

The Golden Eagle



Administrator News

This is the last edition of the Golden Eagle for the school year and tradition holds that we say a couple words about the future, I have three. Driving in this morning, thinking about the days ahead for CPES, I reflected on the words, growth, change and adaptation.

Growth is a very positive word and implies expansion, bigness and value. You think about the growth cycle, wonderful days of development culminating at the harvest. . . followed by gradual decline. It seems everything has its season and its peak moment from plants and animals to human endeavor. We all seem to rise and fall. Sure it's a cycle, but what if you feel you on the downhill slide. Spring can seem a long ways away.

Change is obvious and necessary. Regardless of our situation most of us would become restless if things always stayed the same. Change brings excitement and energy to life, but it can also mean danger and anxiety. There is a definite down side to change.

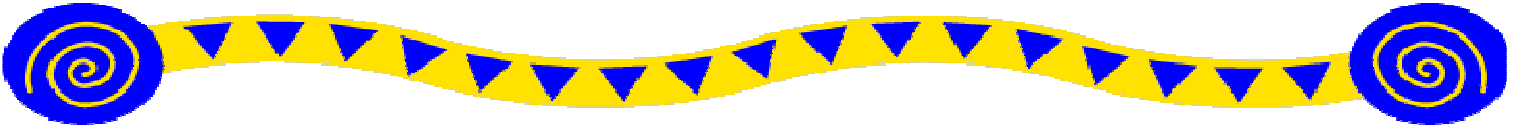
Adaptation remains and it has a lot going for it. Trees that bend easiest in the wind seldom crack and fall. Animals that are the most resourceful thrive and multiply. It would seem flexibility and the ability to make the most from a given situation is the proper metaphor for the future of CPES. The problem with adaptation is that humans aren't very good at it. Rather than change to fit our surrounding we change the environment to suit us. If we want a mountain in the desert (pyramid) we make one. If we don't like the way the water flows we dig great canals or build mighty dams For us adaptation feels like selling out, as if we were being unfaithful to ourselves. As a person of advanced years I can feel that way at times. It may seem like all the values I was raised with have been replaced with pale imitators and I must hold on to my beliefs lest they be washed away in the rush of time.

Perhaps it is best to look at the example of Jesus. His message never changed but he did adapt it for his audience. When people had lost faith in their churches and synagogues he went out to meet them in the streets. He ate and drank with undesirables, accepting them for who they were, while at the same time encouraging them to do better. Jesus had a vision for humankind that never waived, in spite of overwhelming obstacles his message endures.

CPES will endure. Our values and mission may sound different to a changing world but our message will remain the same. Our methods will adapt to a new generation of students as we help them grow to into their full potential. We will not fear change nor rigidly stand our ground when the situation calls us to reach out. Our God has given us the tools we need to succeed, we pray for the courage to use them wisely.



~Mr. Gerard Stepanek



PRECIOUS HEARTS PRESCHOOL

Prayer is part of every day for the preschool students.

Reading Dr. Seuss stories in March was a lot of fun. The students made, ate and liked green eggs and ham!

Experiments are being done with bean and lettuce seeds. Planting was messy.

Spending a day with the kindergartners previewing the classroom and activities showed the preschool students what they had to look forward to.

Counting to 100 is a challenge the preschoolers have met.

Hearing, tasting, smelling, seeing, feeling. The five sense the students have been studying.

On Wednesdays the students participate in Mass, library and music. A full, fast day of activities.

One great class has one quarter of school left to study spring, summer, creation and more.

Landon Buechel, Addison Casper, Brady Freund, Luke Graf, Cole Schaefer, Joseph Volz, Grace Wagner, Keaton Wagner, Madelyn Wahl will be the graduating preschool class of 2011.

