
ST. ELIZABETH NEWS

October 2008

Mission Statement

Our mission at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic School is to serve God through our ministry of educational excellence and to develop the spiritual lives of our youth within the framework of the Gospel and the tradition of the Catholic Church.

Philosophy

Our fundamental task is the education of the whole child, combining learning with faith, Catholic doctrines and moral teachings. We strive to instill in our students a lifelong commitment to learning, to Christian values and citizenship, and like our patroness, to community service. We are dedicated to achieving these goals within a supportive and diverse Christian community and to living our faith daily with the understanding that education is a process that never ends.

IMPORTANT DATES

- October 2 – Faculty Mtg., NO TUTORIALS
- October 2 – Vision & Hearing Screenings
- October 3 – Christian Witness Awards after the 8 am Mass
- October 3 – First Friday Adoration PK-3rd Grades
- October 8 – Primary Department Rosary @ 2 pm
- October 9 – Second Grade Potluck Parent Night @ 7 pm
- October 10 – Hike For Life @ 1-3 pm
- October 13 – Diocesan Teacher In-Service, NO SCHOOL
- October 14 – Teen Read Week
- October 15 – Intermediate Department Rosary @ 2 pm
- October 15 – Advisory Council In-Service @ 7-9 pm, St. Patrick's
- October 16 – 8th Grade Monthly Snack Sale
- October 17 – 3rd Friday Adoration 4th-8th Grades
- October 17-23 - Red Ribbon Week
- October 21 – 4th & 5th Grade Potluck Parent Night
- October 22 – Jesuit Drama Troupe Gr. 6-8 @ 9:45 am
- October 22 – Middle School Department Rosary @ 2 pm
- October 24 – Faculty Spiritual Retreat/NO SCHOOL

- October 25 – Fall Carnival
- October 27 – Coordinators' Mtg. @ 3:30 pm
- October 29 – All-School Living Rosary @ 2 pm
- October 30 – 8th Grade Class Fundraiser Breakfast @ 7:30 am
- October 30 – 5th Grade Vocations Day
- October 30 – Buck-a-Jean Day
- October 31 – First Quarter Grades Close
- October 31 – Primary Halloween Parade
- November 1 – All Saints' Day
- November 3 – Advisory Council Mtg. @ 6 pm
- November 4 – 8th Grade Visit to BDHS
- November 5 – 4th Grade Field Trip
- November 6 – Report Cards Sent Home
- November 6 – Faculty Mtg./NO TUTORIALS
- November 14 – Parent/Teacher Conference Day, NO SCHOOL

FROM CHRISTINA CLEM, PRINCIPAL

October has arrived at last, and we are beginning to enjoy some fall weather days already! Cooler mornings remind us of days ahead with beautiful fall foliage to add spice to the routines of learning experiences and extra-curricular activities! October will be a busy month for our school community and you won't want to miss the exciting activities planned for this month! So please be sure to keep the October calendar in a handy place

Our first Christian Spirit Awards were given after Mass last Friday for the life-skill of common sense. In October, we are promoting the life-skill of courage among our students.

We are looking forward to our 8th grade sponsored Hike for Life this week on Friday, October 10, from 1-3 pm. We wish to thank the 8th grade and Mrs. Belcher for all the work that will go into making this a meaningful afternoon.

I would like to thank those parents who attended our 6th and 8th grade parent potluck nights in September. We have two parent potluck nights planned for October with our second grade parents on Oct. 9th and our 4th & 5th grade parents on October 21. Please RSVP to Mrs. Belcher if you have not already done so.

Beginning October 17, our school will be celebrating Red Ribbon Week around this year's theme: "Show Good Character: Be Drug-free!" Most of the activities, including a poster contest, will be centered around

some of the character traits that follow along with our Lifelong Guidelines and Life-skills.

We wish to welcome Sr. Dawn Achs, S.S.N.D., the new associate superintendent, to St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic School on October 23rd. We look forward to her visit and to working with her and our new superintendent, Sr. Gloria Cain, S.S.N.D., throughout this school year.

Please note that the Faculty Retreat will be held on Friday, October 24th. There will be no school for the students, and carnival preparations will be in progress on that day.

Our Fall Festival Carnival will take place on Saturday, October 25th from 6-10 pm. Many thanks in advance to all of our parents for all the hard work you do in volunteering to make this event a success! A HUGE THANK YOU!!!! to Beatrice Cruz, Angel Tucker, the carnival chairpersons & their carnival committee, Mariva McDaniels and the homeroom parents, as well as the advisory council for all the groundwork in planning our carnival this year! Your work is sincerely appreciated by the faculty, staff, and students of St. Elizabeth School who are all looking forward to a fantastic time!

