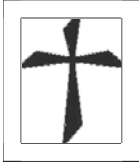


St. Francis Xavier School News



Peek at the Week January 11—15

Monday, January 11

Clay Camp w/ Laura the Potter
Art Room—3:15pm—4:45pm

Wednesday, January 13

All School Liturgy—9:00am
Trinity Hall
Please join us for this perfect
prayer.

B.E.S.T. Club 3:15pm—5pm

Thursday, January 14

Students in grades K—2 Field
Trip: Great Theatre's produc-
tion: If you Give a Mouse a
Cookie

Monday, January 18

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day



NO SCHOOL

Growing Our Seeds Of Faith



With Catholic Schools Week 2010 just a few short weeks away, I have decided to share some of my reflections on St. Francis Xavier School with you, not as the school principal, but **as another school parent....seeking the best education for my child**, just as you are.

A year and a half before we traveled to Colombia to welcome Jacob into our family, Jim and I began the long, often tedious adoption process, which included filling out what seemed like piles and piles of paperwork. We would finish one packet of paperwork, send it in and within a few days another packet would arrive.

Throughout the process, we had to attend a couple of classes and go through several interviews. A common question that came up both in the paperwork and the interviews was regarding where we would be sending our children to school. At the time, there were lots of questions: Would we send them to Delano, where I was working as principal at the time? Would we send them to Maple Lake where we were living, or would we have built our new home on our farm in Buffalo by then and send them to Buffalo? The only thing that we didn't question, was the TYPE of school they would go to....we were in full agreement that it would be a Catholic School. The question was would it be St. Peter's, St. Timothy's or St. Francis Xavier? Being products of Catholic education, we both knew the values that we had received from our early formation and wanted the same for our children. It was important to us that the school where our children would spend so much time each day would reflect the same values and morals that we held

important in our home.

Both countries that our children are from (Colombia and Guatemala) claim Catholicism as their main Religion and comments were made from our Social Worker that our choice of Catholic education would definitely be seen as a positive benefit in both adoptions. I remember the judge at Jacob's *Sentencia*, the formal finalization of adoption, saying to me that he was so pleased that Jacob would be raised in a loving Catholic family and schooled in the Catholic Faith. Children in Colombia often end up on the

streets by the time they are 12. Life can be hard and there are not a lot of chances to get out of poverty, yet that judge did not comment on the fact that he was glad that Jacob would be raised in a land where he would have many different advantages....his only comments were related to the Catholic Faith and School. That spoke volumes to me, as an American mother.

Since enrolling Jacob here for Preschool four years ago, I have found St. Francis Xavier School not only meets my expectations as a parent but exceeds them! The academics are superior, the community is more like a family than a school, and most importantly....God is here! As a parent, I believe that my children were born to know, love and serve God in this world in order to be happy with Him in the next. Since children spend a great deal of time in school, it is important to me to have my child in a school that helps him achieve this goal. St. Francis Xavier School does so in many ways. **(continued on back)**

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



DIVIDENDS FOR LIFE

**Be it known to all who enter that Christ is the reason for this school.
He is the unseen but ever present teacher in its classrooms.
He is the model of its faculty and the inspiration of its students.**

St. Francis Xavier School

Mission Statement

As a Christ-centered faith community, we foster spiritual growth, academic excellence and a commitment to justice in the name of Jesus as we educate our students.

(continued from front) The education my child (and yours) is receiving at St. Francis Xavier School is second to none. No public school in this community can even come close. Catholic schools are able to meet the needs of the whole child—cognitive, physical, emotional and spiritual. The work is difficult, but it is much more than fact, figures, memorization, and making a grade. Each day our students are challenged to think, analyze, and question. Even more importantly, our lessons are patterned after those from Christ, the Divine Teacher. They are life lessons.

Teachers and students truly care for each other. Jacob has come home many times telling me that a child in his classroom was sick that day and that they prayed for him or her so that they would feel better and will be back to school soon. This is a perfect example of how life at school is reflecting what Jim and I are teaching at home—that genuine care and concern for others. As wonderful examples for our children, the teachers shine with Christ’s light daily – as they share life stories, their thoughts, and their faith with students - in the way they pray, listen, and speak.

And beyond the classroom, there are true life lessons, that will help instill compassion in my children. Whether it is simply bringing a can of soup each Wednesday, donating a toy for Sharing or Caring Hands at Christmas time, or helping package food at Feed My Starving Children as students in the middle school have done...the lesson is the same. There are others in need and Jesus has asked us to help.

Those are some of the reasons that brought us to St. Francis Xavier School four years ago....and those are the reasons we continue today! I am proud to be not only the principal of this fine school, but more importantly, a parent....for I know that Jacob (and next year Karsyn, too) is in a great place. God is here!

In Christ’s Peace,

Kim

Mark your Calendars!

**Catholic Schools Week 2010:
Dividends for Life**

**Kicks off at the
9:00am Mass on
Sunday, January 31st at
St. Francis Xavier Church**

**More details for this week-
long celebration will follow.
Stay Tuned!**

World Travelers

Did you know that St. Francis Xavier School students in grades K—2 are on a month-long trip around the world? Throughout the month of January, students will participate in a thematic unit that embraces many different things about a country, including it’s culture, art, language, music and movement, literature, food and common facts. Currently students are in Brazil, but will also be visiting The Netherlands, Egypt and China before returning to the United States at the end of their unit. Bon Voyage!!!



Lunch Menu Change

Mrs. Ryan and Mrs. Strommen have planned one daily menu each week with foods commonly found in the country that the K—2 students are visiting for their travel unit. Because students in these grades will be out on a real field trip on Thursday, January 14th, the menu for that day (Waffles with toppings, etc.), reflecting their trip to The Netherlands, will be switched with the menu for Friday, January 15th (cheese pizza, etc.) Please make a note of this lunch menu swap on the January menu that was sent home last month. This will ensure that our travelers will be able to enjoy the waffles on Friday.

