

Pelican Express



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Most Blessed Sacrament School

February 2010



DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE

Most Blessed Sacrament has selected Callie Hollier as the 2010 Distinguished Graduate. She graduated in 2001 and is currently a student at LSU. *Callie* is an outstanding example of what it means to be a *distinguished graduate* from a Catholic school because she has taken what she learned in her 13 year Catholic education and assimilated it in her life to faithfully serve others as Jesus taught her. Callie balances life well, serving her parish while attending LSU in the field of kinesiology. She is nearing graduation with hopes to enter graduate school and further her education. While at LSU, she manages a full-time school load, *two* part-time jobs, as well as her ministry to the youth of her parish. One of her part time "*jobs*" is actually a *volunteer position* at LSU's Pennington Biomedical Research Center.

Most Blessed Sacrament School is very proud of its Distinguished Graduate, Callie Hollier. She is a person of hope and positively affects the lives of those she encounters.

Callie was honored at a banquet on February 2, celebrating Catholic Schools Week. The theme for this year is "Catholic Schools Dividends for Life".



STUDENT OF THE YEAR

Olivia Hamilton, a fifth grader, and Sydney Gordon, an eighth grader, were chosen as Most Blessed Sacrament School's Students of the Year. Olivia also received first place for the Diocesan fifth grade Student of the Year. Congratulations Olivia and Sydney!

GUIDANCE CORNER

Dear Parents,

Yesterday, a booklet was sent home with the oldest or only child entitled "Chatting with Kids About Being Online". Please ask your child about this booklet and take the time to review it and have a conversation with your child about his/her online practices.

Ask them to show you their pages on any social networking sites (such as My Space and Facebook), and be vigilant about monitoring their online practices. I need your help in putting an end to this and other types of bullying at our school.

CARPOOLERS - Students are not to be dropped off or picked up at the street. Carpool drivers must drop off and pick up students in the carpool line where duty teachers are supervising.

CARPOOL PARENTS

"LET'S REMEMBER TO BE GOOD TO NEIGHBORS"

The school office has been contacted by some residents along Baringer Rd. at the front of the subdivision. Those neighbors have asked our carpool drivers **NOT** to block their driveways. Please, be polite to these residents when they ask you to move and unblock their driveway.

Please remember we all want the MBS community to maintain its good reputation in our neighborhood. So please.....

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR!

ACCEPTANCE LETTERS

Letters of acceptance are **NOT** sent to continuing students at Most Blessed Sacrament. Your child is automatically accepted as long as you have met all commitments to the church and school.

HONOR ROLL

The names of Reese O'Connor and Ben Watts (1A) and Camryn Brouillette (5B) were accidentally left off the second nine weeks honor roll list. Sorry Reese, Ben, Camryn and congratulations .

TERRA NOVA TESTING

All students in grades one through eight will be taking the Terra Nova Test between Monday, April 19 through Thursday, April 22. Testing will end by 1:00 PM everyday. Parents are requested to have their children at school on time and to avoid making any appointments of any kind during the testing period. There will be no make-up tests given. Students will not attend Mass that week.

Please remember that it is very important for students to have a good night's rest and a nutritious breakfast on the days of Terra Nova Testing.



FROM THE OFFICE OF CHRISTIAN FORMATION

LENT 2010...

The season of Lent is an important and grace-filled season in the life of Catholics. For me, a well-celebrated Lenten season leads to conversion and a deepened relationship with the Father and his son, Jesus. Throughout the forty days of the season, our Lenten journey should prepare us to celebrate the glory of Easter's resurrection story. Because it is a penitential season, we are invited to examine our lives, address our personal sinfulness and make corrections that will allow us to embrace what the Lord has done for us and to prepare us to respond better as Christians to our classmates, families, friends and neighbors. During this season we are encouraged to spend time in **prayer, sacrifice and offering** to help us make positive, more Christ-like changes in our lives. It's worth taking a bit of time to unpack the importance of each of these *aspects* of Lent so we may grow individually and collectively as a family of faith.

