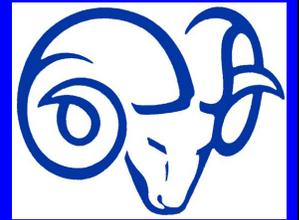




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November 7, 2017

Fr. Kyle Berens, Priest/Superintendent...Shawn Augustine, Principal

Welcome to St. Xavier Catholic School's Newsletter published by the High School Mass Communication Class. The Newsletter will be published several times a year with our purpose to inform you concerning personnel, students and events at St. Xavier Catholic School.

St. Xavier Students Acting Their Way to Forensics



How would you describe Forensics? Forensics is an opportunity to participate in competition in a variety of categories including Duet Act, Humorous/Serious Solo, Interpretation of Prose, Interpretation of Poetry, Improvised Duet Act, and more. It is an activity that is supervised by KSHSAA. It

trains students in public speaking and is an asset in the development of their professional and personal goals.

This year's Forensics coaches are Mrs. Becker and Ms. Brown. Any high school student can participate in Forensics. They have the opportunity to enroll in the Forensics class during 7th hour or participate as an out-of-class member.

The tournament season begins in January and continues through May. The Forensics team hopes to participate in at least 8 tournaments. Several students have set their goal of qualifying for participation in the state tournament in May. A

student must participate in 5 tournaments to letter. There are approximately 18 students planning to participate in Forensics.

Most of the students choose to participate in Prose, Poetry, or Duet Act. Several students plan to double enter in another category including Humorous/Serious Solo. Any student can still join, even during the tournament season.

Mrs. Becker and Ms. Brown are very excited about the upcoming season and know that the participants will represent St. Xavier in a very stellar way!!

--Ashley D.

Exciting Basketball Right around the Corner



For high school boys basketball, practice will start November 13, and their first game will be November 28. For middle school boys basketball, practice started October 23, and their first game will be November 6. Middle school girls also started practice on October 23, and their first game will be November 6th after the boys game.

The high school boys basketball coach is AJ Vinent; the middle school boys basketball coach this year is Abby Donart. The coach for the middle school girls basketball team is Kristel Jahnke.

There are 11 players on the high school boys basketball team this year. For middle school there are 10 on the boys team, and there are 12 on the girls team.

To get ready for the season, the middle school teams have just started practice and will continue to get better and more in shape. The high school boys team will continue doing basketball conditioning and begin doing open gym sessions where the players can work on their skills.

The high school boys are very excited to defend their St. John's title this year, but the other teams will be out to get us and take the title back from us. But the team needs to be focused on the season as a whole and not just one tournament.

On the high school boys basketball team this year, there are 3 new players and the remaining 8 are returners which bodes well for us. Many things will be different this year including terminology and positioning (which will be new to everyone). --Conner W.

Continuing to Make Saint Xavier Great



Saint Xavier has been working on many projects and will continue this year. Some past projects that have been completed include the new trophy case for the HS BB 1st place trophy from the St. John's Military Tournament. Other completed Saint Xavier projects include new iPads, MAP testing for Reading and Math K-12, new desktop computers in both labs, new teacher laptops, new curriculum for several subject areas, and a newly refinished and painted gym floor. A new roof was also installed on Building B and more improvements in the Pre K classrooms.

Future improvements that are planned are new locks installed on all exterior and interior doors in Building A and B over Christmas Break. New internet cable and 15 wireless internet ports will be installed in early summer to increase the efficiency of our internet. A goal that is planned this year is continuing to upgrade both technology and curriculum. Saint Xavier is also looking to purchase a few new netbooks and iPads.

Another renovation that is planned is handicap accessibility near the cafeteria in Building A and near the cafeteria in Building C. A feasibility study for HVAC upgrade in the building is also being planned.

Improvements continue to be planned for Saint Xavier Catholic School. Thanks for all the support from parents, parishioners, the St. Xavier Foundation, and grants in helping make these improvements possible for the school.

-- Jacob B.

Durable Trash Bag Fundraiser a Success



For many years, the trash bag sales have been a traditional fundraiser at St. Xavier. White 13-gallon, yellow 35-gallon, and blue 55-gallon bags are sold for \$10 each year; a profit is earned of approximately \$3.00 per roll. Parishioners, families, and community members appreciate the durability of these trash bags and look forward to the annual fundraiser.

This event is held every year from the beginning of September through the beginning of October. Students get the opportunity to win prizes during sales. The top seller in PreK-6th and 7th-12th win a \$100 Visa gift card. Cassidy Jahnke, 4th grade, and Josh Keating, Senior, won Visa Gift Cards. The amount of money that

the sale brings to the school is approximately \$2,000. The money is used to buy new curriculum and technology items. We are now sold out of all colors of trash bags.

Thanks for your support of this project. --Dejohn W.

Marching to the Beat of Christmas Cheer



Saint Xavier is planning to participate in the Annual Junction City Christmas Parade. The parade is November 24 at 5:30 pm and will travel from the JCHS parking lot to 6th Street, then east on 6th Street to Washington, and then north on Washington to 8th Street.

The theme of this year's parade is "Inside Santa's Workshop." The St. Xavier PTO and St. Xavier families are in charge of entering a float into the parade. The float will consist of students from our school.

The band will march in the parade if there are enough band members in town on the parade day. The registration has already been submitted to Eagle Communications, and the committee will be having meetings in November.

--Jalyn D.

