

St. Malachy News Notes

“Building A Foundation Of Faith And Education”



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James Flaherty

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2008—2009

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Tribute to

Mrs. Ellen Koch

Teachers' Classroom

Walter Tatar

Education Fund

Fall Festival Activity

Baseball 2008 Photos

Infield Fly Results

Grandparent's Day Pictures

Father Engelbrecht—Pastor's Message

Greetings and best wishes to you! As this newsletter is coming to you, we find ourselves well into the autumn semester at St. Malachy School. With the beginning of a new year it is a chance to be renewed in spirit as we pursue our parish's most important apostolate of Catholic education. There is a wonderful atmosphere of faith and learning, and we are looking forward to a blessed year ahead.

Kindly, remember and ask for God's blessings as we work together for the building up of God's Kingdom here in Rantoul.

Sister Sara's Parish School of Religion

Celebrating Our Catholic Journey

St. Malachy classrooms are filled with symbols, statues and messages of our faith journey. Melodies of church music float into the halls as students gear up for the school liturgies. The programs that help us build our faith foundation are in place for the year. Parish School of Religion, Youth Group, Rite of Christian Initiation and Scripture study are part of learning and celebrating the life of Christ in our parish. School retreats have begun with the eighth graders; this year's theme is: "Power in the Spirit". Our eighth and ninth graders are preparing for the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation this year, too. In all the programs, faith-filled parishioners have stepped up to share their faith as catechist. Gratitude and words of "Thanks" are extended to all.

James Flaherty—Principal's Office

The beginning of a school year is always an exciting time. Students are anxious about meeting new friends and teachers are eager to begin teaching.

St. Malachy is a wonderful place to learn, work, pray and make lifelong friends.

We welcome your prayers and I assure you we as a faculty and staff will do our best to provide a warm and caring atmosphere where learning takes place.

Cathy Hunt Kindergarten



Welcome to our Kindergarten

We will learn a lot of things today....That was one of our first songs that we learned in Kindergarten. Our room is filled with 16 energetic students that are just ready to learn, learn, and learn and with a teacher that is ready to teach, teach, and teach.

To help us enjoy learning, our classroom was given a monetary donation from The **Ellen Koch Memorial Fund**. Ellen was always a dear friend to the Kindergarten Class. She would come in and share her love of reading and music with the children and myself. Ellen passed away in June and wanted to have something left for the Kindergarten Class. With that fund, puzzles, games, computer programs, musical instruments, manipulatives were purchased. Most importantly, a listening center was purchased with headphones and a cassette/player. Former alumni, Jack Clifford painted a memorial of Ellen on the table for us to always remember her by. **Many thanks go to her family, too.**

We always welcome visitors.



Patty Graham—Computer Lab/Library

Two wonderful words from Fancy Nancy And Her Favorite Fancy Words From Accessories To Zany by Jane O'Connor, and is one of the new book added to the school's library for this school year. Our collection of books continues to grow as we try to keep up with all the current titles that young readers enjoy. Thanks to all who continue to help support the school with their generous donations. Our school's computer lab is now all Microsoft Vista machines. We added 14 new computers over the summer to bring the lab up to date. We were also able to buy new software for the Kindergarten class thanks to the donations from the Ellen Koch Memorial Fund.



Patty Worthington—Music Notes

Music is an important part of the lives of all people and cultures. We have been listening to many styles of music. Do you know what makes one piece of music sound different from another? Is it the melody and the harmony? Is it the rhythm or tone color? Rhythm, melody, form, harmony and tone color, and pitch are the basic building blocks for music. Since the beginning of the school year, the students have been exploring many of these concepts. St. Malachy School Music classes will begin to practice for their annual Christmas program in October. It is never too early to think about Christmas as the **Christmas program** is scheduled for **December 18, 2008**, with a matinee at 1:00 p.m., and 7:00 p.m. We invite you to come and rejoice in the Christmas season with the students of St. Malachy School.

YOU CAN ALSO LEND YOUR SUPPORT in many ways.....