Prayer is a powerful way for us to have an intimate and personal relationship with God...*Father, Son and Spirit*. In school, we begin our day as a faculty in prayer. We pray for our school family and our students. We gather in assembly each morning to begin our first moment of the day in prayer with our students. During morning assembly, we teach our students some of the traditional prayers of our Church. Central to our school community is our attendance at Mass. Even when the weather keeps us from attending Mass, we lead our students in a celebration using sacred Scriptures of the day and offering our insights into how they apply to our children's lives.

During Lent we have made the commitment to bring our students in grades 2-8 to the Sacrament of Reconciliation to allow them to prayerfully clear out all that keeps them from being loving, caring, kind, generous and compassionate children of God. We pray the Stations of the Cross at least once a week to help our students grasp the importance and to help them understand what Jesus did for them. All through our day, we intersperse prayer moments so they can begin to grasp the importance of prayer in their lives. That may seem like a lot of praying in the course of a day, a week, a month or a school year...and rightfully so. The ability to pray, and center our lives in Christ, is what sets us apart from public and private schools...that is the Catholic difference!

School prayer should not be the only prayer experiences our children have in their lives. Family prayer, family blessings, and family Mass are far more important in the lives of our students. We all have challenges of time and energy in this fast-paced world; I know that at times even one more thing may seem enough to send us over the edge or make us give up. I would not be doing my ministry properly if I did not encourage family prayer, not just during Lent, but also through the year. I suggest a family *rosary* or family gathering to pray the Stations of the Cross. Either of these prayer forms may be done in less than thirty minutes. If you need resources, call my office at 751-5867 and I will point you in the right direction. There are numerous resources available on the Internet too. The important thing is to take the time to do **something** prayerful to make this season meaningful in the life of your family.

Sacrifice...has a long relationship with the season of Lent. One of the most highly practiced aspects of lent is to "give up" something as a remembrance of and in solidarity to the suffering of Jesus. Suffering can be a part of life for so many people. Our eighth graders are learning something about the suffering and agony of Jesus. As they prepare to give their beautiful and prayerful performances of the **Living Stations of the Cross**, they are watching the film "**The Passion of the Christ**." I know from working with our students over these last two years that the film impacts our students and that they gain so much by watching the film. I have seen our students grow in faith by watching this compelling and dramatic film.

While no one is asked to suffer to the degree that Jesus did...even small sacrifices help us get in touch with the feeling of enduring a few moments of "pain" in order to understand the power of what Jesus did for us and to help us grow spiritually. I hope our families give witness to making sacrifices in their lives and encourage their children to "give up" something. It is important to encourage and support them in making such sacrifices in their lives.

For some, giving up something as a sacrifice is not their tradition. For others...doing something **EXTRA** is often more of a sacrifice. Perhaps families would encourage their children to do some act of kindness for someone else. Often time's experiences like this can be just as transformative as it helps us understand our call to serve God's family as Jesus taught us.

Offering...or giving of our time and talent help us teach our children to serve God's family. Some of their service projects will help our children understand more about Lent and how Jesus calls us to serve His family. We have two upcoming projects scheduled during Lent. During the first week of March, our third grade will sponsor a collection of toiletries for the **Bishop Ott Shelter**. In late March, our seventh grade will collect canned soups for the **Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank**. Statistics in the Baton Rouge area reflect growing population for those who are jobless, homeless and hungry. If you are able to participate in these projects, we would truly appreciate that...if not, please pray for the success of the projects. More information will follow shortly.

BROTHERHOOD SISTERHOOD RECIPIENTS...

The names of our Brotherhood/Sisterhood recipients for 2010 are: Eighth graders... **Hannah Rabalais** and **Peyton Graham** and MBS staff members...**Mrs. Beverly Peterson** and **Mrs. Judy Klobucar**. We celebrate with these wonderful examples of faithfulness and love in our community.

RETREATS AND RECONCILIATION DURING LENT---

On **Tuesday, March 2, 2010** our third graders will be on retreat. Please pray for them as they grow in grace. Reconciliation has been scheduled during Lent and our 6-8 grade students will participate in Sacramental Reconciliation on Thursday, March 4 in the MBS Church. We have postponed dates for grades two-five, but will reschedule them later in Lent as the repair work in St. Ursula Hall is completed. Please pray for our children so they grow spiritually this Lent.

