

Catholic Cadet

Newspaper Club

by: Ryan Keller

The Saint Patrick's School newspaper club is a group of middle school students who write a virtual newspaper for the school. Students meet virtually on the website, www.wikispaces.com, to form the paper. The club is led by our computer teacher Mrs. Frohnafel. To join the club you MUST be in the SPS middle school, however, any student in any grade level can send in short stories or poems which will be featured in the paper.

The following is a Q and A with Mrs. Frohnafel:

Q: Who's idea was it to start the newspaper club?

A: Harry Townsend's idea.

Q : Were you hesitant to accept the role of leadership in this group?

A: No, not at all.

Q: Why do we use www.wikispaces.com?

A: I wanted to start a virtual club. A wiki is an easy way to communicate with individuals in the club. It also gives us the ability to share documents.

Q: When does the paper come out?

A: Probably 3 times a year.

Q: Do you like running the club?

A: Yes, I think it is very important for our students to learn how to use technology for the news.

Q: Is the paper planned for later years at our school?

A: Yes.

Q: How do your members gather research?

A: There are a variety of methods. Some club members have interviewed teachers, students, etc... Others have completed research online, while other club members have attended school functions.

If you are in the Middle School and would like to join the Newspaper Club, please contact Mrs. Frohnafel. Additionally, if you would like to submit your own poem or short story, you can contact Mrs. Frohnafel as well.

Black History Month

by: Olivia Carini

Volume I, Edition I

February 2011

For many, February is the month that all the large snowstorms happen, or when Valentine's Day comes along. February is also Black History Month. In 1926, Carter Woodson set apart the month of February to honor all the noble black people that helped bring justice to our world. Woodson chose February because it is the month that both Abraham Lincoln and Fredrick Douglas were born. They both helped the African American residents of the world.

The honorable people we remember are all very different. We remember Martin Luther King Jr., an African American leader of the Civil Rights Movement. This well-known man fought very hard to get African American people equal rights to the Caucasian and made the famous speech, "I have



A quite different person, Ruby Bridges, who was just six when she had to take on the responsibility of facing the unfairness in the world. Ruby was one of the first African Americans admitted to an all-white school, and many people objected, so far as to pulling their children out of the school. We can also give a tribute to someone such as Oprah Winfrey, whose career is still running strong. She helped many people with problems through her public appearances, and will leave a mark on our world.

Big and small, from all different time periods there have been some truly inspiring African American leaders. Remember, come every February, to respect all these people have done for our world, and for what they will do in the future.

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Reviews

Tangled

by: Harry Townsend

Tangled is the classic tale of Rapunzel with a Disney twist. This story features Rapunzel locked up in the tower by the evil witch. She has never set foot on the ground before, for she lives in fear under the witch's strict rule. She dreams of leaving the tower and traveling to see the lights that shine once a year each year on her birthday. However it isn't a prince charming that comes to save her but the infamous Flynn Rider. This crook has stolen more things throughout the kingdom than he can count and is extremely full of himself. When he enters the tower hiding from the police he is captured by Rapunzel who uses her hair like a whip. The two strike a deal and he promises to bring her to the lights in exchange for the crown he stole. Along the way they encounter knights, crooks, and a horse with a nose for crime. There are numerous musical numbers and the animation for the movie is the same classic animation used in the making of Cinderella and other old Disney movies. I like it and give it two thumbs up. See it and prepare to get tangled.

Dear Bookworms and Mythology Readers,

Are you looking for something new to read and having trouble? Well, may I make a suggestion? How about The Lightning Thief By: Rick Riordan? This book is about a boy named Percy Jackson whose father left his mother right when he was born, so his mother raised him alone. Each year Percy has to go to a different school because he keeps getting expelled for things he just can't seem to remember doing. Percy had also recently been attacked by some monsters. Later on in the book Percy goes on a quest to find out what's going on and will his life ever be normal.

This is not the only book that the amazing author Rick Riordan has written about Percy Jackson, there happens to be an entire series! So if you liked the first book you don't have to look far for more books

for a while. This series is expanding every few months! There is even a sequel to this series! I can't say too much about the series though, except that the books are great! This book is for ages 9 and up. If you want to find out more about these books go to: <http://www.percyjacksonbooks.com/>. (Just remember to ask your parents first.)

Sincerely,
Chloe B.