<input type="checkbox"/> Tuition Assistance	<input type="checkbox"/> Technology Education
<input type="checkbox"/> Purchase Equipment	<input type="checkbox"/> Science Lab Materials
<input type="checkbox"/> Maintain Facility	<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Benefits
<input type="checkbox"/> Library/Resource Area	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)

Just a reminder, Please remember St. Malachy School Children's Education. For additional information, please call the school at 217-892-2023. God Bless You For All Your Support. An envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

Our last issue featured Mr. Gerald Klein and his contribution to St. Malachy. Sadly, Mr. Klein has passed away, but he will always be remembered at St. Malachy School. Please remember him in your prayers.

St. Malachy School Classroom News

Sue Jean, PE **Another School Year** **Off and “Running”!**

The students in St. Malachy’s PE classes are off and running. The 2nd through the 8th grade students have started the year with fitness testing. Our fall scores are recorded and we will work throughout the year on the areas of: flexibility (sit and reach test), aerobic endurance (½ and/or one mile run), muscular strength (flexed arm hang), and muscular endurance (timed sit-ups). In the spring the students will be retested. Students can receive an “Improvement Award” (improving in all five areas of fitness testing) or “National Fitness Award” (meeting or exceeding the top 50% in all areas of testing).

Our Kindergarten and 1st grades are also starting the year out “running”. They are learning the various types of locomotor skills. We are working on the difference between the walk, jog, run and learning new locomotor skills, such as, gallop, defensive slide, hop, skip, and leaps. We are stressing good body balance, especially when starting, stopping and changing directions.



Bob Robertson **8th Grade**

It has been good start for the Class of 2009, especially since cooler weather made our room more comfortable. Lots of work has already been accomplished as we study Algebra, Religion, History, Science, Literature, Music and much more. Preparation for High School, even this early, needs to be a priority and taken seriously.

Student officers were elected in August and are Alexandra Roessler, Tyler Suits, Blake Quinlan and Andrew Young. As leaders of the class, they are working on many exciting projects and extras for the entire school.

The class has many things to look forward to such as confirmation, speech, athletics and special field trips. We invite and encourage guests to our class at any time.



GO TIGERS
CLASS OF 2009

Beth Mennenga **7th Grade**

As the 7th graders have settled into this new school year they have been faced with both physical and mental challenges. Physically, the 7th grade boys have been involved with their baseball season, which will be winding down in the next few weeks. The 7th grade girls have just started their basketball season, which will continue through September and October.

In the class room they have been mentally challenged to keep up with their work as they get use to their new schedule. In addition, the 7th graders are currently involved with taking the Iowa Basic Tests and the Cognitive Ability Tests, which require a great deal of concentration. Another area they are preparing for is the visit, by author Alice B. McGinty, in early October.

So, all in all, the 7th graders have been extremely busy.

St. Malachy School Classroom News



Sister M. Paulette Joeger, O.P. 6th Grade

The sixth graders entered a classroom decorated for Olympians. Yes, these students are working for the gold medals in their academics. In the short time that the students have been in school, they have learned more about the Bible than they ever knew. They are studying the Old Testament this year, so we are delving into the stories of creation, and are enjoying the "wonder of it all." Sixth grade Olympians are also learning many items in math that are brand new to them. This year, students will be introduced to some basic algebra concepts, along with other challenging math work. In literature, the Olympians are learning to analyze and interpret reading materials at a demanding reading level. Students are preparing for author, Alice B. McGinty to visit our school by using English and writing skills to write about a famous dog, Balto.

Everyday, right after our "noon hour" lunch and recess, the students have a chance to enjoy a book that I read aloud. As part of this brief listening exercise, I changed from reading a book to allowing the students to watch a DVD on the events of Sept. 11, 2001. Students sat in silence each day as they took in the events of that tragic event. The DVD was entitled, "What We Saw", a CBS News special with an introduction by Dan Rather. Since the present 6th graders were only four years old when "Sept. 11th" happened, this listening exercise was extremely interesting and informative. These 6th grade Olympians learned about acts of heroism and humanity that emerged as our country dealt with the aftermath of that horrible tragedy. Hopefully, these students will have a better understanding of life, suffering, and a willingness to use our gifts to help others when the need is present.

