



Paw Prints

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Paw Prints is e-mailed to you every Thursday. Please open it and read the bold print to determine if you need to continue reading the items that pertain to you. Thanks!

Important Dates:

Friday 12/18 - 8:00 All School Mass

Last day of school before Christmas Break. Merry Christmas!

Monday 1/4 - First day back from Christmas break

Click [here](#) for the lunch menu!

Principally Speaking

A family friend sent the following poem with her Christmas card this year, and I felt it expressed my Christmas wish for all of you! May God continue to bless you and your families now and in the New Year.

Our Christmas Wish for You...

Family to surround you,

Love beyond measure

Mercy beyond understanding

Compassion that inspires you,

Faith that moves mountains,

Trials that make you rely on Christ, and

Success that brings glory to God's name.

- Kathy Bessler

Yours in Christ,

Mrs. Jill Lonnemann



Counselor's Corner:

Dear Ms. Rauen,

My student always has such a hard time coming back to school after the long holiday break. I would like to make things easier this year and was wondering if you had any advice. How can I help my student transition back to school after a long holiday break?

Sincerely,

Fearful of Festivities Fatigue

Dear Fearful of Festivities Fatigue,

Just like with the summer break, it can be difficult for students to return to school after the holidays. Here are a few tips to help your student make the transition back to school:

- **Try to keep to a regular sleep schedule.** It is easy for bedtimes to become lax over the holiday break because there is so much going on. This also encourages students to spend more time in front of the computer, TV or video games. A few days before returning to school, try to cut back on the screen time while also easing back into a reasonable bedtime.
- **Get Organized.** Take the time off as an opportunity to check in with your child about their school supplies. Also, go through their backpack and clean out any unnecessary papers. By restocking school supplies and cleaning the backpack, it'll help your student feel prepared when returning to school.
- **Give your child something to look forward to.** If your child is having a difficult time leaving you, find something that will help them look forward to the return to school. You can see if their teacher has anything fun planned the first week back or you can even plan something fun as a family like a game night or a movie night with hot chocolate.
- **Be positive.** Take a moment and reassure your student about all the good things they enjoyed about school before they left for the break. Be positive and stress all the good things that will happen when they return to school.

Have a question for the counselor?? Email me at nrauen@teachers.stpiusx.com.

Ms. Nikki Rauen
School Counselor/Academic Resource
St. Pius X School
859-341-4900 x109



Healthy Tip of the Week:

Limit TV, computer and video game time to a total of one to two hours per day. Encourage physical activity instead.



Sixth Grade

The 6th grade attended a conservation presentation by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife. This was the second in a series of five presentations they will attend this year. In this presentation, the students learned about the hunting laws in Kentucky and which animals are allowed to be hunted when. They discussed the benefits of legally hunting Kentucky wildlife as well as the safety concerns that all hunters need to be aware and careful of. The students especially enjoyed when the conservation officer showed them a real elk horn and allowed a few of them to demonstrate how to use a device that makes a turkey call.



Seventh Grade

Seventh grade math students are applying their knowledge of geometry: discovering similar figures, applying indirect measurement, and creating scale models and scale drawings. Please stop by the seventh grade hallway and admire the combination math/art work. These students are quite creative! Scientific study in seventh grade has taken on a new dimension as students explore the different systems of the human body. They are busily engaged in making and creating models and demonstrating how our magnificent muscles operate efficiently. To round out their studies, students are creating a five day plan of healthy eating, helping to ensure that adolescent digestive systems are receiving enough nutrients daily.

Reading *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens has created a festive mood in language arts. Getting to know the miserly Ebenezer Scrooge and witnessing his change of heart has touched us and renewed our faith in the goodness of the human spirit. *God Bless Us, Every One!*

Eighth Grade

For many years our 8th graders have been responsible for making the parish Advent Giving Tree a success. Recently they created 1,000 ornaments - each representing a gift request from one of the many agencies seeking Christmas presents for their clients. Included this year are the New Hope Center, Welcome House, Mary Rose Mission, and many others.

As the gifts are brought to church and placed in the vestibule, we will take time to gather and sort them. On a Sunday during Advent students will help load the trucks to send the gifts on their way and will feel a sense of satisfaction for a job well done! The eighth graders are happy to be the hands of Christ for others with this blessed project!



Volunteer Opportunities!

- **Club Picture Volunteers Needed:**
We are in need of two parent volunteers to help coordinate club pictures this year. The pictures are scheduled to be taken by Lifetouch on Wednesday, January 20th beginning at 8:00 a.m. and ending most likely around 11:00-11:30 a.m. The volunteers would be responsible for helping to facilitate the pictures by letting the office know when the photographer is ready for the next group of students (so that they can be called down from class) as well as helping to keep order and stick to the schedule so that each scheduled group gets their picture taken. If you are Virtus trained and may be available to help that day, please contact Ms. Christy Wissman at cwissman@teachers.stpiusx.com for more information. Thank you for your help!
- **Copy Volunteer Needed:** We are in need of a Virtus trained volunteer to make copies once a week on Friday mornings. Please contact Mrs. Jill Lonnemann if you are interested.

