



# EAGLE UPDATE

A publication by and for the students of St. John's School

Winter 2009-2010

## School Starts Before Labor Day

By: Amanda Hatfield

The first day of school this year was Wednesday, September 2, 2009. This was the first year ever that St. John's started started before Labor Day. Students had a full day of school on Wednesday and Thursday and a half day on Friday.

We asked Ms. Kelleher about this change. She told us that first of all, students had to be in school for 180 days in the school year, and she needed to also schedule five snow days as well. Second, the Peabody Public Schools were starting before Labor Day. St. John's students that live in Peabody sometimes use the Public School transportation, so Ms. Kelleher thought it would be easier just to start school earlier.

Ms. Kelleher told us that she doesn't know if we will start school next year before Labor Day. She won't know that until next year's calendar is prepared, which will be sometime in the spring.

We asked students and parents what they thought about starting school so early and most of them said they prefer that school starts after Labor Day to give them a longer summer vacation!

## Big Response to St. John's H1N1 Flu Clinic

By: Jay Wilkinson

St. John's School held its first ever Flu Shot Clinic for its students on November 30th. The vaccine was provided by the City of Peabody Health Department and the shots were given by Mrs. Eileen Braley, our School Nurse. The vaccine was available to all students who had not gotten the shot before.

According to Mrs. Anderson, 205 students received the vaccine. The clinic opened at 7:30 for pre-K to grade 5, and with such a big response, that the wait time was up to 2 hours! The older grades were called down from class later in the morning.

All in all, there were a few tears and a few sore arms, but it seems like it was a big success!



## Musical 2010 Announced!

By: Vivian Diaz and Jessica Enos

During the first week back after winter vacation, Miss Bennett and Mr. Pertucci gave us daily clues to help figure out what the 2010 Musical would be.

Most students figured out by Wednesday that it was going to be Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory!

Once again, the Musical will be held at Bishop Fenwick High School.

## Important Musical Dates

Musical Ad Book Drive: February 24-March 17

**\*\*Early Ad deadline for a free NUT day is March 3\*\***

Performance Dates: April 29, 30 and May 1

# Welcome to the St. John's Family!

By: Xenia Tseitlin

Each year, St. John's always welcomes new students to our school. This year, we welcomed several new students, and many of them came from St. Joseph's School in Salem. St. Joe's School closed at the end of school last year, 2009.

We recently interviewed Maria and Melissa, two 5th graders and former St. Joe's students to see how they are getting along at St. John's.

What do you miss the most about St. Joe's?  
My friends.

What do you like the best here?  
The kids because they are nice.

Do you know other kids that came here?  
Yes.

What made you choose St. John's?  
When I shadowed I like the teachers and students. It was also the closest school for me.

Was it hard for you to switch schools?  
Yes.

Is St. John's a lot or a little like St. Joe's? In what way?  
They are both Catholic schools and they study the same variety of things.

Have you done anything to keep in touch with other kids from St. Joe's?  
Yes. I call and email them.

## First Grade Visits Local Dairy Farm

By: Maria Chaghouri

The first grade class took a field trip to Great Brook Farm State Park in Carlisle, MA in October. Mrs. Norton and Mrs. Cappomaccio thought this would be a good experience for the students because they were studying farm animals at this time.

I interviewed Joseph Chaghouri, a first grader and asked him about the trip. Joseph said that he had a lot of fun at the dairy farm. He said that the pigs and cows were very stinky. He said that they do not milk cows by hand anymore. Now a days they use machines to milk cows. His favorite part was when they did a scavenger hunt. His favorite animals were the sheep. He also said that they were not smelly, and they were furry and white. He hopes to go back again soon.

The worst part of the trip was that it was raining and there was a big thunder storm. Well, we sure hope that never happens again!





# Walk-A-Thon 2009

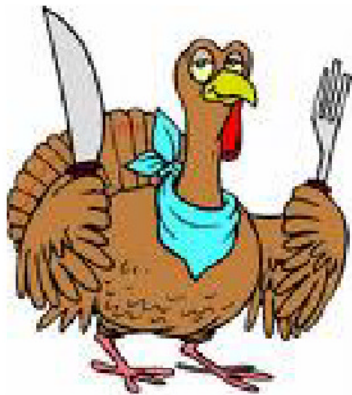
**By: Samantha Scalfani**

The Walk-a-Thon took place this year on Monday, October 5, 2009 at Emerson Park. All the students walk and get pledges from family and friends. The Kindergarteners walk around Mother Mary Park.

This year the weather was sunny. Students were provided water by the PTO. The students had about one hour to walk.

The Walk-a-Thon is a major school fundraiser which has been going on since for many years. As a reward for walking the laps, students get little plastic feet.

