

February 13, 2008

Dear Parents,

*“We are shaped and fashioned by what we love.”
Johann Wolfgang von Goethe*

As we anticipate Valentine’s Day, my thoughts travel to the **love** that I see each day between **parents and students, mothers and fathers, and teachers and students**. I am inspired by the dedication of our **teachers who truly love the ministry of teaching to which they have been called**. Let us continue to be **shaped and fashioned by what and whom we love**.

Our total **Angel Bucks sales: \$15,825 and total profit was \$887.80. Thank you!**

Students in **Grade 6** will attend Mass on **Wednesday, February 20th**. Students in **Grade 3** will attend Mass on **Thursday, February 14th**. You are invited to join us during Lent.

Grades 4 and 5 will pray the **Stations of the Cross** on **Tuesday, February 26th at 10:00 AM**.

School will not be in session on **Monday, February 18th or Tuesday, February 19th**.

Monday, February 25th will be a **Late Opening** day. **Carpool will begin at 9:15 AM** on the 25th with the tardy bell ringing at **9:45 AM**. The Before School Care Program will be in session. **If you need Before Care** service on **February 25th**, please return the form enclosed in your Wednesday folder on **Wednesday, February 20th**.

Saturday, February 9th, many of our students participated in the North Carolina Science Olympiad held at Garner Senior High School. This is the first year that St. Michael School has had a Science Olympiad Team. I am most grateful to **Mrs. Davey and Mrs. Reed** for their sponsorship of this team and for the many parents who helped to volunteer. Congratulations to our medal winners:

6th Place Bio Process Lab - Christina Donovan & Stephanie Kritzell

2nd Place Egg-O-Naut - Ben Williams & Peter Rizzo

2nd Place Egg-O-Naut - Cheyenne Cheung & Kaitlyn Hall

2nd Place Mystery Architecture - Chris Jadelis & Jose San Miguel

5th Place Oceanography - Cheyenne Cheung & Stephanie Kritzell

2nd Place Road Scholar - Connor Rich & Alex Wasleski

2nd Place Road Scholar - Ryan Biegert

2nd Place Trajectory - Cam Alexander & Danny Maher

2nd Place Write It Do It - MaryCatherine Prosser & Elizabeth Prosser

Mark your calendars to attend the **Diocesan African American Celebration** which will be held at St. Michael Church and Pastoral Center on **Saturday, February 23rd**.

School will dismiss at 11:30 AM on Friday, February 22nd to allow families adequate time to travel to Charlotte for the **Shamrock Tournament**. There will be **no After School Care on that day**. Please plan to pick up your child on time as Mrs. Carlin and I will both be traveling to Charlotte on that day.

If you were not able to attend the last **PTO meeting**, you can view the presentation about the **future building project** on the school website: <http://stmichaelcary.org>. The PTO minutes are also posted on the PTO site after each meeting.

Remember to continue to collect **Campbell's Soup Labels and Box-tops**. This potential trash provides materials and money to St. Michael School. There is a container in the office for easy drop off.

Good luck to the students who will represent St. Michael School at the **Math Counts Competition** that will be held on Saturday, February 23rd at Athens Drive High School in Raleigh: **Sarah Doerr (8), Elizabeth Prosser (8), Jorge Ramos (7), and Stephanie Kritzell (7)**.

Included in your Wednesday folder last week was the application form to enroll in the **FACTS® Tuition Management program** and the **yellow Parent Commitment Form** (one per family). There needs to be a separate form completed for each school where you have a child enrolled using the FACTS® program. For example, if you have a child at Cardinal Gibbons or the ECC, you will need a separate form and fee for each school. I made the decision to move from SMART® to **FACTS® for the 2008-2009 school year** due to the disappointing service that was rendered by SMART® during the 2007-2008 school year. The **cost per family** enrolled at St. Michael School is **\$38.00**. The **FACTS® Automatic Tuition Payment Agreement** form is due into the office by **Wednesday, February 20, 2008**. This is an automatic draft system with monthly payments beginning in May, 2008. Please refer to the Financial Obligation section of Admissions on the school website for single payment or the two payment tuition option. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Letters of acceptance to students new to **St. Michael School** will be mailed out on **March 3, 2008**.

The **Grade 3, 4, and 5 Catholic Jeopardy Club** will meet on **Wednesday, February 20th from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM**. The **Grade 6, 7, and 8 Catholic Jeopardy Club** will meet on **Thursday, February 21st from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM**.

Bishop Michael Burbidge has designated **St. Michael Church** as the site for the **Chrism Mass** which will be held on **Tuesday, March 18th**. In order to accommodate the number of cars that will be in the parking lot, Msgr. Tim has asked us to dismiss early on

that day. **Please mark your calendars: Tuesday, March 18th, dismissal at 11:30 AM.** There will be **no After School Care on this date.** I apologize for any inconvenience that this may create.

The dates for **Spring Pictures Days** have **changed**. The new dates are as follows:
Monday, March 3rd – Grades 4 through 8, Tuesday, March 4th – Pre-K through Grade 3.

Invitations for this year's auction and gala, "**An Evening to Build On**", were **mailed** to St. Michael School families on Friday, February 8th and we have already begun selling tickets. This event sold out early last year, so plan to purchase your tickets soon. And remember, the **first 50 RSVPs** will be entered to win one of our beautiful auction baskets. Please plan to attend this wonderful fundraising event.

The **Wall of Wine** for this year's "**An Evening to Build On**" auction and gala is currently accepting **wine donations**. We will have a morning and afternoon carpool pick up **Thursday, February 14th**. You may donate a bottle you already have, or you may purchase a bottle at "The Wine Merchant" and receive a 15% discount (inform them you are buying for the STMS auction). Remember – bottles must retail for **\$15 or more**. Monetary donations accepted as well. **Wall of Wine sponsorships are also available.** Contact **Diane McClellan at 461-0930** or dianeandtim@earthlink.net with questions or bottles to donate. The success of the Wall depends on your generous contributions, which we greatly appreciate!

We are looking for a few **volunteers** who would be willing to volunteer 4 or more hours during this year's **Auction**. These **volunteers will not have to purchase a ticket**. They will receive a bidder number and a small meal. If you are interested, please contact Christie Corcoran (ccorcoran@nc.rr.com) or Sandy Lyons (Sandy.Lyons@kingpharm.com).

The **Grade 6 Light the World project** is this **weekend**. On the third Sunday of each month, the Grade 6 class will be coordinating **Share Sunday**. In addition to the regular Share Sunday donations (non-perishable food items), the 6th grade is taking part in a program called "**Backpack Buddies**" with the Inter-Faith food shuttle. We will be collecting food that is needed to pack a nutritious backpack of food for children who receive free or reduced-cost lunches during the school week, but do not have food to eat on the weekend. A flyer is included in the Wednesday folder today listing the items most needed for the backpacks. So please remember to bring your regular donations and/or donations for "Backpack Buddies" to Mass this weekend. **Bring your donated items to carpool for an easy drive-by collection.** Contacts: **Julie Alexander kjcls@nc.rr.com or Barbara Spangler bmspangler@mindsping.com.**

Congratulations to the following **Beef O'Brady's night winners:**

First Place – Mrs. Ochello’s Homeroom
Second Place – Mrs. McElroy’s Homeroom
Wildcard – Mrs. Sondag’s Homeroom
Longest Curly Fry – Mac Schlageter
Longest Straight Fry – Sam Grelick

Thanks to Beef O’Brady’s for their donation to St. Michael School.

Happy Valentine’s Day,
Dr. Sarah Wannemuehler