STUDENT COUNCIL

The Student Council raised \$2,132 for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society by having "Jersey Day" on Friday, February 5. They also sold over 7,000 Valentine Grams to donate \$1,561 to the Jill Penno Scholarship Fund.

Ms. Janine Jones, fourth grade teacher, received 400 Valentine Grams and on February 19, was crowned "Queen Valentine" for the day!

Thanks to everyone for contributing to these two very worthy causes.



MBS BOOK FAIR

The Book Fair will be held in the library from Sunday, March 21 to Friday, March 26. Sunday, March 21, the Book Fair will be open after all Masses. Monday, March 22, through Thursday, March 25, the Book Fair hours will be 8:30 AM-3:30 PM. Friday, March 26, the Book Fair hours are 8:30 AM-12:30.

CELEBRITY PICTURE DAY

On Friday, March 12, Most Blessed Sacrament students will have the opportunity to have their pictures taken in regular clothing, not uniforms. A free dress day will be allowed on this date for the entire school. Barberito Photographers will be here to photograph the entire student body. A packet will be sent home in a few weeks, and you may choose if you would like to purchase pictures.



Remember the date: Friday, March 12, – FREE DRESS DAY FOR CELEBRITY PICTURES

BETA CLUB

On Saturday, January 30, Beta member participated in the District Rally at Woodlawn Middle School. The club won awards in the following areas:

Quiz Bowl- 1st Place – members – Richard Tuminello, Matthew Urquhart, Peyton Graham, and Andrew Chenevert;

Poster – 1st Place – Shelby Broussard and Alexandra Schumacher;

Poetry - 4th Place – Hailey Manint;

Social Studies – 4th Place – Garrett Hamilton;

Math – 5th Place – Sydney Gordon;

Impromptu Speaking – 6th Place – Jeffrey LeBouef.

Congratulations to all members!

NEW BETA MEMBERS – Congratulations to our new Beta members. These young men and women from grades 6-8 had all A's and B's on their semester average and all A's and B's in conduct. Beta is an academic service club dedicated to challenging its members through competitions and its fantastic tutoring program.

The new Beta members for 2010-2011 school year are: Grace Authement, Jeremy Braud, Madison Brooks, Chase Brouillette, Matthew Browning, Katie Brunet, Carlye Conrad, Grant Conway, Jonathan Culivan, Sarah Darst, Paige Didier, Blaine Edmonson, Abby Ellis, James Ensminger, Brian Fairbanks, Brandon Fairbanks, Claire Gauthier, Victoria Geiger, Anna German, Hannah Gordon, Kara Gremillion, Neil Holloway, Jamie Jewell, Caroline Matthews, Ciarra McNeely, Victoria Ourso, Alec Pierrotti, Daniel Rodriguez, Stephanie Saucier, Haley Sylvester, Brandon Snyder, Maggie Sprague, Parker Sulik, Natalie Troups, Brennan Triche, Hope Troxclair, Joshua Tuminello, Emily Watts, Mitchell Williams, and Tristan Williams.

FROM THE YEARBOOK STAFF

We hope you are pleased with the 2009 MBS Yearbook. A special thank you to all of our faithful advertisers. We are excited about doing a full color book, but we need help to offset the publishing costs. If your family owns a business, please consider purchasing an ad in the yearbook. These ads help keep our yearbook affordable and are an inexpensive means of advertising for your business. Remember that the yearbook reaches about 400 families every year. For information on purchasing an ad, please contact Mrs. Pellerin (cpellerin@mbsbr.org) at the school by April 30th.

If anyone has pictures of any of the MBS sports teams, action shots would be best, please send them for the yearbook. You can send in a hard copy or email a digital photo to cpellerin@mbsbr.org.



SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Please remember to put your child's name in their jackets, sweatshirts, and sweaters.

Please, also, check the items you have at home for other student's name. There are quite a few items with names in them that have disappeared.