~Mrs. Kay Hellman

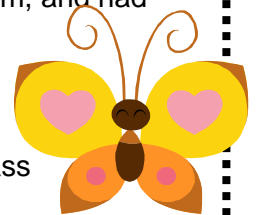
Kindergarten Korner

It's hard to believe that the school year is coming to an end! We have had so much fun in Kindergarten this year. We have been busy meeting all of the alphafriends, learning new words, and even learning addition and subtraction. We were also very blessed to have the Future Kindergartners spend a morning in our classroom so we could teach them all about Kindergarten. Together, we all learned about worms! We also showed them around our classroom, and had time to play in different centers with them.

This spring as we plant flowers, learn about the life cycle of the butterfly and talk about pond life. In social studies we will be learning about America in the past, present, and future. We will continue to learn more about Jesus and how we can be more like Him every day. The kindergartners have been participating in mass weekly and they have even begun to stand up and read!

The school year will end with an alphabet countdown, Kindergarten graduation, and an "I Can" performance. This wonderful class is ready to move onto First Grade!

~ Miss Samantha Schmalzer



First Grade News

The First Graders have really made progress throughout the year. Now they are looking forward to being in second grade, already knowing how to read, write sentences and stories, add, subtract, tell simple time, and learning more about how much God loves them. Here is what they liked most about first grade: Emma Wagner remembers way back to when she met her new teacher, Madeline Boehnlein, Hannah Judkins, and Rebacca Volz liked learning how to tell time, Katheryn Klapperich and Courtney Schaefer liked being timed during "Rocket Math," Mason Buechel and Noah Ditter liked learning more about space and the planets, Zander Casper and Maddie Ferguson enjoyed doing Science projects, Paige Halbach liked learning in Social Studies, Emma Lefeber enjoyed making books in Health, Anna Jacobs had fun on our field trip to the farm, Hunter Lisowe likes to read in any subject, and Amanda Sheldon enjoyed Religion class because it's all about Jesus. During the last weeks of First Grade, we will continue to give God glory by doing our best and spreading His love in the process.

~Mrs. Dede Compton



Second Grade News

The second graders recently read a story called, "The Great Ball Game". The story was fiction but one of the main characters was a bat. After reading the story we read a book about bats and the students found many interesting facts about them. The ones they were most surprised about were that they have been on Earth for about 50 million years, there are about 1,000 different kinds, they aren't all black or brown some are white with red tips on their fur and they can also be a silver grey, they clean themselves like cats with their tongue, and those that live in cold climates will either hibernate or migrate. We kept a list of facts and the students then chose eight facts and wrote a report on bats.

The students have also been learning about time in Math. They have learned different ways to read time using the words minutes after, minutes before, quarter to, quarter after, and half past. They have also worked on some story problems and did a little work with elapsed time. Their final activity was to design a watch face and band.

~Mrs. Linda Escher



Third Grade News

During the Lenten Season, the third graders are focusing on the Stations of the Cross. To begin, they read little booklets to guide them through the stations. Next, we discussed Jesus' journey throughout each station. During these lessons the children were recognizing the path of Jesus, and all he endured during the Way of the Cross. Finally, in preparation for our Lenten Season, the children have been working towards their Lenten promises. Their promises, more precious than gold, were written on pots of gold for the holiday season of St. Patrick. Thanks to all the third graders and their families for their help and support in making their commitments to their promises.

The third graders have successfully completed their lowercase cursive letters. The children are excited to have mastered all their lowercase letters. That means that they are able to begin writing in cursive. They have had some practice writing their spelling words in cursive. Now, they will be incorporating other subjects into cursive. The children will start with writing their language arts assignments in cursive and then move into writing their reading assignments in cursive. The more the children practice writing in cursive, the more comfortable they will become. We are currently working on the capital letters in cursive. The third graders still have more letters to learn, but they will continue to practice writing with ease in cursive for the remainder of the school year.

