



From the Desk of Miss Needham

# St. Christopher School, A 2010 National Blue Ribbon School

## June 2011 Newsletter



### Special points of interest:

- June 8, 2011 1:30 Dismissal Last Day of school
- Summer office hours 9 AM–Noon until June 16th
- School Supply Kits will be here in August 23rd
- August 23, 2011 Open House 9– 1:00 PM
- August 24, 2011 First Day of new school year

### Congratulations Blue Ribbon Graduates !

Congratulations to the Class of 2011! All the graduates were accepted to the high school of their choice. Not one student must attend summer school! This is a St. Chris first! We have 2 girls attending St. Joseph Academy, 11 girls attending Magnificat, 9 boys attending St. Edward, 21 boys attending St. Ignatius, and one boy attending Rocky River High School. We are very proud of our students and the academic success of the class. Math placements have

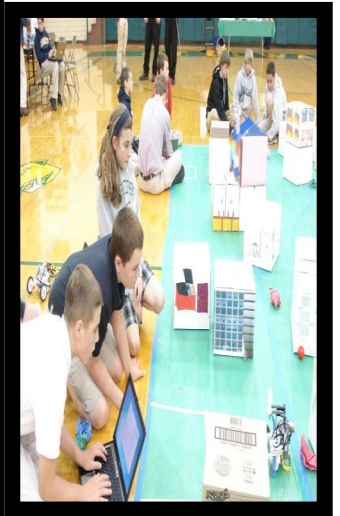
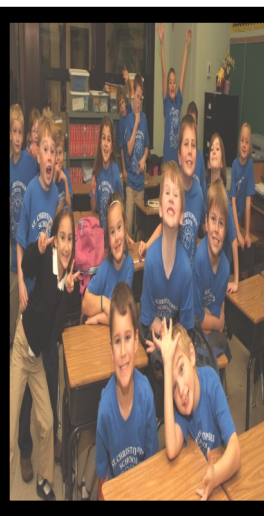
been fantastic. Eight students will be placed in Honors Geometry, Two students will take Geometry, One student will be taking Honors Algebra II. Twelve of our students will be placed in Honors Algebra I.

Several students will be receiving academic and financial scholarships to high school. Nora Bonifas & Mary Rose Bonifas have received the Alumni Scholarship as well as the Sister

Edith Franz Scholarship. Eileen Carey received the Goold Family Scholarship. Michael Gerace and Mack Hogan will receive the Brother John William Donoghue Memorial Scholarship. Kristen Horning will receive the Marian Scholarship, the Magnificat Donor Endowed Scholarship and the Geis Family Scholarship.



## It Has Been A Blue Ribbon Year! Thank you!



June 2011



Coming next school year, we will introduce *Campus Impact* to our school community. Campus Impact is a comprehensive character education program with headquarters in Amherst, Ohio. The trained youth specialist will bring the program each month to all our grades next year. Our teachers will be trained in the program before school begins and we will offer a parent program during the school year.

We are offering *Campus Impact* as a result of the student/parent surveys from the self-study for accreditation for the state of Ohio.

### [New Reading Series is coming!](#)

Last year a teacher committee examined various reading series and choose *Journey's*, by Houghton Mifflin. The series aligns with our curriculum and Ohio State Standards. One of our goals for school improvement is to increase critical thinking, comprehension, and problem solving skills across the curriculum. Our reading series has not been updated since 1999. This will be a great addition to our school. A Literacy night is being planned for parents.



## Best Version of Ourselves Awards April

*Now is your time.*

*You have one life,  
and it is short.*

*Use it powerfully.*

*~ Matthew Kelly*

Congratulations to the following students who were nominated for BVM during the month of April:

K1: Braydn Szczepaniak, K2: Tory Bearducci, K3: Emily Smith, 1A: Andrew (A.J.) Fletcher, 1B: Will Slyman, 2A: John Snyder, 2B: Molly Sheridan, 3A: Elizabeth Sims, 3B: Jack Lally, 4A: Molly Sims, 4B: Aidan Schwind,, 5A: Bryce Polito, 5B: Nicholas Zubizarreta, 6A: Hannah Barry, 6B: Erin Kilbane, 7A: Josie Tulevski, 7B: Andrew Pace, 8A: Kevin Duncan, and 8B: Jack Kelly

## 2A's Problem solving project raises money for Garden Club



Mrs. Seedhouse wanted a project for her class that would incorporate math skills, problem solving, and help a good cause. They decided on a lemonade stand. The class researched the best recipes for lemonade, built a lemonade stand, (with the help of parents) figured out how to sell and market their product, and had fun creating the project. It rained all day but did not dampen the spirits of these young entrepreneurs. The class raised \$378 for the Garden Club. The money will purchase the herbs— basil, parsley, and chives, as well as cucumbers, zucchini, and tomato plants. Any extra money will be used for garden tools and possibly a new hose for watering. Thank you 2A, for showing us the best version of yourselves!

## Music, Band, Drama, & Gym Day show Best Versions of the Students



**MUSIC-** Mrs. Federico directed another excellent winter performance with the fourth and fifth grade students. The students sang about all the activities you can do with SNOW. "SNOW BIZ" was a hit. Little did we know winter would last so long. The students sang and danced to a medley of original songs by John Jacobson.