JAC VANEK

by: Ryan Keller

Lately many of our fellow St. Pat's students have been wearing bracelets made by the company JAC VANEK. These seem to be a new hit with the girls of the school, particularly in the middle school. JAC VANEK is a clothing company that makes and sells shirts, sweatshirts, necklaces, accessories such as key chains and posters, and of course bracelets. These bracelets have words printed on them in large lettering some of which say, wish, hope, equality, and dreamer. There are also sets of bracelets that go together such as one bracelet saying just and the next saying dance, to form the quote "just dance", others saying "forever young", and "rock and roll". The words on the bracelet come from internet mimes, and hot topics such as "gleek", epic fail, and open our eyes. Some of these bracelets express good feelings while some others are a little less appropriate. The history of the company comes from one at the time teenage girl who had a love of music. She started to make small bracelets for fun, and she gave some to family and friends. Soon everyone wanted one, and since they were in such high demand, she started up a small business and charged for each bracelet. She later started to design and make clothes. Then, the company grew larger and larger, and now she is where she is today with a website and a small store. To follow JAC VANEK and her company, you can find her on, *(continued pg 7)*



The Nook

by: Harry Townsend

The new Nook Color by Barnes and Noble is the newest e-reader on the market and in my opinion the best. The Nook Color has a full touch screen that is very responsive. It is small and light enough to carry in a bag. As well as being the only color and touch screen e-reader it also has many extra features. You can read any book you want for free as long as you are in the Barnes and Noble store. The Nook also has an interesting feature called "Lend Me." With "Lend Me" you can lend certain books to your friends for free as long as they own a Nook. The book is automatically returned to you within 14 days. The Nook Color has many advantages over the Kindle. The Kindle does not come in color or have a touch screen, making it less user friendly and fun. Many people wonder if it is just easier to simply buy a book however with the Nook you can control font color, size, as well as brightness. The Nook can hold up to 5000 newspapers, books, or magazines which are certainly much easier than carrying around the actual books and magazines. The Nook Color will soon be able to have apps and email allowing you to use it for multitude of purposes. The only real downside to the Nook is it has weak color capabilities.

Sports

8th Grade Basketball

by: James C.

St. Pat's Eighth Grade Boys Basketball team had an exciting game on January 5 against St. Elizabeth. With the Warriors struggling at halftime, down by one, they regained their momentum during the second half.

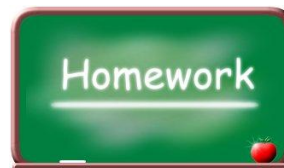


Unfortunately they were down by five with forty seconds to go. With a record amount of Warrior fans, Peyton Heck shot a 3-pointer with just under 30

seconds to play. The Warriors forced a turnover and got the ball back with 20 seconds. Chris Capparis who had 15 points that night, caught the ball and shot it. Luckily it was a nice "pass" to his brother Michael Capparis who scored an easy lay-up with 5 seconds to go to make it a 38-38 tie. When the opposing coach took a time-out, St. Pat's played smart and forced it into overtime. In the 4:00 overtime the Warriors held the St. Elizabeth Saints scoreless, while St. Pat's scored 10 to make the exciting game end 48-38 St. Pat's.

Homework Tips

by: Tim Hartnett



Have you ever had trouble getting through a ton of homework? If so, here are some helpful tips to make homework a little bit easier. First of all, if you're doing homework, keep your TV off. Study time should be without television. You could also try listening to the radio or your iPod. This strategy works for some and does not work for others, but try it and see if it's helpful or not. Moms and Dads should assist you in doing your homework if you are having trouble. It is never bad to ask for help if you do not understand something in your homework assignment. However, if the assignment you are given is something you can do independently then try doing that assignment without parental assistance. Hopefully these tips will help you if you have any trouble with your homework.

SuperBowl

by: Patrick Agnew

This year's Super Bowl featured the Green Bay Packers and the Pittsburgh Steelers. Both teams have great franchises and deserved to be there.

In the first round of the playoffs, the Packers beat the Philadelphia Eagles in Philadelphia by the score of Green Bay 21 Philadelphia 16. *(continued on pg 8)*

All About our Teachers

Miss Bosquet

by: Olivia Carini

Most people know Miss Bosquet as the 4B teacher, but I got to find out a bit more about her. Miss Bosquet was born in Port-au-Prince Haiti in September.

She's been happily teaching at St. Pats for 5 years or 6, if you include when she was a student teacher.