2ND ANNUAL WINE TASTING



January 9th in Milligan Hall, 7-11pm
Enjoy a night of wine tasting, chatting, and celebrating surviving Christmas Break.

How this all works

- You'll be participating in groups of two. Grab your significant other or one of your friends
- Decide if you're entering red or white... then bring 3 bottles of your favorite to enter in the tasting (Be sure all three bottles are the same wine)
- Bring all three bottles the night of the tasting - we'll sort and number for you
- Two of your bottles will be put out for tasting - the third is a donation to Enchanted Evening's Lift Your Spirits
- Roam around chatting, catching up and sampling wines
- Tasting will begin at 7:30pm and end at 10:30pm

What do I win?

\$50 Gift Card to [Sotto](#) in Downtown Cincinnati

At-the-door Pricing: \$20 per person

We'll have beer available for those not drinking wine.

Click [here](#) for more information.

Get your tickets here

<http://bit.ly/EEWineTasting>



Many of you know Gary and Donna Erpenbeck and their son Alex, an 8th grade student at St. Pius X. He was diagnosed with both Epilepsy and Type 1 diabetes in 2013. It has been a struggle for them as Alex may have seizures several times a day. The condition he has is being treated, but no progress has been made in helping him overcome the seizures as well as taking daily insulin shots. At some time, they face the real possibility of brain surgery.

Please read Alex's story in the link below. Any help you could provide would greatly help the financial difficulty that the family is under and will continue to face in the years ahead.

I'm sure there are many people who are unaware of the severity of Alex's medical condition. Please think of sharing Alex's story with people you know.

<https://www.gofundme.com/friendsofalex>



Last week Student Council held the annual Penny War. As a school, we raised over \$2,000! All money was donated to Catholic Charities. First grade won a pizza party by bringing in the most pennies. Eighth grade won hot chocolate and a movie party for bringing in the most money. Great job, St. Pius Panthers!

ODDS AND ENDS-

- **The youth group** is having a movie/game night Friday Dec 18th in the Parish Meeting Rooms starting at 6:30 pm. We will be watching the movie *Facing the Giants* with games to follow. End time is 11:00pm. Kids should feel free to bring a snack to share. Open to 6-12th grades. Click [here](#) for more information.
- **City of Edgewood Upcoming Events:**
 - [Women's Self Defense Class](#)
 - [Winter Fitness](#)
 - [Town and Country Night](#)
 - [Lazer Kraze](#)
 - [Skate Nights](#)
- **Interested in learning about girls lacrosse?** Notre Dame High School will be hosting a "Lacrosse Day" for grades 3rd - 8th for all schools in Northern Kentucky on Sunday, January 17th, from 2:00-4:00! The day will be filled with activities for the

girls to come out and have fun while learning the game of lacrosse. Registration begins on the 17th and runs till the 24th of January. Please feel free to contact me, Matt Branum at Mattbranum@gmail.com or 859-743-0183, if you have any questions or need any additional information.

- **Next up for the Enchanted Evening Committee?**
 - As always, save the date for the Enchanted Evening February 13th at Summit Hills Country Club - ticket information coming soon.
- **Playground Duty Openings!** Please contact Kathy Carnes at Kathleen.carnes@dinslaw.com to help out or for more information.
- **Remke Reloadable Gift Cards** are available at the school or church office. Kroger Community Rewards program is available by registering your Kroger Plus Card and designating SPX at www.krogercommunityrewards.com.
- **Diocesan Facebook Page!** - The Diocese of Covington has a Facebook page that shares the good news of our schools with everyone we can. Check out all the exciting things happening in our schools at <https://www.facebook.com/faithfillededucation?ref=hl>.
- **World Youth Day 2016** - Registration is now open for the Diocese of Covington's pilgrimage to Krakow, Poland, July 24 through August 2, 2016! Itinerary, cost, and registration details are included in the [attached](#) pamphlet.
- **SPX Has An App!** We use our SchoolWay app as one way to notify you of important announcements. If you have not had a chance to download the free app from the app store, do it today! See <http://myschoolway.com/StPius> for more information.

Discipline for Life

The mission of St. Pius X School is to promote the spiritual, academic, and personal growth of each child by embracing the Gospel values of Jesus Christ. St. Pius X School provides an exemplary Catholic education that helps students to be successful in their families, their communities, and the world.