Sixth grade students are ready to win all kinds of Olympian medals this school year, as they work as a team to build up and encourage one another, not only in academics, but also in our spiritual lives.

Michelle Huller 5th Grade

It has been a busy, but exciting start to the school year for the Fifth Grade. We just finished taking the Iowa Basic Skills Test, and we are more than ready for our days to return to "normal."

St. Malachy was blessed to receive a grant for a visit from an author. The author that is coming to spend time with us is Alice B. McGinty. In preparation for her visit, the Fifth Grade has been spending time learning and preparing projects about food webs. We have been using Ms. McGinty's series of books she has written about different species in food webs for inspiration. We're really looking forward to her visit!

Additionally, we have been learning about the early explorers and their contributions to American History. The children have really enjoyed using an astrolabe to determine an object's elevation above the horizon, as well as, learning about Marco Polo's adventures, and the jobs of each crew person on the early explorers' ships.

We're so blessed to have so many different children coming together to make up our class. This year we're focused on learning from each other and respecting the unique qualities that make each of us individuals. It's going to be a great year!

Jenna Schaumburg— 4th Grade We are off to a busy start in 4th grade. This year the kids are getting a year long lesson in economy. Everyday they will get credit if they have a classroom job. They will also get paid for other positive things they do in the classroom or around the school. They also can have debts. If they are constantly having to go to the restroom, get drinks or turning in late work they will lose money. At the end of the week they will get a check for any credits they have. After four weeks they can cash in their checks. They will then have a store day where they can buy items or chose to save their money for more expensive items.

The fourth grade class is also working hard on their Alice McGinty projects. They read biographies by Alice McGinty that were about other authors. They were then given a classmate to interview. They had to take their questions and turn it into a biography. Once the books were edited by other students, they could then write the final draft of their biography. Their biographies are full of pictures they drew as wells as photos brought in from home.

The other project they have done with their Alice McGinty books was to make posters of book covers. We took covers that were done by the authors in the biographies and drew them on poster board. The kids then tore pieces of construction paper to fill in the poster with the same colors as the book covers. They did such a wonderful job. They look just like the covers!

They are also on their way to learning all of the states and capitals. So far they have learned about the New England region. By the end of the year they will know facts about every state and will be able to name any state on the map! It has been a great start to a new school year, and we're excited for our upcoming fall events!

St. Malachy School Classroom News

Hillary Craig 3rd Grade

The 3rd Graders are off to a great school year. We have been busy with many new topics. They are in full swing of classes and learning many new facts.

September 15th thru September 24th we will be taking the Iowa Basic Skills Test. We have also been blessed with **Luke Remington** returning to the classroom on September 18th. Blessings are a wonderful gift! The 3rd graders and I are very happy to have him back.



We started our school year off with having the first Prayer Service. Our topic was "COURAGE." We discussed people that we knew that had courage and what courage meant. Some students in our classroom received Gold Medals for having Courage in the classroom and at school. Courage is Contagious; Catch It Today was our bulletin board theme.

We have many new things coming our way for the 2008-2009 school year!!

Amy Mayer 2nd Grade



"All-Star Students"

Welcome back team! If you stop into the 2nd grade classroom, you will see some "All-Star Students." Also, outside our classroom, we are posting our "All-Star Work." Be sure to check it out!

In Religion, we have been talking about how important it is to pray and go to Mass. We are preparing for Reconciliation in January and First Communion in April. Please keep the students in your prayers.

The first week of October, there is an author visiting our school. Alice B. McGinty from Urbana will be talking to the students about the books she has written. We are looking forward to her visit.

We have enjoyed the new challenges in second grade from reading to math to writing. We have read from great stories in our reading book and can't wait to read the others. Math is full of adding and subtracting. Second grade is challenging, but exciting!



Amanda Elam—1st Grade The first graders are always full of energy and excitement. We have been reviewing numbers and letter sounds. The children are starting to put together the sounds and read words on their own. It is always fun to watch the excitement of a child reading their first books.

We have also been busy in science, learning about living things and their habitats.