Miss Bosquet's favorite subjects to teach are Religion, because she loves God and enjoys telling others about him, and Math, because as long as you do the work correctly, the answer is always right. Miss Bosquet's all-time favorite food is pizza. Her favorite season is winter because she thinks snow is beautiful and she loves to experience it. Miss Bosquet, was of course, born outside of the United States, but she's also been to several exotic vacation spots. She went to Italy and Australia a little while ago, and every summer she takes a cruise around the Caribbean. On weekends, Miss Bosquet goes to a class to get her master's degree, but she also often spends time with family and takes a tap class. Miss Bosquet claims the most exciting thing she's ever done besides managing an energetic 4th grade class is zip lining and level-1 white water rafting in upstate New York. But every school day, she gets enough excitement from her class and the other 4A teacher, Miss A., whom she loves working with.



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Go Green!

by: Patrick Agnew



Energy efficient light bulbs can significantly reduce the cost of lighting your home in addition to saving energy. If every house in America changed one light bulb to an Energy Star light bulb nine billion pounds of greenhouse gas would not have entered the atmosphere. This is the equivalent of the amount of greenhouse gas from 800,000 cars. These light bulbs can last up to eight times longer than a

standard incandescent light bulb and produce 75% less energy. An Energy Star light bulb will save you about 40 dollars during its "life span". CFL (compact fluorescent light bulbs) produce about 70% less heat so they are easier to handle. If you change to CFL bulbs it will be helping you and the environment. For more information:

http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=find_a_product.showProductGroup&pgw_code=LB

Healthy Snacks

by: James C.

Popcorn

This delicious movie snack is actually good for you when you eat in moderation. It is about 200 calories with almost no sugar. But don't dump butter over, (it won't be nutritious).

Graham Crackers

Although it has a lot more sugar than Popcorn, it normally has around 100 calories in moderation. It also comes in many varieties so you'll always have a kind that you like.

Pomegranate Seeds

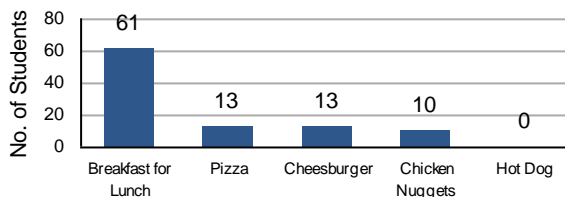
Although many haven't heard of them, they are delicious. They are very sweet and taste like candy. All you have to do is cut the pomegranate in half take out the seeds and eat.

Lunch Survey

by: Tim Hartnett

On January 29th, I polled classes on which lunch they felt was their favorite. I provided each class with some choices. The choices were Cheeseburger, Pizza, Hot dog, Chicken Nuggets, and Breakfast for Lunch. Of these choices, the favorite was Breakfast for Lunch. Breakfast for Lunch blew-out the competition. Maybe Maschio's will provide us with more breakfast for lunch now that they know it is a student favorite.

Lunch Survey Results



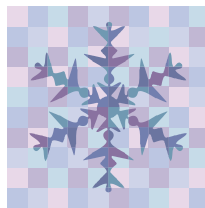
Wishing For Snow

by: Olivia Carini

I wish snowflakes were falling outside my window
It's really been far too long since we've seen snow
The air grows chilly, but still no sign
Of a white blanket in the wintertime
I imagine laughing Children faraway
"Why, look at all this snow!" They say
"You know it hasn't snowed yet in New Jersey!"
"Well," says another "I'm just glad that that's not
me."

Yes, they will play in the fluffy white
While I will sit and sigh inside
Mittens and hats all wet with fluff
I'd give anything for that kind of stuff!
Right now, there comes a chilly breeze
But nothing stirs because there are no leaves
Filling the place of those leaves right now
Should be plenty of blankets of fluffy white snow
But the branches stay bare, as does my heart
Until, finally, some snow will start
Up in the mountains, there is surely snow on the
ground

It even snows there all year round!
Well, golly gosh, that must be nice
For here I'm stuck with weather that's nice
Oh! Come on Jack Frost! Just let it fall!
Jack Frost? Do you hear my call?
I guess I'm stuck with winter like summer. Bland.
But snow is ten times better than sand!
I gaze out the window at the dry ground
Wishing there were snow all around
Ok Nature, I give up
I still wish it would snow but I've had enough
I slump down and think, "Well, I tried."
Wait! What's that! It's a snowflake in the sky!



LOVE

by: Eleanor McAloon

Love is something
That money can't buy
It is higher when measured -
More than satellites fly
Love you can't hold
Or catch with a net
It's something we shared
When our eyes first met

SPRING HAS SPRUNG

by Katherine F. Guido

Spring has sprung happiness spreads,
You see wonderful colors like blues and reds,
I'm so happy I always sing,
And then I hear the Church bells ring,
And after spring then comes summer,
After that it gets cold again, bummer!!