Our first Monthly Fundraiser Breakfast in September was a HUGE success thanks to all of the efforts of the parents, the faculty, the Family Volunteer Organization, & the Advisory Council members! We greatly look forward to October's breakfast which will be sponsored by the 8th grade class on October 30th!

Report cards will be going home on Thursday, November 6^t. Parent conferences will be held on Friday, November 14th, from 8 am – 12 noon and from 1 – 4 pm. More information regarding the scheduling for appointments will be going out later through Renweb.

As always, let us continue to pray for one another and for the needs of our community!

FROM BETH BELCHER, RELIGION COORDINATOR

October is Respect Life month, and this includes respecting life at all stages, from the unborn to the aged, from the marginalized to the ill, from the poor to the disenfranchised. All people are made in the image and likeness of God and therefore are imbued with an innate dignity that comes from God. Thank you for supporting the efforts of St Elizabeth School for the last several years, which include the following: the Hike for Life, the children of the Merida Foundation, Coins for Camaroon, Make a Wish Foundation, Doctor's Without Borders, the Marillac Center, St Joseph's Residency, the St Elizabeth Parish Giving Tree, and many

other service hours that your children have participated in and that you have financially supported. In the same way that the Blessed Trinity is the perfect community, so we, too, model ourselves upon this as we see parents, teachers and students all working toward the same goal, which is respect for all Life.

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT

The Development Drive is changing it's name to Parent Annual Giving Drive

We decided to change the name of our Annual Development Drive to Parent Annual Giving Drive simply because it better represents the real meaning of this yearly appeal for financial support made to all the families and friends of St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic School to help cover expenses not afforded by student tuition. The Parent Annual Giving Drive is the foundation of St. Elizabeth's parent fundraising efforts as it supports the School's most important needs and is a vital part of the operating budget each year. Because tuition only covers 70% of the cost of educating a St. Elizabeth student, the remaining 30% must be made up by donations to the PAG Drive and various school fundraisers. Contributions to the PAG Drive helps bridge the gap between tuition and the actual expense of a St. Elizabeth education which equates to approximately \$1,850 per student. The PAG Drive contributes to every part of the School's operation, and your financial support enables St Elizabeth School to enhance its programs and provide students and teachers with the best educational resources available. ***Your generosity in last year's drive helped St. Elizabeth completely update our two Tech Labs, Library Lab and create a new Robotics Lab.*** Think about what we could accomplish if every one of the 235 families at St. Elizabeth School participated at whatever level that was possible for each family. Whether you are able to donate \$25.00 or \$2,500, every gift is greatly appreciated. Everyone in the St. Elizabeth School Community benefits from your support and remember that every single **tax deductible** dollar you give goes directly to the school and the students. Watch your mailboxes during the month of November for your pledge card and we thank you for your continued support!

Mark Your Calendars - St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic School Celebrates 50 Years of Service to the Community – Mark Your Calendars!

The Community of St. Elizabeth, past and present, will gather on Saturday, November 8th at 6:00 to celebrate 50 years of excellence in Catholic Education. We will be serving a dinner of brisket, baked potatoes, salad and a dessert for \$15.00/person. Please join us for an evening of memories, music, food, fun and fellowship.

We wish to reconnect with alumni and former teachers dating back to the school's inception in 1958 for our 50th Birthday Party. Our Alumni website is now LIVE – please go to <http://alumni.saintspride.com/> and create an account. And if you don't see classmates on the site, be sure to let them know about the alumni community so they will join as well. If you prefer, please contact Elizabeth Belew at (214) 331-5139 Ext. 24, or ebelew@stelizabethhofh.org, to put your name on the contact list for the celebration. We would be grateful for any names, addresses and phone numbers of any classmates you could pass on to us.

Magazine Drive News

It's that time again! St. Elizabeth School will kick off our Magazine/Gift Drive sponsored by QSP Reader's Digest on Thursday, November 6th. This year, we will offer Magazines as well as a Home and Gift Catalog. *Many thanks to Vanessa Walker and Kristie Crone for agreeing to co-chair this very important fundraiser!!*

St. Elizabeth will make profits of 40% on Magazines and 50% on the Gifts! Last year, we sold over \$17,000.00 in magazines, which netted us a profit of over \$6,800.00! Funds from last year's drive were used to replace outdated laptop computers for our teachers to use with our SmartBoards. The success of this program will depend on your participation.

If you have subscriptions to magazines that need to be renewed or would like to order a magazine, PLEASE....SAVE your subscription – don't send in the renewal forms that come in the mail or with your magazine. Let your friends and relatives know about our fundraiser and ask them to save their subscriptions for our program, as well.

