



Parnell Alumni & Friends

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

SUMMER 2009

FESTIVAL TIME

CALENDAR

Parish Festival

Friday, June 25

Texas Hold 'Em

Euchre

6:00pm -12:00am

Drinks, Snack Food, Band

Saturday, June 26

Vegas Night

6:00pm -12:00am

Drinks, Snack Food, Band

Sunday, June 27

Famous Chicken Dinner

12:00pm -6:00pm

Polka Band, Bingo

Parnell

Discovery Day

January, 2010

with Grattan

Historical Museum

Share a Parnell Story

Bring an Artifact

Parnell Civil War Veterans,

by John Obermeyer,

St. Patrick School Friend

Digital Documentation by

St. Pat Students for

Grattan Museum Collections

Watch for More Information!

If it's June, it's St. Patrick Festival time! Festival is a weekend of music, food, and relaxed visiting!

Friday Night, June 25

Beginning at ?

Family-Friendly Euchre

Texas Hold 'Em Poker

(sponsored by Alumni & Friends)

Snack Foods, Drinks, Live Music

Saturday Night, June 26

Beginning at ?

Vegas Night

Snack Foods, Drinks,

Live Music

Antique Car Show

Sunday, June 27

10:30 Mass

12:00 Famous (!)

Chicken Dinner

(eat in or take out)

? Polka Band

? Bingo

Class of 2009:

116 Years of St. Patrick Graduates

Members of the St. Patrick 116th Graduating Class are Kaeleb Brown, Taylor Gervais, John Mark, Aaron Morris, Katherine Pniewski, Johanna Samson, Ryan Schmidt and Erin Wade. May the Lord bless and keep you, have Mercy on you and grant you His Peace.

The *future* of Catholic school education depends on *present* commitment to Catholic school education – just as it has for generation upon generation. Please prayerfully consider enrolling your children in a Catholic school. Encourage friends and fam-

ily to seek the enrichment of spirit, mind and body that Catholic school offers. It's an investment of priceless value and lifelong influence.

And, as always, thank you, Alumni & Friends, for supporting the gift that *is* St. Patrick School.

ALUMNI & FRIENDS

Stacey Nugent George
staceynuge@msn.com
616.874.7779

Help is needed to lead and support Alumni & Friends.

Goals are to preserve and promote Parnell history, provide service and support to St. Patrick Parish and School, provide social opportunities for old and new friends. Please email or call Stacey. Thanks!

St. Patrick School Year in Review, 2009

We extend our gratitude to Fr. Rock and all those parishioners who contributed to the growth and learning of our St. Patrick School students. Here are a few highlights from this past school year.

The students pray frequently throughout the day. They attend Mass twice each week, and Fr. Rock is a frequent "guest lecturer" in religion classes.

Many Christian Service Projects were accomplished involving: St. Mary's Pregnancy Center donation drive and visit, God's Kitchen, local Food Pantries donations, Operation Christmas Box, Giving Tree, Senior Neighbors visits to Schneider Manor,

Blankets for Babies, Haiti food & care item packages, and a St. Jude's Hospital fundraiser.

The new Young Fives program has provided a foundation for kindergarten readiness, "graduating" all students to next year's kindergarten class!

The new Writer's Workshop curriculum engages students in honing their writing skills, and provides peer review, practice and publishing opportunities. Many 7th & 8th graders had their work published in national and statewide venues.

Accelerated Reading, with a dedicated part time teacher has produced a marked increase in skill levels.

Students in all grades receive Spanish instruction. Older grades are translating paragraphs and conjugating verbs, and all students learn vocabulary and customs. All students recite prayers in Spanish.

Picturing America and America's Bookshelf grants were awarded to St. Patrick's. Science Olympiad (7th & 8th grade) participants prepared for several months and competed at GVSU, providing the opportunity to "raise the bar" in academic achievement and build interest in science. A grant awarded by FACTS Insurance Company paid for fees and supplies.

The Odyssey of the Mind team (K-5) learned about the power of teamwork and creative thinking in their high-scoring presentation.

With funds raised by PTO, students ate bugs, learned about service dogs, heard Irish music, attended an Earth Day assembly, played games and won prizes at Carnival. Other enrichment included field trips to the Public Museum, the zoo, Blandford Nature Center, pen pal schools, and a science boat trip on Lake Michigan. Other PTO enrichment funds were used for classroom supplies and Media Center materials.

We have a great school—join us!