"Johnny and Julio: The Magic Unicorns"

by: James Ottomanelli 4A

One day, Johnny the magic unicorn was eating an apple when Julio the other magic unicorn fell out of the nearby tree. "What in the name of pink and fluffy is going on?" Johnny asked.

"I was looking for a donut. The donut pirates stole all the donuts in Unicorn Land!" Julio exclaimed.

Hearing this, Johnny began to choke on his apple until Julio performed the Heimlich maneuver and Johnny spit it out. "Pull it together man!" Julio screamed.

"Julio, we have to get the donuts back!" Johnny said. So, on that note, the two unicorns chased after the donut stealing scoundrels. Eventually, Johnny and Julio grew hungry and tired. "Dude, I'm really hungry. Let's go steal that guy's food." Johnny suggested. *(continued on pg 6)*

(continued from pg 5) "First of all, no because it's wrong to steal. Second of all, you just had an apple an hour ago." Julio said. "Wait a minute. That's one of the donut pirates!", shouted Julio.

"Hey, you munchkin eating jerk!", Johnny yelled as he and Julio ran toward the pirate. Johnny and Julio tackled the pirate. The pirate, being short and a little chubby, lost the brawl. After the chaos, the two unicorns tied up the pirate and began to interrogate him.

"Where are the donuts?" Johnny shouted at the pirate. Julio pulled Johnny away from the pirate before he could shout at him again. "Dude, if we don't be calm when we ask the questions he won't answer." Julio said.

"Oh, so we do the good cop bad cop thing? Ok, I got it," Johnny said.

"Where are the donuts?" Johnny shouted and then shook the pirate. Julio sighed. "Let me handle it." Julio said disappointed. "Please tell us where the donuts are." Julio said politely.

"They're on the ship docked by the beach," the pirate said.

"Told you," Julio gloated. Without wasting any time, the two unicorns made their way to the dock. When they reached the beach, the two unicorns approached the ship with caution.

"Hey you!" the ship captain yelled.

"Oh, hi!" said Johnny.

"What do ye think you're doing?" the Captain growled.

"We're looking for the donuts. What are you doing?" answered Johnny casually.

"I'm stealing the donuts," answered the captain in a more casual way than Johnny.

"Ooooooh, so you're the one." Julio said.

"Yes. I stole the donuts." What are ye going to do about it?" the pirate snickered.

Moments later, we find the pirate tied up to a flag pole, unconscious. Where are our heroes now you ask? Well, Julio went back to eating donuts in trees and Johnny went back to eating his apple.

The Adventures of Mr. Water Droplet

by: Mark Castellano

Hi! My name is Mr. Water Droplet. I am going to tell you about an amazing journey I had.

One sunny day, I was minding my own business, and I started to feel really hot. I felt pretty light and started rising up into the sky. I kept moving around, and couldn't see myself. Eventually, I got up to something called a troposphere. I was very high up in the sky and the bad thing is that I'm afraid of heights! My friend, Wizzy Water, told me it was called evaporation. Wizzy is pretty smart.

As I was rising up, I started to move very slowly and started to feel very cold. I was losing heat energy and condensing. The good thing is I was with a bunch of my friends. We talked a lot and formed a cloud together. As more and more of my friends joined us, the cloud started to get heavy. We started falling out of the sky. I realized that there was a warm layer of the sky and updraft wind. I got blown back up in the sky, and fell down again. Then I went up and down and up and down for a few minutes. I formed hail, which is a type of precipitation. Wizzy taught me that. Gravity was pulling me down. A man in the street yelled "Free ice". He was running outside with a bucket and tried to catch me. I'm happy he missed. I hit the ground. If he caught me, I would've been trapped in his cold boxy thing called a "freezer". The sun started to reappear and I started melting. When I melted, I fell into the ground. Oh no, a plant sucked me up!

I was a little scared at first, because I've never been inside a plant before. (continued on pg 7)

The Adventures of Mr. Water Droplet *(continued from pg 6)*

Normally I fall into the ocean,
but that day was a little
different. After the plant sucked
the nutrients it needed out of
me, I fell out of him, onto the
grass. I never knew what
happened, but then my friend
Wizzy Water told me it was
called transpiration. That's a
long word. Anyway, the grass
sucked me back up and I
eventually fell out, into a
puddle. Right now, I'm hanging
out in the puddle.

Oops, here I go up again.

Catholic Schools Week

By: Olivia Carini

All the new and old students at St. Patrick's get excited when that week of fun pops up in the snowy fog. We began Catholic schools week on Monday, January 31st, and continued through Friday, February 4th. The week's festivities included the book fair, Monday through Wednesday, Pajama day on Tuesday, a well-earned snow day on Wednesday, Jump Rope for Heart, Class Color Day, the 7th and 8th grade Volley ball games all squeezed together on Thursday, and the individual class festivities on the half-day Friday.