Most students enjoy the Walk-a-Thon. We interviewed a few who said they liked it better last year because they had unlimited water. Some students ran a little bit more than they walked and got more laps in. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped out that day.



# Thanksgiving Food Drive

**By: Amanda Hatfield**

Each year, St. John's School works with St. John's Church to make food baskets for Thanksgiving. Each grade is assigned a different food item so that we will have a variety of things to put in each basket. The Church supplies the turkeys which are donated from local businesses.

While we always get lots of things from the list such as canned fruits and vegetables, gravy and stuffing, we always seem to get those families who are VERY creative in what they donate. Here are some of the more "interesting" donations we received this year:

Cat Food, Lollipops, Chewing Gum, Oatmeal,  
Pancake Mix, Sunny D, Popcorn

Thanks to everyone who donated food items. The volunteers were able to put together dozens of baskets this year, which were donated to needy families in the parish.

# Close Race in the 2009-2010 Student Council Elections

**By: Alyse Diamantides and Erin Roe**

This year's 2009 Student Council election, consisting of grades five through eight was a close one. Students ran for the position of Homeroom Representative, and if they had more experience, ran for Secretary, Treasurer or President. To urge their classmates to vote, the candidates made posters, and hung them in the hallways.

The winners for co-presidents of the Student Council were Andrew DePiano and Matthew Daly. For the position of co-secretaries, Molly Eager and Christina Zoldak won and Mitch Rivers was elected treasurer.

Without question, the election had many participants, but in the end only a few winners.

The Student Council meets weekly with Mrs. CT and sponsors fundraisers including the International Festival table, The Cookie Walk and Student Dances. Proceeds from the fundraisers go toward scholarships.

## Meet your 2009-2010 Student Council

Co-Presidents:	Matthew Daly
Co-Secretaries:	Andrew DePiano Molly Eager Christina Zoldak
Treasurer:	Mitch Rivers

## Homeroom Representatives

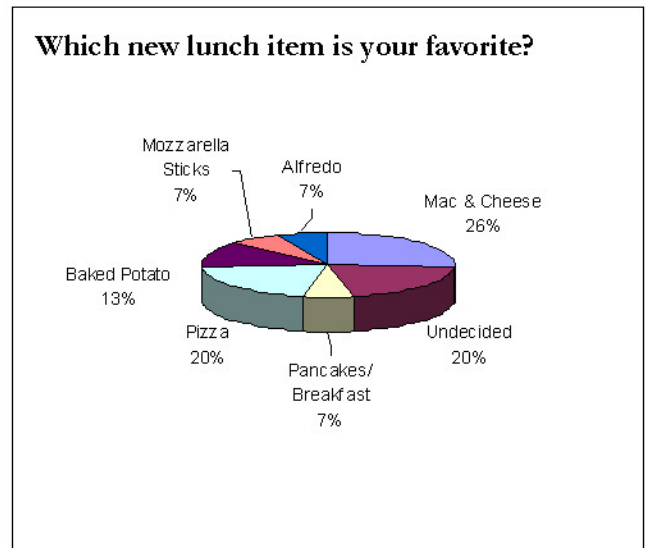
8th Grade:	Monica Caggiano Dan McGinn
7th Grade:	Emily Bettencourt Chris Carney
6th Grade:	Sarah Dinis Anthony Silva Alex Vitale
5th Grade:	Derek Dellisola Alexa Vahey

# New Lunch Menu for 2009-2010

**By: Megan Derby**

You probably noticed that the school lunch menu this year is different than last year. Last year, we had the same menu each week. This year, we have a much wider variety of foods, including Chicken Alfredo, Tacos, Chef Salad and Grilled Cheese, not to mention bagels, french toast and pancakes!

We interviewed some students to see which of the "new items" is their favorite! It seems the new menu is a big hit!



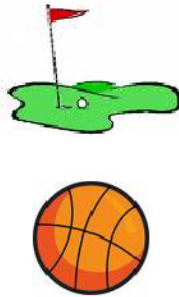


# INTERVIEWS

By: Alyse Diamantides  
and Erin Roe

St. John's is very fortunate to have teachers who have been here for quite some time. While the Eagle Update usually interviews new teachers, we thought it would also be nice to sit down with some of our more senior teachers to catch up.

Mrs. Wright is a Pre-K teacher. She has been at St. John's for 24 years. Outside of school she enjoys golf and travelling on vacations.



Mrs. Norton is a 1st grade teacher. She has been at St. John's for nine years. She likes making cards, reading, cooking, painting and watching baseball and basketball.



Mrs. Galluzzo is the 8th grade English and Reading teacher. She also teaches the Mystery Mania elective. She has been teaching at St. John's for 34 years. Outside of school, she likes to go to museums two to three days per week and also goes to the ballet. She enjoys art, opera and reading.



