink.** Free admission; skate rental available for \$2.50

- Fri., Feb. 12 9:30 a.m., **3rd grade visits Frick Museum**
- Fri., Feb. 12 1:15 p.m., **PreK II Valentine's Day party**
- Fri., Feb. 12 **2:00 p.m., 4th Grade Valentine's Day party**
- Fri., Feb. 12 **2:30 p.m., 1st Grade Valentine's Day party**
- Fri., Feb. 12 **2:30, p.m., 3rd Grade Valentine's Day party**
- Fri., Feb. 12 3:30-5:30 p.m., **7th & 8th grade Musical rehearsal;** all cast and crew
- Sat., Feb. 13 8:00 a.m., **MathCounts competition at Robert Morris University**
- Mon., Feb. 15 **NO SCHOOL, President's Day**
- Tues., Feb. 16 **6th Grade Mardi Gras** celebration
- Tues., Feb. 16 3:30-5:30 p.m., **7th & 8th grade Musical rehearsal;** all cast
- Wed., Feb. 17 Ash Wednesday
- Wed., Feb. 17 7:00-8:00 a.m., **Imposition of Ashes at the Church of the Redeemer** by Fr. Rugh
- Wed., Feb. 17 3:30-5:30 p.m., **7th & 8th grade Musical rehearsal;** all cast
- Thurs., Feb. 18 6:00-7:00 p.m., **Bingo For Books**
- Fri., Feb. 19 **Kindergarten and 1st Grades** celebrate the **100th Day of School**
- Fri., Feb. 19 12:00 p.m., **4th Grade visits the Carnegie Museum**
- Fri., Feb. 19 **PreKindergarten II Service Project ends**
- Fri., Feb. 19 3:30-5:30 p.m., **7th & 8th grade Musical rehearsal;** all cast and crew
- Sat., Feb. 20 **12:00 noon, IndEEE Robot Car Race at Carnegie Science Center**
- Sat., Feb. 20 **9:00-12:00 noon, 2010-2011 Admissions Testing for grades 2-7**
- Sat., Feb. 20 **1:00-4:00 p.m., 7th & 8th grade Musical rehearsal;** all cast
- Mon., Feb. 22 **5th grade Used Book Drive** community service initiative
- Mon., Feb. 22 3:30-5:30 p.m., **7th & 8th grade Musical rehearsal;** all cast and crew
- Tues., Feb. 23 3:30-5:30 p.m., **7th & 8th grade Musical rehearsal;** all cast and crew
- Wed., Feb. 24 9:00 a.m., Kindergarten performance dress rehearsal
- Wed., Feb. 24 3:30-5:30 p.m., **7th & 8th grade Musical rehearsal;** all cast and crew
- Fri., Feb. 26 **8:30 a.m., Kindergarten 'Dinosaur Rock' performance for parents & guests**
- Fri., Feb. 26 1:15 p.m., **3rd grade Toga party in World Cultures**
- Fri., Feb. 26 3:30-5:30 p.m., **7th & 8th grade Musical rehearsal;** all cast and crew
- Sat., Feb. 27 9:00-12:00 noon, **7th & 8th grade Musical rehearsal;** all cast