The class festivities are all the individual projects that the students in every grade do, and

then present to their parents. The Kindergarten let the adults observe their progress and then they performed the Chicken Dance for them. The first graders showed off their report on their ancestors, while dressing up as the person they researched. The second graders had a fun time going into the past while they researched their assigned dinosaurs, then either composed a song about, wrote a poem on, or sculpted them. The parents came to admire their work and take part in the fun paleontology activities. The students in third grade were each assigned a state to learn about. The adults came in to see all their hard work on the "Fifty Nifty United States." The two fourth grade classes each completed a project of their own with 4B doing a report on Black History Week and 4A got creative doing Imagination Day. Their parents came in to see them present their wonderful assignments. The fifth grade students all memorized a chosen poem and dressed up with a prop to recite them for their parents. The entire middle school competed in an Academic Event called the Brain Bowl. The students' spirit teams were all divided in two as the official brain bowl teams made up of 6th, 7th, and 8th graders, however in the end the entire spirit team's score was put together. At the end of three challenging rounds, with adults popping in and out to watch, the blue team and tie-dye team

received the two highest scores. On Monday, February 7th they competed in the championship. The tie-dye team won after many rounds of difficult questions. Although Catholic Schools Week may seem like it is for having fun, it is a very important week too. On these five school days, we celebrate or good fortune having the privilege to attend a Catholic School. We are able to get a good education while taking part in religious and social event that happens. This year's motto highlighted good education by saying "A+ for America."

JAC VANEK *(continued from pg 2)*

face book, twitter, MySpace, and YouTube.

After asking around the school we have gotten these replies:

"I wear them just because I do."

- Maureen Lowe

"I think they're cool." - Caroline Feeney

"I don't have any, but I really want some." - Morgan Sullivan

After researching the topic further, I believe that these bracelets became popular after the release of keep-a-breast.com's breast cancer bracelets, which were popular mid-2010. Those bracelets are believed to influence and inspire Jac Vanek. The Jac Vanek bracelets have been very popular in the late 2010 and early 2011. Will this trend keep up or be forgotten like so many others?

Superbowl (continued from pg 3)

In the second round of the playoffs the Packers beat the #1 seed Atlanta Falcons by the score of 48 to 21. This score was very surprising and wasn't predicted by anyone. In the NFC championship game, the Packers beat the Chicago Bears 21 to 14.

Pittsburgh was led by their veteran quarterback Ben Roethlisberger. The Steelers got a bye in the first round of the playoffs meaning they didn't have to play. In the second round of the playoffs, they beat the archrival the Baltimore Ravens by the score of 31 to 24. In the AFC championship game, they had their infamous victory over the New York Jets by the score of 24 to 19.

After the first half of the Super Bowl, it looked like Green Bay had the game all wrapped up with a halftime score of 21 to 3, but the Steelers had many veteran players who knew to shake it off and play even harder in the second half. In the second half, the Steelers' defense only allowed ten points to one of the league's best offenses. Also, the Steelers offense came back to make it a very close game. Eventually with two minutes left, the Steelers got the ball back for one last possession. The score was 31 to 25 and a touchdown would put them up by 1 point.

The Steelers' quarterback had already led a game winning drive in the Super Bowl in Super Bowl 43. It was fourth down and five yards to go but didn't get the first down. The Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers took a knee and won the Super Bowl.

Spoofted Pac-Man

by: Brendan M
originally made by Mac and David

Hey, why aren't you eating the dinner I made? You know in some cultures that's rude.

Hmm...I don't know genius. Maybe because I am lacking arms and a mouth?!



Well, you don't have to be a whiner about it!

Wicked Field Trip

by: Harry Townsend

St Patrick's Middle School took an exciting trip to see the play *Wicked* on January 26th. For those who aren't familiar with the play, it tells the story of the relationship between the good and the bad witch before the famous movie the *Wizard of Oz*. This is one book in the series of nine written by L Frank Baum. There was much debate on whether or not the trip would be cancelled due to the weather. However, the trip

went on without delay. Before the school set out to New York, everyone was treated to an enjoyable pizza and cookie lunch. Around 12:15 the students piled in to two coach buses and headed out into the city. The trip to the city lasted till around 5:00 and was an exciting and very interesting show. Overall, it was a great trip, and everyone had fun.

Newspaper Club Staff

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Harry Townsend

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