Our third graders biggest accomplishment these past few weeks has been learning how to multiply. The third graders were introduced to the different types of multiplication concepts to use when multiplying. First, the children were taught how to use models to introduce the meaning of multiplication. Secondly, they were taught how to skip count using the factors. Next, they were shown how to use repeated addition to multiply. Lastly, they were taught how to use arrays or pictures to explore the multiplication concepts. The third graders had the opportunity to explore which operation worked best for them when solving a multiplication problem. Overall, our little math magicians are magically learning to memorize their multiplication facts.

~ Mrs. Amber Schwerin



Grade 4

It is hard to believe that we are already in the fourth quarter. The fourth grade has worked very hard this school year and has accomplished many great achievements.

In April, the fourth graders will be part of the second annual Weather Day at Miller Park. All St. Cloud students will participate as the Storm Team 4 meteorologists conduct an educational program that combines weather and baseball. After the presentation, there will be an interactive Science Fair, followed by the Brewer baseball game against the Atlanta Braves. I'm sure the students and teachers will enjoy this great opportunity for a day of education and fun.

~Mrs. Sharon Allen



Middle School Language Arts News

Students in Mrs. Christianson's language arts classes have been busy with reviewing both grammar and the writing process. Students in sixth, seventh, and eighth grade have been working on observing the world around them while focusing on the five sense. Seventh and eighth graders spent a few days studying semantic gradients and creating power points to explain their word choices. Semantic gradients involve using two extreme word opposites and building an idea like "hot" into an idea like "freezing" using the different shades of meanings of words in between these two opposites. The focus of this lesson was to have the students become more aware of the meanings of the words they choose when they write. In the coming weeks all fifth through eighth grade students will be concentrating on various aspects of the writing process.

As for the students who are taking studying Spanish, we are in the process of finishing up unit three which introduced lots of new vocabulary. The work has become a bit more challenging, though. We hope to finish chapter four by the end of the year.

~Mrs. Amy Christianson



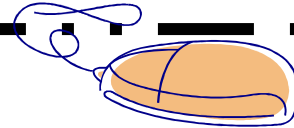
Miss Morlock's Classroom

In Miss Morlock's classroom the students have been very busy discovering new ideas. In math class the fifth grade students are exploring measurement; they have been measuring length, volume, and weight. With each type of measurement the students learn the Customary System and the Metric System. The seventh grade students finished a fraction stock project. The students tracked four stocks for about a month and analyzed the data. After the students analyzed the data using their math computation skills and they used Excel. I think that many of them discovered the usefulness of Excel. In science class the students are working with many types of energy. As the weather gets nicer out each science class will study weather and landforms.

~Miss Christine Morlock



Mrs. Paczkowski's
Bits 'n Bytes and other 'Stuff'



Blue is the new popular color in the computer lab at St. John. The entire old workhorse Power Macs have finally been replaced by bondi blue iMacs. The newer machines are quite a hit with primary students. The new Kid Pix program has a lot of 'cool' features and the CD Rom versions of Treasure MathStorm and Word Munchers have been very popular. A LCD projector enables the students to see a projected image of the computer screen and helps in the explanation of programs. Wow!

In Math class the fourth graders have worked on multi digit multiplication and long division problems. Reviewing math facts online

Art News

There is a lot of creativity in the art classes at CPES these days! Kindergarten students have made great strides in their skills and just finished some beautiful paintings of parrots. First and second grade students had some big challenges—they learned to thread a needle, tie a knot and do some basic embroidery stitches. The flowers and hearts stitched by these classes are on display in the Johnsburg building. Now the 1st grade is working on a mural entitled "Hooray! It's Spring" while the 2nd grade is making portraits in the style of Pablo Picasso. He is famous for putting facial features in strange places so these portraits brought out the giggles!

Collage was the subject of the latest project done by the 3rd grade. After cutting out some pictures of birds from magazines, they drew and colored an environment for the birds. After gluing the birds to the paper they also added some tissue paper blossoms and leaves. They will next be studying mosaic while making a Lenten cross.