Mrs. Paculian is the 6-8th grade Spanish teacher. She has been at St. John's for 19 years. Mrs. Paculian left and returned to St. John's, and she said that when she came back here to teach, she felt like she never left!

Mrs. Theriault teaches 2nd grade. She has been at St. John's for 10 years and loves teaching here. Outside of school, she spends time with her children. She also enjoys reading, shopping and long walks on the beach.

## Congrats to Ms. (Mrs.) Laura!



**By: Hannah French**

Ms. Laura Pitrowski, one of our Pre-K teachers was married this past fall. She invited all the students from St. John's to her wedding!

Her wedding took place at St. John's Church and the reception was in Ipswich. She told us it was a lot of work to plan the wedding, but she had a lot of time to plan. She said it was a very pretty day because it was fall. Her dress was beautiful and sparkly. She told us she tried on about five dresses before she picked the one she wore. She knew as soon as she put it on that it was the right one.

About 130 people attended the wedding, including some students. Mrs. Laura's hair was curly in the back and parted on the side. She was not nervous at all! She said her cake was absolutely delicious. Her favorite part about the wedding day was sharing it with friends and family.

The students used to call her Ms. Laura because she says her last name is hard to pronounce, especially for Pre-K students. Now that she is married, her new name is Mrs. Cohan, but we think her students will call her "Mrs. Laura"! Congratulations to Mrs. Cohan/Mrs. Laura!

## How Teachers Pick Student of the Month

**By: Maddie Frisella**

The Student of the Month program has been around St. John's for many years. One, two or more students are chosen from each homeroom and the winners are presented a pin and their names are posted outside the school offices.

We recently asked several teachers how they choose their Student of the Month.

Ms. Bennett (6th Grade): Students vote and the winners are who the students chose.

Mrs. C-T (5th Grade): Likes to pick students who help others and are polite, she tries to include everyone.

Mrs. Norton (1st Grade): Students who are polite and kind to others and who are cooperative.

Mrs. Theriault (2nd Grade): Picks students who are kind and who help others and follow the rules.

Ms. Jenkins (Kindergarten): All students have a turn; picks 2 girls and 2 boys each month.

Miss Doucette (2nd Grade): Chooses students who follow the St. John School Mission Statement

Mrs. Orozco (5th Grade): Someone she can rely on to do a job and volunteers to help and is respectful.



# Korean Exchange Program in its Second Year

**By: Olivia Mathews**

St. John's School is in its second year participating in a student exchange program. Last year, students from Korea came to the United States and lived with St. John's families for six weeks. From January 6, 2010 to February 15, 2010, we will have more students visiting. We also have a few who are with us for the entire school year.

The Eagle Update interviewed Julia Jang a 5th grader to learn more about how her life in Korea compares to her experience at St. John's.

EU: How many kids are in your Korean school?

MJ: 1,700 students

EU: How big is your school and what does it look like?

MJ: It is a brick school with five floors.

EU: Do you have more than one teacher?

MJ: I had one teacher.

EU: How many subjects do you have?

MJ: 13 different subjects

EU: Do you have a lot of tests a year or just a few?

MJ: We have four tests a year.

EU: Is the mode of transportation the same or is it different? What do you use?

MJ: We walk to school; it takes five minutes.

EU: Is the food different in your Korean school?

MJ: Yes. In Korea they eat rice.

EU: Do you find that school in Korea is harder than our school?

MJ: School in Korea is harder.

EU: How do you feel about St. John's School?

MJ: St. John School is better than Korean school.

EU: Do you like your teachers?

MJ: Yes.

EU: Do you like the color of our uniforms? If you could pick any color for a uniform what would it be?

MJ: Yes. I would pick blue and purple.

EU: What is your favorite color?

MJ: Light blue.

EU: Do you have more friends in America or Korea?

MJ: Korea



# SPORTS TIME



## St. John's Cross Country 2009

By: James Dellisola

### Girl's Team

### Boy's Team

The 2009 Cross Country team had a very successful year. It was open to grades 5-8, and there were around 80 boys and girls on the team. The teams they competed against were St. Pius, St. John's and St. Mary's, both of Beverly, and St. Mary's, Danvers.

The last meet of the season which was a regional meet, was held at Bishop Fenwick High School. St. John's had several runners finish in the top 10.

We would like to thank our coaches, Mr. Alves and Mrs. O'Donnell, and all the parent volunteers who helped us out this season!