Inquisitive Minds Want to Know



Scholars Bowl is a combination of practical, academic knowledge, and otherwise useless trivia. Our first meet was on October 23.

The season runs roughly parallel to the winter sports season, ending in February. There are over a dozen tournaments on the

schedule as of now, including both varsity and junior varsity meets. There are about a dozen students participating in Scholars' Bowl, including at least two from each grade.

Practices are at lunch on Mondays and Fridays and after school on Wednesdays and Thursdays. More students are always welcome to join, particularly for some of the meets which conflict with other school activities. It's pretty early in the year to speculate on the team's strengths and weaknesses, but at least we are expecting success in several areas including math and science.

We're hosting a tournament on November 16. This will be our first home tournament in several years, so this is an exciting opportunity for us. We'll need adult volunteers to moderate and judge and student volunteers to keep score and keep time in each room.

Coach Becker's advice is to not be afraid to be wrong, "I'd prefer that we take a guess on every question rather than only answering questions for which we are completely certain. Additionally, I advise the team to answer all of the math questions correctly because it makes me look good!" --Joanna C.

Showering Baby Jesus with Gifts



Over 26 years ago, two St. Xavier teachers wanted students to learn how to share with those less fortunate than them. So they came up with the idea of encouraging students, their families, and staff members to bring gifts for our Baby Jesus. At baby showers, you'd normally bring diapers, bottles, pacifiers, clothes, bath items and even toys. Before Christmas vacation, everyone is encouraged to bring similar gifts. The gifts should be wrapped and placed in the church at the steps of the altar. This will represent our gift offerings to the

Baby Jesus.

After Friday's December 15 Mass, the students will pick up the gifts and bring them into the lunchroom where the students can indulge in doughnuts provided by the Saint Xavier Catholic School PTO. After their treat, the students will open the gifts and place them in boxes to be delivered to Birthline of Junction City. Birthline is a pregnancy resource center that supports pregnant women and mothers with young children.

This event reminds us that Christmas isn't just about getting presents, but it's also about giving them as well, especially to those in need. Like St. Nicholas who

lived in the third century with his wealthy parents who raised him to be a devout Christian, we will be giving to the less fortunate. The Baby Jesus Shower is one way for us to serve God our Father and honor his beloved son, Jesus. --Tamia S

Our Outstanding St. Xavier Band & Choir



The St. Xavier Band recently participated in the Hyllningsfest Parade in Lindsborg, Kansas. The band also completed their first concert of the

semester. They performed several pieces including: Rhythm of the Winds by Frank Erickson, Ammerland by Jacob de Haan, Can't Stop the Feeling by Paul Murtha, and Saint Xavier School Song by Stuart Workman.

Ms. Thompson is looking forward to the next band program on December 18. This program will feature a few holiday pieces as well as two programmatic pieces. The choir will also be performing at the December 18 Concert. They will be singing a few holiday pieces as well as an African piece, an Irish piece, and a traditional part-four tune. There are 35 students in band and 22 students in choir.

Ms. Thompson believes it's important to expose musicians to many different styles of music. Both groups have experienced pop music, programmatic pieces, overtures, music by a foreign composer, and music in another language.

The band will be playing for the high school basketball games; they will perform at all home games. Regional Music Festival will take place April 7 at Tabor College in Hillsboro. The band and choir will begin planning for this in January. State Large Group will take place on April 18 in Concordia. Both the band and choir will participate in these competitions. --Vasco M.

The Most Awaited Plunge of the Year



It's the time of the year where we celebrate in honor of our school's patron saint, St. Xavier. Freezin' for a Reason is an annual fundraiser for our school to encourage members of the community to participate. Every pledge that the students get

will reward them with the opportunity to have some of their staff members plunge into the freezing lake (Milford Lake).

The day will begin with a 11:00 am mass here at St. Francis Xavier Parish. Then everyone will proceed to the Flagstop Resort where lunch will be served followed by a 2 mile Fun Run/Walk. The event will end with the eagerly awaited Frozen Plunge! Awards and hot chocolate will be distributed to end the event.

Volunteers who are participating in the plunge are Mr. Becker, Ms. Donart, Ms. Brown, Mrs. Copeland, Ms. Thompson, Mr. Augustine, Mr. Vinent, Mrs. Donlin, Ms. Shaheen, and Fr. Kyle. The 4 people who get the most snowballs will plunge into the freezing lake.

We are hoping to raise over \$10,000 this year. The money will be put into the general account to help the school. The goal for this fundraiser is not just to raise money but also to get the word out showing how wonderful our school is.

--Chloe A.

St. Xavier Catholic School's Photo Gallery



Loving the fall band marching weather!



Successful evacuation drill during Safety Week.



Art Club learning about their next project.



Coloring made fun in Kindergarten.



Learning what to do when there is a fire. Damon S. and Jacob B. at the pep rally.



Enjoying the Saint Xavier book fair.



RJ H. and Mr. Becker discussing strategies at a Scholars Bowl meet.



St. Xavier students working on an awesome project.



Some of the elementary students enjoying a field trip.



The seniors wearing red during Red Ribbon week.



Enjoying the dance.



A little snack after a successful scholars bowl meet.



What saint is she?



All about pumpkins.



Looking good for the Halloween Parade.



Members participating in the first St. Xavier Chess Club Tournament.



Dressing up for Halloween!



Educating the whole person—body, mind, & spirit—in Christian values in accordance with our Catholic faith tradition.