
ST. CHRIS GUARDIAN

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Dancing through the Decades

Father-Daughter Dance 2007

By Ronnie Alvarado

8th grade "60s rocker"

Once again, all the girls of St. Chris came out with their dads for one of the most memorable nights of the year, the Father-Daughter Dance. This year's theme was "Dancing through the Decades," which had every girl and her dad dressing up in the style of their favorite decade. Judging by the amount of hippies and rockers in the room that night, the most popular motif was the styles of the '60s and '70s. Among other favorites were Madonna look-alikes of the '80s and '20s flappers.

The evening started out with each girl and her dad arriving at the beautifully decorated Lower Church and taking a complementary photo as to remember the night their fathers. Then the girls hit dance floor with the dads to dance the night away to music from the '50s, '60s, and '70s, '80s and a few contemporary songs. Dinner was then served and the guests all had a great time munching away on Italian food. Afterwards,

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Battle of the Blue and White

Sportsnite: A Huge Success

By Jennifer Eberhardt and Nerissa Duncan

8th grade Sportsnite dance captains

Sportsnite was one of the biggest and best experiences for the 7th and 8th grade girls of St. Christopher's School. Before the actual night, both teams practiced their dances to perfection. In addition, through that time there was a lot of friendly competition between the blue and white teams. In Mrs. O'Byrne's Spanish class, students made signs cheering for their friends. Brittany Bentsen cheered for the blue team, "Vamos Azul Cadets!" Erin Armellino's sign read, "Equipo blanco va a ganar!" She was right, the white team one!

There were tears of joy and excitement. In the end, new friendships took root and old friends grew stronger. Thanks to the good sportsmanship by all, everyone enjoyed the victory party set up by the wonderful community members of St. Chris. †

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Top: Sportsnite crab soccer
Bottom: Father-Daughter Dance

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more dancing was done, including the special 8th grade dance in which only the 8th grade girls and their fathers take the floor for the most special dance of the night. Dessert concluded the night. By the time that 11:00 came around, everyone was wondering where the time had gone! It was a great time had by all and most definitely a night to remember! †

The St. Chris Spotlight

Youth Ministry

By Anthony Zangrillo

8th grade reporter

“What do you hope to get from coming to youth ministry?” asked Mrs. Defendini, the organizer of youth ministry, to the group of teenagers that come to youth ministry. One teen replied that youth ministry is a safe and relaxing environment away from the pressures of school and home. Another stated that in youth ministry, he could meet other people his same age so that he could make new friends beyond his school. Others thought that youth ministry makes their faith in Christianity more exciting by relating it to experiences that many teens their age come across and suggest what to do in those situations.

Youth Ministry is divided into two different classes; the first class is open to parishioners and students of St. Christopher’s that are currently in the 8th grade. The second class is open to parishioners and graduates of St. Christopher’s that are currently in the 9th to the 12th grade. Youth ministry helps reunites many friends who have graduated St. Christopher’s, but are in different high schools so they have grown apart. This second class meets multiple times each month while the first class meets on the first Wednesday evening of each month at 7:30.

Each session of youth ministry begins with a prayer. This action helps everyone get into a peaceful mood from the beginning of youth ministry to the end of it. This prayer often brings to mind the holiness and divinity of our Lord and creator, God. After the prayer, we usually read a story that is related to that Sunday’s gospel. The story teaches how we can act in present time, the way Jesus acted in the past. At the end of reading and reviewing the story and Sunday’s gospel, we try to relate religion to subjects in school and experiences in life. †



Youth Ministry members: Anthony Zangrillo, Max Liebhardt, and Peter Snyder with Mr. & Mrs. Defendi

Exclusive Interview with Principal Clarke

Principal for a Day winner Christina Clarke

By Anne Namocatcat

Q: So, did you like being principal?

A: Yes, it was a lot of fun!

Q: What exactly did you do?

A: I made a schedule for the teachers for Career Day. I got to decide if a kid should get a demerit or not, and I got to visit all the younger kids.

Q: Sounds pretty cool. Are you glad it was you?

A: Yes. I would do it again, but everyone knows my name now. It’s kind of weird, but I don’t care. It’s pretty sweet. Anything else?

Q:[laughing] I know what you mean. Okay, last question...well more of a request. Tell us a little more about yourself.

A: I’m a dancer, as most people know. I just got into Holy Trinity’s Performing Arts Theater, which is really exciting for me! Oh, and I’m very energetic and I’m always smiling (Shannon Gioello said this). †

Black History Month

By Lauren Wray

8th grade reporter

February is marked as Black History Month. An annual celebration that has existed since 1926, thanks to a Harvard Scholar Dr. Carter G. Woodson, with help from other African Americans and white scholars. Dr. Woodson established the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History now known as the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History. In 1920, this organization then led us to Negro History Week. This was the starting of what is today known as Black History Month.