The 4th grade class has learned patience! They have done some projects that took several weeks each and are currently finishing up a stitching project. As they can all tell you, stitching is a design on fabric using thread or yarn. Some types of this are tapestry or embroidery. Their designs used felt to make a bird and then stitching to complete the design.

You should see the beautiful stained glass art that was done by the 5th and 6th grade! They did not use glass, but tissue and black paper cut-outs were the next best thing. They are now going to start a project that uses African Kente cloth as their inspiration. I think the results will be interesting and the students will have a lot of fun with it.

7th and 8th grade students recently had a sketch assignment to design a T shirt for Walleye Weekend. I took the entries in and the festival committee was very excited to see them. They had very creative ideas! Right now they are working on making a design on a tile using stamps that they create themselves. This involves planning the design, preparing the tile and the final stamping or printing of the design.

Lastly, be sure to stop in to the Johnsburg campus to take a look at the Spring art show. It will be on display starting Grandparent/Special Person's Day (April 20) and remain up until May 9th. Each student in grades K-8 will have 2 or more works in the show. I can't wait to see it myself and hope you get the chance to view it also! Happy Spring!

~ Mrs. Mary Bowe



Music News



Put on your sunscreen; grab your blankets and towels and head for the 2011 CPES Spring Concert. It's time to get your summer groove on as the students present, "Summer, Sun and the Beach Boys." It's a fast-paced, upbeat and fun salute to summer and sun featuring eight Beach Boys songs along with other fun activities in song such as flying a kite and going on picnics. In between song sets, 16 student instrumentalists will display their skills with solos. The date for the concert is Thursday, May 12, at 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. This year, we will be having the concert at the Divine Savior New Holstein campus gymnasium due to scheduling conflicts with St. Lawrence High School Seminary. For those of you unfamiliar with the place, the gymnasium is between the Divine Savior School and the Holy Rosary Church in New Holstein. There is ample parking for everyone.

In other exciting Music news, the Music Department purchased 15 new mini-keyboards for use in the classroom. Although we have had only one opportunity to use them so far, the students are very eager to learn about and play the keyboards. Funds for these mini-keyboards came from monies collected at the Christmas and Spring concerts.

The 7th/8th Grades did some studying about the great classical composers. Each student had to choose one of the "greats" on which to write a report. For extra credit, the students made posters about their chosen composer. You will find these posters displayed in the hall across from the Music Room at St. Cloud campus. The 4th-8th Grade students also studied the components of a Grand Staff, key signatures and notation. The PreK-4 through 3rd Grades have been learning rhythm counting and stories expressed as music and movement, specifically ballet and the "Nutcracker Suite" by Tchaikovsky. In the coming weeks, the Johnsburg campus students will see the further adventures of "The Lollipop Dragon" series as he helps his friends learn more about music. They will also continue the adventures of "Mr. Treble Clef" as he, too, tries to help his friends learn about music notation.

~Miss Nadine Guckeisen

Physical Education

Our students of C.P.E.S. have recently started their Presidential Fitness test. These will include tests that measure muscular strength, cardiovascular endurance, and flexibility. Students will be doing sit-ups, pull-ups, and a shuttle run to measure muscular strength. They will be doing the sit and reach or v-sit to measure their flexibility. To measure their cardiovascular endurance the students will be running the mile run, once the weather gets nicer. There are three categories in the test that indicate how well an individual has done. The Presidential Award is achieved if a student's score is above the 85th percentile in all five events. The national award is achieved if a student's score is at or above the 50th percentile in all five events but fall short of the 85th percentile in one or more events. The Participant award is given to students whose test scores fall below the 50th percentile in one or more events, but completed the fitness test.

Planning is under way for our spring soccer program. This will be our eleventh year. This clinic is held at the Saint Lawrence Seminary in Mount Calvary. The soccer clinic is open to all C.P.E.S. students. We will be inviting students from Shepherd of the Hills school to join us again. The seminary boys that are on the soccer team conduct this program. They really do a nice job teaching our students new soccer skills.

~Mr. Lenny Riemersma



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