### **BAND-**

Mr. Jason Werden, band director did an awesome concert with the school bands. This year, more students in beginning Band performed solos and their last song "The Hey Songs" was a hit with the audience. The advanced band had some perfect solo performances and the group song, "Accidentally in Love" was played to perfection. Thanks to all who practice and work hard for our school band.



### **DRAMA CLUB-** Cinderella Caterpillar

brought laughter to a captive audience with the talents of this year's Drama Club performance. The students acting was fun and the costumes and set were spectacular to view. Thanks to all who helped make the performance one to remember. Special thanks to Mrs. MacKay, Dr. Karaffa, Mrs. Greene, Mrs. Hudak, and Mrs. Kilma. The moral of the play was to preserve and your dreams will come true!

**GYM DAY-** Each year, grade seven organizes and grade 8 directs our Gym Day. This year cardboard boxes were coming in to school early to build the props for the students for the day. The theme was Disney! The students had so much fun and worked together to create a parking lot of fun! Thanks to Mrs. McDonald-Curry and all the teachers who helped make the day full of surprises!



## Good-Bye , Miss Morrow Mrs. Greg Tompsett

Six years ago, Miss Morrow was a student teacher from Cleveland State University under the guidance of Mrs. Louanne Buckley in grade five. Miss Morrow loved the class and enjoyed the people of St. Christopher. When Mrs. Buckley retired,

Miss Morrow was offered the position of fifth grade teacher. Social Studies has been a passion for her. From the March Madness brackets of the ancient gods to the native American tribes, Miss Morrow has found ways to make history

come alive. She has grown as a teacher, colleague, and friend to many. She helps with the Classroom of Champions Team, Ski Club, Walking Club, and just about anything asked of her. She will be married in July and move to Aiken, South Carolina to make her new home with her husband . She will be missed.



## Mrs. Rohn Organizes Relay for Life Team.



Each year St. Christopher School participates in the Rocky River Relay for Life weekend. Mrs. Rohn and the Builder's Club raise money throughout the year. This year they sold luminaries, had a family dance and raised close to \$2,600. for Cancer.

Our school has been very generous this year. We raised over \$3,500 for Friends of Kibera in October. Student Government collected food and money for the Little Sister's of the Poor and the Rocky River Food Assistance Program at Christmas. Grade six collected books and novels

for the Marion Seltzer School in Cleveland. Kick-It for Cancer raised close to \$2,500 for pediatric cancer research. The children are so helpful and aware of others who need so much. Thank you to all who helped!

**St. Christopher  
School**



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**St. Christopher School  
where Catholic values,  
service, excellence,  
and community are  
shared with all by  
loving God, studying  
hard, and being kind to  
each other.**

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**CLASSROOM  
NEWS**

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**Blue Ribbon Thank You!**

A big thank you to all our parent and grandparent volunteers!

A special thank you to Mrs. Jean Williams who volunteers in the library each week. She is grandmother of Catherine Gallagher in 7A. Mrs. Rose D'Amico, grandmother of Audrey & Tom Pae who can be found in any room, any given day teaching science and helping with the Science Club. Mrs. Fran Sulek, grandmother of the Donelon's who helped each week in the K4 Learning center. Thanks to Mr. Bob Gerrity who volunteers to teach Latin each week to the fifth and sixth grade classes. Thanks to our PTU Board and all the volunteers that help our school day in and out! Those who volunteer for recess duty, art, library, classroom activities, parties, and those who help with centers. We could not have had a successful year without your help! **THANK YOU SO MUCH!**



Kindergarten celebrated Mother's Day with a Tea ceremony on May 26. They are preparing for their Promotion Day with songs and laughter, and poems. We are so happy they were a part of this year's celebration!

Grade 1 visited the Zoo and observed the new Elephant Walk. They continue to work hard on oral presentations and the learning centers in the library. They finally made it to Play House Square to see 46 Circus Acts in 45 minutes after a snowed out performance in January.

Grade 2 prayed, baked, and meditated at Jesus Day. They received Eucharist, had the class picnic, and visited Judge Brendan Sheehan in his chambers. They had the opportunity to hold a mock trial in the courtroom. They were featured in the West Shore Sun Newspaper.

Grade 3 finished Multiplication basic facts, and are working on fractions. Both classes finished a writing project— 3B an auto biography and 3A persuasive essays. They hosted guest speakers Dr. Conforto, to learn about their eyes, and Dr. Junka, the Sims grandfather, to learn about dental health.

Grade 4 traveled back in time when they visited Hale Farm and observed how early Ohioans made a town successful. The class walked across to the Rocky River Adult Learning Center. Congratulations to Lily Medvin who won the regional contest for her Ohio Severe Weather poster.

Grade 5 reached a reading goal they set for themselves and had the CSU mascot visit the classroom as a reward. They did incredibly well in the "FUN DAY" games!

Grade 6 took their annual trip to Swings & Things. 6 B won the monthly Market Day challenge and won a pizza lunch and home cooked dinner for their teacher.

Grade 7 completed their Lego Robotic competition at St. Edward High School. The materials are here for them to be the teachers of the sixth grade class next year. Can't wait to see those robots. Student Government elections were held and we await the leadership of the new Commissioners.

**Congratulations on  
our Writing Proficiency  
Tests 2011.**

**97% of our THIRD  
grade students were  
above Proficiency**

**98% of our FIFTH  
grade students were  
above Proficiency**

**100% of our SEVENTH  
grade students were  
above Proficiency.**

**We are proud of all our  
students!**