In religion, we have been learning about God's wonderful creations and how we can help God by making good choices.



Katie Pannbaker—Pre-School This school year we are really excited to tell you that both of our classes are full and we now have a waiting list for the first time since the program began in 2006. For the first weeks of school we mainly focused on getting used to a new routine and our classroom rules. We also played many games to help us learn our new friends' names.

Now that fall is approaching we have two field trips planned. One to Curtis Orchard and the other to Hardy's Reindeer Ranch to learn about pumpkins and how they grow.

Throughout the year we will be learning how to recognize our names, learning our colors, shapes, letters, and numbers while stressing the development of social skills. We also will be learning about Jesus and his love for each of us and how God made us all unique.

God Bless You, Mr. Tatar, for Supporting St. Malachy School



Having children attending both Donovan and St. Malachy's Schools, the Tatar family knows all too well the meaning of financial sacrifice. Sometimes the tremendous financial burdens faced by families can be overwhelming, especially the expenses associated with attending private Catholic school. Having raised nine children in the Catholic faith, Dolores and Walter Tatar knew that financial sacrifice but struggled daily to see to it that their children had that Catholic education.

Through much soul searching and a tremendous contribution, Walter Tatar created the **Tatar Family Tuition Assistance Fund**. It is set up to assist those families who wish to send their children to St. Malachy's School, but might require a little financial help. And the greatest part about the fund is that it is open to continued contributions. Contributions can be made by caring Catholics such as yourself to help more and more children to achieve their dreams of attending St. Malachy's Catholic School. Dolores and Walter's children have all had the opportunity of attending Catholic schools, with five of their children having attended in Rantoul. Walter, Rose, Katherine, Michael, and Raymond all attended what several of us remember as, Donovan Memorial School. Walter and Rose both graduated from the 8th grade as students of Donovan. Katherine, Michael, and Raymond went on attend the "new" school known as, St. Malachy's Catholic School. And in 1963, Katherine was honored to be a member of the first 8th grade graduating class of St. Malachy Catholic School.

Our family wishes to thank our Dad, Walter Tatar, for planting the seed to help enable many to continue their dream of a Catholic education. We would also like to thank those of you who have made contributions, small and large, to the Tatar Family Tuition Assistance Fund. Many of us have fond memories of Donovan School and St. Malachy. Let's help continue those memories by helping others.

The Family of Dolores and Walter Tatar



**A Young 94
Walter Tatar
&
Great Granddaughter**

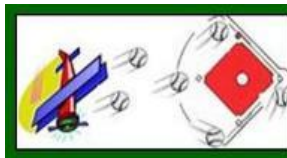
**St. Malachy School
Grandparent's Day**

ST. MALACHY BOY'S BASEBALL 2008

Our Athletic Schedule is posted on our website at www.sms217.com



“In-Field Fly” Event—Yes, we’re going to have a 2009 “In-Field Fly”



Home Plate	\$ 3000	Pitcher Mound	\$ 1500
First Base	750	Third Base	750
Second Base	750	Shortstop	750

Father Engelbrecht Byline

Sincere thanks to all who helped in any way with the “In-Field Fly” fundraiser that was at the Rantoul Aviation Center Airport. This event was a huge undertaking, and I am so grateful to everyone who helped make this another great St. Malachy weekend. I appreciate the long hours of planning and preparation from our Home & School parents, the food and drinks from our Knights of Columbus Club, and the Airport for their assistance. It was good to see the community come together and have an enjoyable time. We made a profit of \$17,381.22, which will help St. Malachy School. Most of all we must thank God for the many blessings (including the weather) that we have received at St. Malachy.

We would also like to announce the winners of the Baseball Drop: \$3,000 Home plate, Rick Ingold; \$1,500 Pitchers Mound, Dan Suits; \$750 1st Base, Don & Charlene Murray; \$750 2nd Base, Steve Gray; \$750 3rd Base, Dale Ramert, \$750 Shortstop, Robin & Jack Gaffney and \$940 for the 50-50 raffle, Terry Hein. We thank you for your support of St. Malachy School.



Grandparent's Day at St. Malachy School