SEND US YOUR USED PRINTER CARTRIDGES

Most Blessed Sacrament School has recently joined the Hewlett Packard Purchase Edge Program. Part of this program is recycling **used** printer cartridges, both Inkjet and Laser. For every cartridge we recycle with HP, MBS receives points which enable us to earn new equipment, such as printers or scanners. Please help us by sending your **used** printer cartridges to school and we will recycle them to earn points for new equipment.

Social Studies Fair Winners (Seventh Grade)

Anthropology

- 1st Place - Justin David
- 2nd Place - Landon Dugas
- 3rd Place - Wesley Speyrer

Economics

- 1st Place - Madelyn McKnight
- 2nd Place - Victoria Passman
- 3rd Place - Mitchell Williams

Geography

- 1st Place - Madelyn Fontenot
- 2nd Place - Grace Authement

Political Science

- 1st Place - Jacie Evans
- 2nd Place - Nicholas Arcement
- 3rd Place - Emily Caruso

Sociology

- 1st Place - Alex Lamabe
- 2nd Place - Christian Ruch
- 3rd Place - Hope McKee

History

- 1st Place - Nathan Kristof
- 2nd Place - Connor Branch
- 3rd Place - Trey Bourgeois
- Honor Mention - Shelby Broussard
- Honorable Mention-Garrett Hamilton
- Honorable Mention-Dylan Verret

Grand Prize winner was Justin David.
Congratulation to all students!

CAFETERIA NEWS

The March payment for students eating in the cafeteria is \$49.00 per student.



HOME AND SCHOOL NEWS

- Our next PALS luncheon will be held on Friday, April 9. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Tara Button (752-3183) or Stephanie Hasenkampf (744-4714).
- It's that time of year when we start preparing for our annual appreciation weeks. During these weeks we make a special effort to show our faculty, staff, and bus drivers how much we value them:

Bus Driver Appreciation Week – April 26

Cafeteria Appreciation Week – April 26

Teacher Appreciation Week – May 3

- Please send an email from the link on the Home & School SchoolNotes page if you would like to volunteer for any of these upcoming Appreciation Week events.
- Please send in any General Mills “Box Tops for Education” and Community Coffee UPCs/ receipts you've collected so that we can send them in to earn cash for our school. If you have time to volunteer with sorting and cutting, please contact Monica Southard at 752-8933.
- Remember the remaining Domino's Pizza Mondays and Brewbacher's Wednesdays for this year are listed on the Home & School SchoolNotes page. Take a break from the kitchen and help MBS raise some ca\$h!
- Our last Home & School General Meeting for this school year will be on Wednesday, April 28 at 6:30 p.m. in the St. Ursula Hall. We hope all parents will come to the meeting and enjoy the art show and musical performances of the choir and band.
- The Used Uniform sale dates and times this year are as follows:

Uniform Drop-off on Friday, May 21, 1pm - 3 pm

Uniform Sale on Saturday, May 22, 8 am - 12 noon

IMPORTANT DATES IN MARCH

March 2	3rd Grade Retreat
March 4	Reconciliation—Grades 6-8 after Mass
March 5	6th Grade World's Fair
March 8-12	Yearbook Sale
March 8	Last Day to test for Accelerated Reader
March 9	Playmakers at 1:30 Grades K-5
March 10	Accelerated Reader Free Dress
March 11	End of the 3rd Nine Weeks 3rd Grade Taste Fair
March 12	Spring Pictures and 8th Grade Favorites—Free Dress
March 14	Daylight Savings Time Begins
March 15-16	Youth Legislature (8th Grade)
March 15-19	7th Grade Baton Rouge Food Bank Drive
March 16	Report Cards Go Home Deadline for Information for Next Newsletter
March 19	3rd Grade Field Trip
March 21-26	Book Fair
March 23	Dress Rehearsal for Stations (8th Grade) 3:30-6:30
March 24	8th Grade Stations 7:00 p.m.—St. Ursula Hall
March 25	No Mass—8th Grade Stations 9:00 a.m. - St. Ursula Hall
March 26	Book Fair Ends at 12:30 p.m.
March 29-April 5	NO School—EASTER
April 6 (Tuesday)	Students Return to School