Black History Month is important for many reasons; but two reasons stand out the most. One reason is

the wisdom of learning from the past to build for the future. If present generations can learn about the social workers, athletes, entertainers, religious leaders, scientists, educators, writers and artists, it will be impossible to erase the heritage of the past. So the histories of Madam CJ Walker, Booker T. Washington, Sojourner Truth, Harriet Tubman, Crispus Attucks, Ida Wells, Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King Jr., Muhammad Ali, Colin Powel, Condoleezza Rice and hundreds more will not be forgotten. While celebrating the past, we can build a stronger future and continue to fight for the justice and equality for generations to come. Second, is the improvement, advancement, and need for interdependence. Meaning we have a responsibility to improve problems or situations, advance the education of our youth, and interpedently work for a move lucrative community.

“Every month should be Black History Month.” says 6th- 8th grade teacher Mrs. Goold, “People who have given a contribution to America and should be recognized. Sojourner Truth, helped with the Seneca Falls Convention. Others include Harriet Tubman for the Underground Railroad; Crispus Attacks who died during the Boston Massacre. Minority groups should be brought up, included and discussed all year long.” †

UPCOMING EVENTS

REPORT CARD-HALF DAY & SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

MARCH 15TH & 16TH

ST. PATRICK'S DAY- WEAR GREEN DAY

MARCH 16TH & 17TH

ST. JOSEPH'S DAY-

MARCH 19TH

OGYMPICS '07

MARCH 22ND & MARCH 23RD

WANTED

Enthusiastic 6th, 7th, and 8th grade writers who are:

- itching to interview
- craving to creatively critique movies, books, and games
- ready to report recent school events
- buzzing about basketball, baseball, softball & more
- crazy for creating cartoons
- wishing for a way to write a column of your own!

All interested students please see Miss Lyons in 8-2!

Critic's Corner

Dream Girls

By Latisha Chambers

8th grade reporter

Based on the 1982 Broadway musical comes the movie, *Dream Girls*, a story about achieving your dreams despite obstacles. The movie also has a touch of romance. The three young women Deena Jones (Beyonce Knowles), Effie White (Jennifer Hudson), and Lorrel Robinson (Anika Noni Rose) desire to become pop stars. Their wish is granted when they are chosen as back-up singers for the legendary James Early (Eddie Murphy). However, trouble starts when the girls are independent and need to choose a lead singer for their group. Curtis Taylor (Jamie Foxx), and Effie's brother, C.C. (Keith Robinson) decide for Deena to be lead, which is a great upset for Effie. This movie is not for young children, as it has been rated PG-13. Middle school students can enjoy *Dream Girls* after receiving parental approval. †

We Define Chemistry

St. Christopher's Girls Basketball

By Catie Dillon & Nicole Trepeta

8th grade basketball team captains

Chem-is-try\ˈkem-istrē\ n 3a. a strong mutual attraction; attachment, b. such interaction between people working together. If you were to look up chemistry in the dictionary, you would find under its synonyms, St. Christopher's School Girls Basketball team. Our team's

Chem•is•try \ˈkem•istrē\ n 3a. a strong mutual attraction; attachment, b. such interaction between people working together.

motto is "We Define Chemistry" and this season's chemistry was by far the strongest.

With a record of 14-3, we defied the odds. We worked hard to get the spotlight. We kept our determination strong by practicing each Monday and playing our hearts out at games. Even though originally separated into two teams, the A team consisted of all 8th graders to play at every game and the B team who was the practice team, we became one both on and off the court.

Even with some close calls and team disagreements, we made our ways to the playoffs. Our dream seemed over with an upsetting loss to OLP, but it truly just began, for we opened the doors with inspiration and showed to this school that a basketball team doesn't only consist of the game played. †



Cartoon by Fallon Kesicier

An Excellent Ending

St. Chris Basketball Playoffs

By Kati Gehring & Jon Roger

8th grade basketball captains

We almost made it! The St. Chris Boys' team finished the regular season in third place, while the girls finished in second place. The girls played first and kept the game very close, but in the end, lost by six points. St. Chris was one of five teams to make the playoffs. These upsetting losses ended the season with a girls' record of 13 wins and 2 losses and the boys' record of 12 wins and 5 losses. Even though St. Christopher's lost, the players put in a great effort.

The boys lost by three points in a very close game with St. William the Abbot. Everybody had a positive attitude and the eighth graders wish all the sixth and seventh graders good luck in next season. †



Above left: 1st grade brain challenge, right 8th grade brain challenge

The Good News in Education

Celebrating Catholic Schools Week

By Alex Franzini

8th grade reporter

Catholic Schools Week was very interesting and different this year that got everybody more excited. We had our same Career Day and Quiz show, plus a prayer service that was in the beginning of the week and at the end of the week.

Thank you Mrs. Lederer for establishing the 8th grade teacher-for-a-day activity, well two periods. For an hour and twenty minutes we experienced the different jobs and responsibilities of a teacher. Some are easy, only a little challenging, but some are very difficult, and the eighth graders know now that teaching is an occupation of patience. Mrs. Lederer also established that one student could be principal for the day. To get a chance, you would have to earn a principal for the day slip. Both opportunities were very fun.

On Monday, January 29th, Christina Clarke won and experienced how to be a principal on January 31st. She did a lot of important things and work and had fun with Mrs. Lederer. We hope it continues next year and the following years at St. Chris so that other students can experience being a teacher or even the principal at a wonderful school. †