



Holy Trinity School Newsletter

November 10, 2011

School Calendar

NOVEMBER

November 11

Sarris Candy Orders due
Book Fair

November 14

Confirmation Parental Prep Mtg
7:00pm Church

November 15

Mass 8:30am – 3B

November 16

Market Day

November 18

11:45 Dismissal

November 21

SCRIP Jean Day
PTG Mtg 6:30pm - Cafeteria

November 22

Mass 8:30am – 7A
Bring in Food Item

November 23

11:45 Dismissal

November 24-28

Thanksgiving Break



Happy Thanksgiving

HTS Newsletter

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RiverQuest Field Trip Casts Off



4th grade students Maddie Marcello and Carolyn McAndrews sample river water

Students in 4th and 5th grade got the chance to explore Pittsburgh's famous three rivers while conducting hands-on environmental science experiments. Students analyzed living and nonliving indicators of water quality. Their results were correlated with the area's industrial history, and historical and current land use. The chance to perform real-world sampling and analysis using scientific techniques they learned in class captivated the students from the time they stepped on the boat.

CMU Teams up with Holy Trinity for Innovative Math Program



CMU Ph.D. Student Martina Rau helps Holy Trinity student Bridget Walker learn about fractions as part of a collaborative research project

During the month of October Holy Trinity's fourth and fifth grade classes participated in a research study conducted by Carnegie Mellon University. This study involved a tutorial program developed by CMU Ph.D. student Martina Rau as part of her dissertation. The program is called *The Fractions Tutor* and its purpose is to advance student knowledge and comprehension of fractions. The Fractions Tutor uses interactive graphical representations such as circles, rectangles and number lines to develop student understanding of fractional concepts.

Ms. Rau, who has a Master's degree in educational and cognitive psychology, has been working with this project for the past four years. Jay Raspat, a former middle-school mathematics teacher with extensive experience in development of technology-based math curricula, has greatly contributed to developing the content of *The Fractions Tutor*. Programmers and designers are involved to make sure that the software is both functional and visually attractive for the students. Dr. Vincent Alevan, an Associate Professor at CMU, and Dr. Nikol Rummel, the head of the Ruhr-University Bochum in Germany, served as Ms. Rau's advisors on the project. Both advisors have extensive experience in educational and cognitive psychology and computer-supported instruction.

Post-implementation testing was underway at press time, but previous studies using the Fractions Tutor have shown students achieving significant learning gains in their understanding of fractions.

Holy Trinity Students Featured at Art Exhibit

The 2011-2012 Student Art Exhibit was held recently at St. Philip School in Crafton on Saturday 10/22 and Sunday 10/23. The exhibit featured the work of Holy Trinity students Sean Airesman, Vanessa Betten, Andrew Buckley, Riana Conway, Noah Dawgiello, Evan DiPerna, Caroline Friend, Richard Froehlich, Jillian Frosell, Genevieve Kastronis, Rachel Kuchnicki, Kendall Kutzavitch, Simone Lardieri, Averil Ludwick, Anthony Mammarelli, Katherine Mickle, Madeline Minsinger, Katherine Moody, Ryan Parker, Abigail Redlich, Tara Richardson, Kyra Segner, Thomas Sylvester, and Paige Zilner. The art work displayed was completed during the 2010-2011 school year. An opening reception for the students, their families and community leaders was held on Friday the 21st followed by a blessing. Participating schools included Bishop Canevin High School, Holy Child Grade School, Holy Trinity Grade School, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart High School, and St. Philip Grade School.

Developmental Soccer Season



HTS 3rd grade developmental soccer team during the diocesan tournament October 29th

Holy Trinity third and fourth graders saw another successful developmental soccer season come to an end on a snowy October Saturday morning. This year both 3rd and 4th grade teams were entered in the diocesan tournament. The 4th graders went undefeated in the tournament with one win and two ties. Unfortunately, they didn't have enough points in their bracket to move further in the tournament but played extremely well in tough conditions. The 3rd grade team did win their bracket and tied their quarter final game but went down in a shoot-out to Saint Kilians - the eventual winner of the tournament. The season itself was very successful on all measures, seeing all players advance in both skills as well as sportsmanship.

Cross Country Team Puts Up a Great Showing

As the month of September came to an end 37 Holy Trinity cross country runners took place in the South Hills Invitational cross country meet on Friday September 30th. The meet took place in cold rainy weather against a very competitive field that included runners from 15 schools.

Boys and girls from both the varsity and junior varsity teams did very well at the meet. The top runners for Holy Trinity included:

JV Boys - Grant Dixon – finished 18th out of 130 boys

JV Girls - Hayley O'Neil – finished 36th out of 105 runners

Varsity Boys -Ryan Clark and Sean Finn were medalists at the event. Ryan finished 4th out of 75 runners and Sean finished 9th out of 75 runners.

Varsity Girls -Tara Richardson and Paige Zilner also took home medals. Tara finished 6th out of 46 runners and Paige finished 14th out of 46 runners.

Overall the Holy Trinity teams all finished well. The JV Boys took 6th place, the JV Girls ended up in 9th place, and the Varsity Boys and Girls' teams each captured 5th place. Congratulations to all who braved the elements to compete.

Send in Your Shop 'n Save Receipts



Please remember to send in all your Shop 'n Save Receipts! The school collects the receipts and uses them to earn learning assemblies for our children from the Pittsburgh Zoo, Carnegie Science Center or the Museum of Natural History. The receipts can either be sent in with your child or dropped off at the school office. Encourage your family and friends to save the receipts as well. Thank You!!

Labels for Education & Box Tops



Please save your Labels for Education and Box Tops for our school. Simply send the labels or box tops to school with your child. Thank You!

Attention...Parents, teachers, coaches, and chairs

Please let us know what is going on with your children, students, event, or group. We want to include all the positive happenings at HTS. Any ideas or suggestions for newsletter articles can be submitted to htspublicity@comcast.net.

Holy Trinity School Mission Statement

Holy Trinity Catholic School accepts that each child is a unique creation of God with spiritual, intellectual and social needs. As members of the faith community we instill in our students the teachings of the Gospel. We promote a partnership among parents, faculty, staff and the community rooted in the Catholic Faith. Our mission is to empower our students with active and creative minds, a sense of understanding and compassion for others, and the courage to act on their beliefs.

Have a Great Week!