Please call Elizabeth Belew at (214) 331-5139 Ext. 24 or email at ebelew@stelizabethhofh.org if you are interested in volunteering for this Drive. This is a perfect volunteer opportunity which will go towards your 25-hour commitment. We would need volunteers for approximately three days to verify order information and prize and gift distribution once the gift orders are delivered.

MONTHLY BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER

Winners of the September 25th Breakfast Raffle:
Jonathan Cuevas - \$10.00 Starbucks card
Rick Mills - \$10.00 Starbucks card
Mario Baez - \$30.00 Sonic card

For the raffle we sold 204 tickets. All prizes were donated.

ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB

The boosters would like to thank those individuals that have graciously volunteered and helped with the

weekend concessions. We still need volunteers to help with the next three Saturdays. If you would like to earn some volunteer hours while helping with the booster concessions, please contact Marta Martinez here at the school. We are happy to announce the new booster web page on the St. Elizabeth website. You can find this page by going to Saintspride.com and clicking on the link for the new booster website. In this section you will find schedules and practice times for all of our athletic teams, team registration forms, merchandise order forms, and other useful information. Thank you to Katy Barrilleaux for getting this set up for us.

We will place our first order for booster T-shirts and saints pride hoodies this coming week. If you have not yet done so and would like to place an order, please get the forms in as soon as possible. Remember, if you joined the booster club before October 3rd your student will receive a free booster T-shirt.

We encourage everyone to come out and support our athletic teams this weekend. Our 5th grade, 6th grade, and 8th grade girls' volleyball teams will be in action this Saturday in our gym. Games start at 11:30 am with the 5th grade girls, 6th grade at 12:20 and the 8th grade will play at 1:00 and 4:00. Our cross country teams compete in the city meet Saturday at Parish Episcopal School and our soccer teams will be in action this weekend as well. Varsity will play Friday night while the kinder- 4th will play on Saturday. **GO SAINTS!!!**

ST. ELIZABETH ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB

We will meet on October 14th and October 28th in Mrs. Strunk's Pre-K room. We hope to see you there!

GROCERY STORE FUNDRAISER

Notice: Kroger recently changed their community giving program from Kroger Cares to Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program. Once approved, we will provide St. Elizabeth families with a barcode to present with your KrogerPlus Card upon checkout at Kroger that will link your KrogerPlus Card with St. Elizabeth School. From that point forward you will only have to present your KrogerPlus Card for your purchases and St. Elizabeth School will receive a percentage of that total!

Did you know that two of the major grocery stores in our area donate a portion of your purchases to St. Elizabeth School? Kroger and Tom Thumb all have community programs to donate 1% of every dollar you spend at their stores back to St. Elizabeth School. But, they do not donate to St. Elizabeth unless you sign up for their programs and designate St. Elizabeth as your beneficiary.

To participate in:

Tom Thumb – St. Elizabeth’s number is #648. Turn in a completed application at your Tom Thumb store; they will give you a Reward Card, present that card to the cashier during your transaction. To change or verify the designated beneficiary of your current Reward Card, ask the cashier during your transaction. The more people that designate St. Elizabeth as their beneficiary school the more dollars St. Elizabeth earns to help defray the costs of tuition.

Thank you for participating in this fundraiser.

CAMPBELL LABELS & GENERAL MILLS

Don’t forget to send in your labels. A box is in the front of the school for your children to drop off any labels. Also a flyer will be sent out with all the labels that we can collect.

Student Birthdays

The following students will be celebrating a birthday in the month of September. Happy Birthday to

Rosa Araiza	Anthony Gonzales
Destiny Lujan	Logan Boyd
Andres Gonzalez	Austin Ortega
Aaron Hernandez	Kimberly Fontillas
Martin Fajardo	Miguel Torres
Hannah Hill	Natalie Ensey
Zachary Heneden	Sean Nwaubani
Benjamin Jones	Claire Hawkins
Lauren Hernandez	Angel Vargas
Avery Oliver	Aubrey Oliver
Jacob Yanez	

TEACHERS’ NOTES

Mrs. Strunk & Mrs. Mendez – Pre-Kindergarten

The children had a great time in September planting apple seeds and learning about Johnny Appleseed.

The month of October will be very busy, too. We are beginning a new unit in our Language Arts Program called “Families”. We will be learning new finger plays and reading stories about families.

During Math we will finish making our shape book and we are playing games with numbers 1 – 5.

October is the month of the Rosary and we will be making rosaries and saying the rosary at Religion time. We will also be talking about what prayer is. We will finish the story of Adam and Eve also.

We are watching our apple seeds and recording in science. We are working with the primary colors and we will be mixing them to make new colors.

Families will be our topic in Social Studies.