Meaghan Bettano  
Katie Chiu  
Zuzu Haefner  
Jessica Higgins  
Desi Kapnis  
Heather Kerastaris  
Jacqueline Marino  
Lindsey Moran  
Alexis Salvaggio  
Kristina Salvaggio  
Julie Ywuc

Emily Bettencourt  
Amanda Howard  
Amanda Lavoie  
Katie O'Brien  
Katie O'Rourke  
Talia Sabelli  
Brianna Trodella  
Chelsey White  
Twinkle Yumasi

Tina Marie

Bartholomeo  
Christine Deschenes  
Gabby Dotolo  
Molly Eagar  
Nikki Kapnis

Johanna Aylward  
Stephanie Bona  
Amanda Hatfield  
Olivia Mathews  
Anna Khouri  
Nicole Lavoie  
Sarah Morgan  
Kelli Powers  
Jolssen Rodriguez  
Alexa Vahey

Nick Bona  
Brian Bouchard  
Matthew Daly  
James Dellisola  
Andrew DePiano  
Henry Eagar  
Cody Farley  
Charlie Maistrellis  
Daniel McGinn  
Eric Razney  
Adam Ryan  
John Yeo Soon

Kyle Alves  
Sam Aylward  
Peter Choi  
Myles Connor  
Stephen Ferrante  
Matthew Garofalo  
Andrew Hill  
Andrew Hosman  
Skyler Mikunas  
Brendan Powers

Tom Southern  
Zachary Stueve  
Jay Wilkinson  
Nick Botticelli  
Simon Gonzalez  
Sean O'Donnell  
Michael Salvaggio  
Brian Bowden  
Cole Couture  
Matthew Delulis  
Derek Dellisola  
Ryan Dzengelewski  
Dmietri Finelli  
Owen Hill

Check out the next edition of the Eagle Update for SJS winter sports: basketball, cheerleading and ski club!

### DO YOU LIKE TO RUN??

If you are interested in joining SJS Cross Country, look for signups right after school begins next September!

# St. John's Parish Fall & Christmas Fair: A Fun Day and a Big Success

**By: Maddie Frisella**

If you drove by the school gym on Saturday, October 17, you probably saw a lot going on! This was the day of the St. John's Parish Fair and a lot of our school's families attended. The fair is a big event for the church and we recently interviewed Mrs. Debbie Ryan, who coordinated the event.



The planning for the fair starts as soon as the last year's fair is finished. In the months right before the Fair date, she works every day on planning. This year, she ran the planning by herself as she took over the responsibilities from someone who retired.

The fair used to be a Christmas fair, but this past year was moved to October. According to Mrs. Ryan, this was for a few reasons. First, a suggestion was made to have our fair to be before other school fairs, and second because, some people requested it be earlier, because as you get closer to Christmas, the weather might make it more difficult for people to get around.



The gym is filled with many tables including fall and winter items for sale. There were lots of decorations and crafts including clay jewelry, doggie coats, handmade soaps and hand-crafted pens. There was also lunch and snacks for sale throughout the day.

The most popular table this year was the "Charity Table". Charities are invited to sell their goods and this year we had beads made of paper by the Macrobead Charity Village in Uganda. For kids, there was the Children's Craft Corner where you could decorate a cookie, make a fall or Christmas craft.

Mrs. Ryan says that the most challenging part of her job is that there is only one person in charge and no one to share the responsibility such as paperwork. She did have lots of help with six people in charge of the major areas. Next year she hopes to have more of a real planning committee. Her hope is to make the fair more appealing for families and children. Mrs. Ryan and Father John have talked about getting more people to make things or donate items to sell at the fair. They are always looking for ideas and suggestions from anyone.

Mrs. Ryan really enjoyed her work on the Parish Fair this year. She met new people and became close, with those who volunteered. Thank you, Mrs. Ryan for all you did to make it such a wonderful event!



# FUN PAGE

Word Scramble By: Hannah French

Coloring Pictures By: Amanda Hatfield

## WINTER WORD SCRAMBLE

TASSICHMR  
 EUJSS  
 NLEO  
 ERET  
 ANTAS  
 SEVEL  
 LIMFAY  
 OOCKEIS  
 DENSRFI  
 EIECJRO



### Contributing Reporters 2009-2010

- |                   |                     |                  |
|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| James Dellisola   | Vivian Diaz         | Olivia Mathews   |
| Alyse Diamantides | Jessica Enos        | Bailey Peicott   |
| Erin Roe          | Hannah French       | Veronica Sanchez |
| Adam Ryan         | Maddie Frisella     | Xenia Tseitlin   |
| Ian Ryan          | Ernilia Higinbotham |                  |
| Jay Wilkinson     | Sarena Santos       |                  |
| Analise Arnold    | Samantha Scalfani   |                  |
| Tina Bartolomeo   | Maria Chaghouri     |                  |
| Meghan Derby      | Amanda Hatfield     |                  |

- |                 |                     |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Parent Advisor  | Mrs Josie Wilkinson |
| Faculty Advisor | Mrs. C-T            |