Thank you to all of PRE-Ks wonderful parents that helped or brought something to the first breakfast of the year. It was a wonderful success.

Important Dates:

October 13 - In-service for teachers NO SCHOOL

October 24 - In-service for teachers NO SCHOOL

October 25 - St. Elizabeth carnival

October 31 - Halloween Parade at 9:30 a.m. and Pre-K will take a trip through Heaven!

Have a great month! Happy Halloween!

Mrs. Guerrero & Mrs. Miranda – KA and

Ms. Vercillo & Ms. Martinez - KB

This is what we will be doing this month:

Religion – We will learn about the Bible story Noah’s Ark. We will learn about God’s promise. We will reflect on God’s care for all people and creation and how we care for others and all of creation. Ask your child about the story of Noah’s Ark. We will also read the Bible story, Tower of Babel. October is the month of the rosary. We will learn the prayers for the rosary and make our own rosary.

Language Arts – We will finish our unit on school and begin our new unit on shadows. We will learn more about shadows through books and active experimentation. We will learn about informational prose and how it differs from narrative stories. We will also learn about shadows through exploration and experimentation. Each day we will review alphabet letters and sounds, how the alphabet works, and oral blending. We will also work on our play, “Room on a Broom”. If you have your costumes for the play, you are welcome to send them to school.

Math – Our new unit is patterns. Our goals are to identify patterns in the environment, identify patterns in numbers, copy patterns, extend patterns, and make new patterns. We will also work on numbers and counting. Our goals are one to one correspondence, count to 100 by ones, count to 100 by fives and tens, count backward from 20, skip count by twos, compare equal and unequal sets, and find the number that comes before, after, and between.

Science – We will continue to mix primary colors. We will also continue to study on weather and send home the can you guess box. We will also learn about the

season of Fall, mix paint to make fall colors and learn about shadows.

Important Dates:

October 13 In-service for teachers NO SCHOOL

October 24 In-service for teachers NO SCHOOL

October 25 Halloween Carnival

October 31 HALLOWEEN!! We will have the parade after Mass at 9:30. At 10:30, kindergarten will have a Halloween Program and Play. We hope to see you there!

Have a great month! Happy Halloween!

Mrs. Fabian – 1A and Mrs. Patton – 1B

During the month of October the following will be the classroom topics:

Language Arts – Sounds of /c/, /b/, /r/, /u/, /g/, and /j/. In our Big Classroom book, we will read about animals and how they live and eat. Remember to read and keep all decodable books at home. Teachers will randomly pick one of the books that were sent home for the week to test on Friday.

English – What is a noun? We will find out what a noun is and how to label it in a sentence.

Math – During the month we will continue with addition. At the end of the month we will start “One Minute Mad Math”. Students have one minute to complete as many addition problems that they can. This is not a test grade.

Religion – We will be making rosaries and learning the different parts of the rosary including what prayers we pray. On October 8th the primary grades will have a rosary in the church at 2:00.

Science – We will finish our unit on The Stages of Life and have a Unit test on October 15. Then the classes will start Plants.

Social Studies – The journey of Christopher Columbus. At the end of the month we will start how and why we vote.

** Watch for notes for the upcoming carnival in your students red or Thursday folders.

Mrs. McClure – 2A and Mrs. Clack – 2B

English: Our little Jack-o-lanterns will continue to practice and light up those jingles. We have just mastered the subject noun, verb and adjectives. Next we will move on to the adverbs and prepositions. The kiddos are doing a fantastic job with these. Keep up the singing and practice at home. It is really paying off.

We will continue to work out of the Open Court booklet for the children in 2nd grade for English/Reading.

There are decodable booklets (paper back) that are sent home weekly. Your child has been asked to read this booklet at home as well as another book or chapter in a chapter book. Each child should be reading at least 20 minutes a day each night. The more practice the higher we climb in our reading fluency. ☺ READ, READ, READ!!!

Math: We are beginning to enter into the place value/house value that each number is placed. We are talking about how much each of these numbers is worth. We just exited the section of the book that works on basic addition and subtraction. Please continue to work on these facts, their related facts as well as their family members. $5+4=9$, $4+5=9$, $9-4=5$, $9-5=4$. These should be memorized by now. We are also beginning to practice counting by 2's, 5's, and 10's. We are doing this to prepare to begin counting by 3's, 4, etc which is part of the goal for the year. We will continue to work on word problems finding clue/cue words in the story to answer the problem as well as write the word form of a number. This is going to be one HOWLING month in October.

Religion: We will continue to work on our 7 sacraments as a Catholic. We have discussed Baptism, Holy Eucharist and Reconciliation in detail. We will begin the last 4 sacraments in detail beginning the first week in October. Our little angels are going to rock out with their sacraments this year. They are so proud!

Science: Our little trick-or-treater physicist will begin to describe the physical properties of solids by looking at other characteristics. We will begin to discuss buoyancy, flexibility, and hardness. We will discuss mass followed by our first test review for the year in science. Look for further information to come out as we prepare for our first test.

Social studies: as the days begin to count down to the next election, we will begin to discuss the election and voting process. This will lead us into election month. Students will also be discussing the “Friendly State” of Texas and completing a state book of Texas. Here they will discuss our capital, state bird, tree motto and much more.

We hope you are enjoying this year as much as we are. Don't forget, our visit to St. Joseph's Nursing Home is on December 12, 2008 this year. We will be leaving right after church on that day. We have enough drivers but are always looking for an extra hand. We all know that there is much truth in the phrase, “The more the merrier!” Please make sure that you get all in line with your **SAFE ENVIRONMENT**. Please contact Mrs. Campos in the

front office for more information. You will NOT be allowed to attend these places with us as a school unless you are cleared through the front office. More information will follow in November.

Mrs. Sharpe – 3A and Mrs. Price – 3B

Our month has been very busy and now that we have our standardized testing behind us we can really begin to fly with the fun of the up-coming seasons! The students are progressing so well with their reading! We read orally across the curriculums in Social Studies, Science, Religion and Math, as well as Reading and English. We have been progressing through a review of sentence types and nouns, both common and proper, and will now be learning more about adjectives. We have also learned about point of view and are working on plot and characterization. These will certainly help us as we begin to do more creative writing with our first book reports and also as we begin to work on our individual Student Treasure books.

We have been discussing our Blessed Mother, Mary, in Religion, and we will get to show our leadership skills this month as we lead the rest of the primary classes at our Primary Rosary on Wednesday. We will begin to discuss some special saints this month, also, in anticipation of the annual Saints game at the beginning of November.

We continue with our journey through the Solar System (Earth's rotation and orbit, the seasons) and are now going to be learning more about the moon and its phases and then it's on to the planets! For fun (and since we don't cover this subject in science this year) we are going to do a mini-at home-research project on "Spiders Around the World". Look for more information to come home this week regarding this project. We will conclude our study of communities this month and then we will discuss the presidency and our past presidential leaders in social studies.

Math will find us doing more expanded notation into the hundred thousands (and if they're game, we'll even move into the millions!) and learning to round numbers to the nearest ten, hundred and thousand. From there, we'll move into understanding money and counting coins and bills. Once these important foundational skills are mastered, we'll move through addition and subtraction in preparation for learning the multiplication tables. Multiplication is a really important part of third grade math and to master these skills, we'll continue to revisit the basics of place value, addition and subtraction. With a really solid foundation in the basics, your child will have confidence in their ability to master and enjoy math facts and processes. In the meantime, please don't forget to have your child practice their skills on both math websites:

www.progressinmath.com and <http://elizabeth.tx.mathscore.com>. The mathscore site requires the username and password that was sent home and the company sends me emails with information about how each child is doing, so I can track their progress. We use this website at school as well and the students are learning to use the number pad of the computer without looking! Please encourage them not to look at the keyboard while they're entering the numbers. It may be frustrating at first, but once they master this skill, they'll be able to move through the site much more quickly and easily.

Mrs. Schmitz – 4A

Religion

We are finishing up with Unit One in our Religion workbooks. One of the skills we should have by the end of this unit is to know the Act of Faith. We have learned this prayer and we say it frequently in class. This is a good prayer to have in our memory banks as it reminds us of what we truly believe as Catholics. The next several chapters discuss how God strengthens us to Be Holy.

Math

We are still in the review stages in Math. We have recently covered properties or addition and quick tips for addition. Currently we are reviewing subtraction as well as doing a mixed review of the materials covered so far this year. We work many word problems together as a class to ensure that the students can find and understand the key words in the word problems. If the students only remember one thing this year in math, I would like for them to remember the math problem solving method: Read, Plan, Solve, and Check. If they follow this process they should be successful math problem solvers.

Science

Learning about cells and the different parts of the body has been challenging and fun. The students did a great job presenting their cell and organ projects in class. I am sad to say it is almost time to move on. We will soon be discussing animal growth and reproduction. I am hoping this will be just as much fun for the class as we will discuss our inherited traits and characteristics.

Social Studies

We have finished working on map skills in Social Studies. We will continue to learn about the different regions of the United States. We will begin with learning about the Northeast. We will discuss the regions climate, land features, and even learn some fun stuff like what they eat in each of the regions of the U.S.

ELA/ Reading

We are still working on our paragraphs for our

Treasure books. We are continuing to work on our editing skills so we turn in our best work. The stories we are working on in class still deal with risks and consequences. We just finished reading *How to Eat Fried Worms*. If you make silly bets you may have to follow through on doing something you really do not want to do ;-)

Ms. Hickey – 5A

5th Grade English: We continue to learn about the different parts of speech through the Shurley Method. We finally have our spelling books! We will continue doing one lesson per week right through until the end of the school year.

5th Grade Science: We've learned about minerals and rocks – now it's time to learn about our Earth's interior and the forces that shape our planet. We'll learn all about the core, crust, and mantle; all about plate tectonics and sea-floor spreading. We'll move on to one natural force that shapes our Earth: earthquakes! Next month, we'll continue with volcanoes.

5th Grade Reading: We continue with short stories and learning to identify the setting, protagonist, antagonist, theme, climax, resolution in each story. We're also learning to identify these things in articles we read.

Mr. Barta – 5B

Social Studies—The students will be studying about early Native Americans for most of this month. They have a project to do that will involve learning all they can about certain Indian tribes. They will make a booklet that will show what they have learned. It will be displayed in the hallway when finished. While much of this will be put together in class, their research will mostly be done at home using the internet, library, etc.

Math—Most of this month will be devoted to learning the operations of multiplication and division and using them effectively to solve problems. They will learn how to use shortcuts in working problems with zeros.

Religion—They will be learning about the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist

Mrs. Belcher – MS Religion

6th Grade

Your students are doing an awesome job with Bible books and coming up with their own songs for the Old Testament. It's harder than it sounds, but they are talented and are doing a great job. We will move on with the story of Abraham, as well as making our own timeline for salvation history. What a great month!

7th Grade

The assignment, Build a Church, came out very well,

with students prioritizing elements in the Church. We will move into understanding the elements in the early Church based on Acts of the Apostles. We will also begin our focus on the study of the Sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist.

8th Grade

These school leaders have done an excellent job of reading their own prayers over the loudspeaker for all the school to hear. They have made their Images of the Church project a huge success, and have made an excellent first attempt at Faith Sharing #1. Their commitment to the Hike for Life has been a highlight of this month of October! Pines permission slips and related paperwork went home in September. Please let me know if you need another set. Please remember to send all forms in signed and completed. Also a reminder, that each student is responsible for the \$190 for lodging, bus, and food. This is due no later than November 25. Let me know if you have any questions. bbelcher@stelizabethofh.org

Mrs. Powell - MS Social Studies

6th Grade

We are currently studying Unit 2 in Social Studies. This unit covers civilization that developed in the Nile, Indus, and Huang river valleys. Beginning with Chapter 3, students will learn about the significant features of ancient Egypt and Nubia, two civilizations that developed in the Nile Valley. Chapter 4 provides a detailed overview of civilizations in ancient India. Chapter 5 describes the history of ancient China. When students have studied all three chapters they will be able to compare such features as natural environment, urban development, social hierarchy, written language, belief systems government, and economy.

7th Grade

We are currently studying Unit 2 in Social Studies. This unit covers European nations exploring North America and Central America. By the late 1600's Spain had explored and established settlements in what later becomes Texas.

Chapter 3 discusses the exploration of Texas by Europeans. Chapter 4 examines the period when Spain ruled Texas.

8th Grade

We are currently studying Unit 1 Chapter 3 in Social Studies. This unit discusses the historical forces, explorations, wars, and ideologies that culminated in the creation of this country. Chapter 3 discusses the era of exploration and colonization in the United States. This five section chapter provides an overview of the Spanish empire in North and South America. The colonies established by English, French, and

Dutch, and the Jamestown and Plymouth settlements. Chapter 4 focuses on the 13 English colonies, highlighting the characteristics of the New England, Middle, and Southern Colonies. The chapter also discusses the roots of self-government and examines day-to-day life in the colonies.

Mrs. Robb – MS Science

Science Articles due this month on the 9th and 22nd.
Bonus science article due on October 22 (optional).
Science binders/notebooks due on Tuesday, October 28.

6th Grade

We are continuing to work on the metric system. Students are learning how to do metric conversions. There will be a test next week. Next we will study the states of matter and how they change.

7th Grade

The students did a great job on their edible cells. I will be posting pictures on the website. Next, students will be studying “cell processes and energy.” Students will work on a lab in which they place an egg in various solutions to observe what moves in and out of the cell.

8th Grade

Students are currently studying Food and Digestion. They are working on a food diary project in which they record what they eat for three days and then compare it to what is recommended. They then design a plan to improve their eating habits. The goal is to try out the plan for three days and keep a diary of what was eaten. Students will report on their findings. Project due on October 20.

Next high school visit, Bishop Dunne, November 4 and Ursuline/Jesuit November 12.

Mr. Dettmer – MS Math

Sixth grade will do Chapter 3 on division and Chapter 4 orders of operation. Seventh grade will continue to work with signed numbers and problem solving. Algebra Houghton Mifflin will do problem solving and then exponents. Algebra Prentice Hall will do problem solving and then Inequalities.

Ms. Johnson – MS English/Literature

6th Grade English—We began our study of nouns this week. This unit will include compounds, proper, common, abstract, concrete, singular, plural, gender, nominative case (subject, complement, direct address, appositives), and the possessive case. The test is scheduled for October 28. Spelling includes lessons 4, 5, 7, and 8.

6th Grade Literature—We continue reading *Walk Two Moons* with the test scheduled for October 22.

Students will have assignments on comprehension, vocabulary, a partner project in the tech lab, and an essay. We will then begin a unit on short stories from the textbook. Beginning the second quarter, sixth grade will start the AR (Accelerated Reader) program. Look for an email from me on October 27, detailing this assignment.

8th Grade English—We continue the research paper with the following due dates: October 15, sources; October 16, bibliography cards; October 17, thesis statement; October 20, typed outline. Spelling includes lessons 4, 5, 7, and 8.

Mrs. Borth – MS Literature/English

<http://teacherweb.com/TX/StElizabethofHungaryCatholicSchool/JenniferBorth/>

7th Grade

We have finished our short story unit and will begin our first novel this week. Students need to have the novel Then Little Indians, sometimes published under the name And Then Their Were None, by Agatha Christi. We will read in class, but students will have to read some chapters outside of the classroom.

8th Grade

Our high school trips have begun – we have already traveled to Bishop Lynch and will travel to Bishop Dunne and Jesuit/Ursuline next month. If you have any questions about these, please e-mail me. We have started our last short story and will begin our first novel next week. Students need to have their own copy of The Giver by next Thursday.

Mrs. Barrientos – Pre-K-8th Grade Spanish

En Espanol estamos cantando, leyendo, escribiendo y divirtiendonos!

Pre-K: We are feeling more comfortable and we have established our routine. Our learning comes mainly from songs and body movements since we are just learning to color and write. We will start concentrating on LOS COLORES (colors). We will spend one week per color: We will sound out, read, identify, and break into syllables by clapping and color.

Kinder: During Kinder our main concentration is on phonics, sounding, reading very small words, and breaking into syllables by clapping and lots of songs and body movements. We will continue to work on our mini-phonetic books and of course all of the basics: ABC's, vowels, colors, days of the week, body parts, and counting.

1st Grade: We are working on colors and numbers: WRITING is our main goal in 1st grade. Our next unit will be days of the week (calendar).

2nd Grade: We finished our unit on greetings, we also wrote an invitation to a friend and invited him/her to come and play with us. Our next unit will be occupations.

3rd Grade: We are wrapping up the weather. We are reviewing each season and what happens in each season using complete sentences. Our next unit is classes and what we do in each class, so I will be combining it with ar, er and ir verbs in the present.

4th Grade: We are in unit one, learning about definite and indefinite articles, rules for making nouns plural and our vocabulary related to school supplies and things in our classroom.

5th Grade: We continue to review articles, verbs, nouns, prepositions and sentence structure. Making sense in writing is our goal.

6th Grade: FAMILY unit: We are learning family names, rules to make nouns plural and adjectives.

7th Grade: FAMILY: We are introducing, describing our family members with different adjectives, why we admire them and using correct sentence structure.

8th Grade: (8B) - We are reviewing ADJECTIVES and describing ourselves in a project "This is who I am". (8A) – We are reviewing adjectives and the verb "to be" (SER). We are working on a project (QUIEN SOY YO) "Who am I". We will be working on worksheets using the verb (SER) .

Thank you for expecting your child to study a foreign language (10 min.) daily for homework.

Mrs. Connelly – Library/PK-3 Computer

Library News

October 2-18 is recognized as **National Teen Read Week**. In celebration of "**Books That Bite**" Week, plans are underway to host several fun events. We invite students in grades 3-8 to participate in the following events:

- **October 14 - Library Read-a-thon (students in grades 3-8 are invited to the library from 3:30-5:00 to join in the 2nd Annual Library Read-a-thon. Students may bring a pillow, slippers, snacks, and of course, a book. The first 30 minutes will be time to snack and get settled into a comfortable place in the Library and then one full hour to read quietly.) Those who participate will be awarded a reading certificate and a ribbon.**
- **October 15 – Sock-it-to-Reading (students may wear crazy socks to school with school uniform shoes)**

NJHS book and cookie sale 3:00-4:00 (reasonable prices – 50 cents & under)

- **October 16 – Salsa dancing/Taste Test 6:30pm-7:30 pm in cafeteria (learn salsa dancing and enjoy chips and salsa)**
- **October 17 – Classic Movie Night 6:00 pm-7:30 pm in library (enjoy a classic movie with refreshments)**

The month of October is recognized as Mystery Month. The library offers a good selection of mystery books. The library hosts Tricks or Treats for good behavior. Student good behavior is rewarded with a library treat throughout the month. Storytelling will be featured.

During the month of September, library class activities included checking out books, storytelling, learning how books are placed on library shelves, identifying authors, illustrators, publishers, title pages and copyright dates, and how to distinguish between fiction, biography, and non-fiction books.

Our newest Birthday Book Club members are Clifford Breeding, Cody Mills, Claire Hawkins, Justin Mills, Emma Borth, Mariah Arellano, Georgine Guerrero, Benjamin Jones, Kaci Mills, Faustina Ostworski, and Stephen Guerrero. Thanks to these students for sharing their special day in the library and for their wonderful donations. The Birthday Book Club is a memorable way to celebrate your child's birthday and donate a book to the school library.

PK-3 Computer

Computer classes are going GREAT! All students did a fantastic job on the computer terminology quiz given last month. They are great when asked to identify computer parts. Their computer posture is exceptional.

This month PK-1st grade students will continue learning logging on and off programs. Students will practice mouse techniques. All students are familiar with the keyboard and are learning the functions of the keys, correct hand placement and "Home Row" keys. 2nd and 3rd grade students will write a short story using Word, add original PAINT pictures to a story and, finally, save their word documents on the desktop.

Mrs. Kuterbach – Music

Mark your calendars! IMPORTANT!!! The annual St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic School Christmas Program will be December 16, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. Please reserve this date! This is a very important part of the music program here at St. Elizabeth. It provides your children with the opportunity to present their hard work in a live performance. This is an essential element of the music curriculum. Further information will follow in future newsletters. Information can also be found on my web page that can be accessed through

the St. Elizabeth website www.saintspride.com . Go to Academics and Spiritual Formation, on the right side of the page you will see a list of teacher web pages and my name. Click here and it will take you to my page at Scholastic. Remember to go here often and check out the links page for fun music sites!

Acoustic Guitar class has begun after school. This is a great group of students who are working hard. I expect to see many of them playing at mass in the future.

The Kindergarten through the fifth graders have begun working on the Christmas program music. This year will be very different from past years so make plans to be there on December 16th. We continue our study of rhythm and beat in the 6th and 7th grade and will be reading articles in the *MusicAlive!* magazine. This year we will focus on a series of articles about The Power of Song. It is an 8 part series that will look at great songs and their impact musically and culturally. The 8th grade is hard at work on their handbell pieces and will present these also at the Christmas program.

As always, please come and join us at mass every Friday. Our student cantors are wonderful song leaders.

Thank you for your continued support of the fine arts program at St. Elizabeth.

Ms. Cekosky – Art

For the Month of October in art class, the lower grades will be making fun Halloween projects that will decorate the hallways outside the art room. They will also be studying 3-dimensional forms and learn how to draw them on paper. Some classes will get a chance to start painting, and study color. The upper grades will be studying perspective, and will also get a chance to make some Halloween decorations. My after school students have started making wooden gingerbread houses so they can be ready for Christmas.

It's going to be a fun month!!
Happy Halloween

Mrs. Stepniewski – Computer

All classes have been working diligently at touch typing for accuracy and improved speed. Some of our Junior High students have completed all five courses within the TypingMaster software program that we use and are striving toward a daily speed of 60 wpm with 100% accuracy. Since this was a skill I learned later in life, I am quite impressed with the students' abilities. Fourth Grade has been working in Word to learn many formatting options available with this program.

Fifth Grade has been working with the drawing tools to introduce some geometrical concepts used in the programming language, LOGO.

Sixth Grade is working with Excel spreadsheet terminology and will be learning simple formulas and functions.

Seventh Grade is working in Publisher creating an Election 2008 brochure about the candidates and the history of the parties.

Eighth Grade has finished their High Profile project. Their autobiographies are displayed on the wall near Mrs. Clem's office and we invite you to get to know our 8th Grade Students a little better.

Mr. Clack – P.E.

Just another reminder that 3rd – 8th grade students need to bring their PE clothes to class each time they have PE, points will be deducted each time they do not dress out. Students may wear any St. Elizabeth T-shirt to class and a pair of black or blue shorts. We are continuing with volleyball and net related games through the end of volleyball season, the little ones will also begin to play soccer.