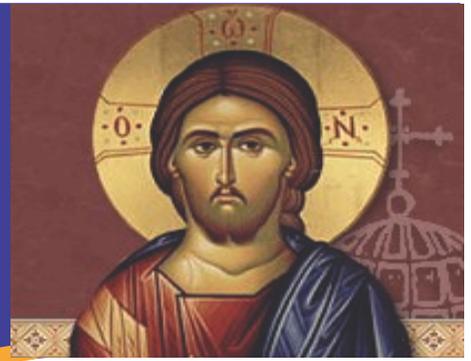


St. Michael's School



From the Teacher's Desk

The classrooms have been a bustle of activity this year. After the Christmas break we began several new studies, including a watercolor painting series based on a progression of Old Testament stories beginning with Genesis. These vibrant paintings of Adam and Eve in the garden, Noah's Ark, the Tower of Babel and others, are now on exhibit on the classroom walls.



Another class began a U.S.A. study of American symbols, the fifty states, and their capitals. They drew lovely colored pictures of the American national bird, the bald eagle, and a portrait of George Washington. They also learned the age-old skill of weaving using a small lap loom, and each made a small pouch from their weaving.



As spring approaches, it's time to ready the vegetable garden for planting. Everyone has had a hand at pruning the fruit trees in the orchard, clearing out the overgrown pyracantha hedge, and learning to plant large shrubs. Four new rhododendron plants now border our vegetable garden.

Pascha is almost here. *Popidija* Christina helped us make our own *kulich*, the traditional sweet bread for the feast. Later we will make the delicious creamy Pascha cheese to serve with it. Each student will have one to take home and share.

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Orthodox Christian Education Conference in Boston

A new organization called Orthodox Schools Association will be holding their Second Annual Conference this year at the Hellenic College in Boston, August 1 - 2.

The director of the association is very interested in the educational philosophy of St. Michael's and has invited Fr. Dcn. James to speak. His lecture is entitled "Using Narration to Educate the Powers of the Soul".

Although St. Michael's School only has from 10-16 students during any given year, their web site has drawn national attention and has several hundred visits to the site each month. www.stmichaelschool.us



Grant for Scholarships. If you know of a child who needs financial assistance to attend St. Michael's School, or if you would like to contribute to the scholarship fund, please contact Fr. Dcn. James Hughes at 545-0861.

Special Event!

Friday, May 2

A St Michael's School Fundraiser

Dîner de Champagne

Doors open at 6:00 Dinner served at 7:00

\$30.00 adult \$10.00 children 6-12

Call Lara Anderson for Tickets @ 569-0175



Children thrive in a warm, personal setting...
and this is what we maintain at St. Michael's School

Rocket Science

The students of St. Michael's were treated to a series of classes in rocket building thanks to the generosity of volunteer, Anthony Hopkins. Anthony donated his time and energy to teach the children the basics of rocketry over the period of a few weeks at the end of which they tested their rocket designs at a local park. It was a beautiful autumnal day when the rockets were launched high up in the sky, opened, and parachuted down to the ground.



St Michael's School Celtic Festival

Join the Fun! Saturday, May 31 @ 1521 Rose Ave. Come to this family friendly outdoor festival and enjoy traditional Celtic music and dancing, teas, pastries, and food. There will be crafts, "traditional" Scottish games, and a couple of auctions as well! Learn more about early Christianity in the Celtic civilizations or take a tour of St. Michael's School given by the children themselves! This is an excellent opportunity for those of you who are thinking of sending your children to the school to come and see it for yourself. All proceeds benefit St. Michael's School. For more information please contact Fr. David Skopp at 545-5688.

St. Michael's is now accepting applications for the 2008-2009 school year.



"If artists who make statues and paint portraits of kings are held in high esteem, will not God bless ten thousand times more those who reveal and beautify His royal Image - for man is made in the image of God? When we teach our children to be good, to be gentle, to be forgiving (all these are attributes of God), to be generous, to love their fellow men, to regard this present age as nothing, we install virtue in their souls, and reveal the image of God within them. This, then, is our task: to educate both ourselves and our children in godliness."

St. John Chrysostom

Fundraising Efforts bottles

Thanks to all who have participated in our recycled plastic bottle drive. We surpassed our goal of \$500.00 by raising \$659.18! When we started this program we had no idea how much money we could raise but we were humbled by how steady our donors were. In fact, one donor from Oakmont read the article in November's newsletter about the school's field trip to the Balclutha in San Francisco. Apparently, this donor was one of the major benefactors behind the restoration of this beautiful sailing vessel. How surprised he was to read about the field trip and what a wonderful experience for him to see the children from St. Michael's benefit from his endeavors! He even sent the school a video about its restoration! The funds raised will be used toward the purchase of a projector so we can show educational DVDs like the one so generously donated by our Oakmont donor. Special thanks also to Fusion Fitness for gathering bottles for us week after week.

bowling

In November and in February, St. Michael's held a fundraising night at Double Decker Lanes in Rohnert Park. Those who attended enjoyed two hours of bowling, pizza and soda. All the lanes we reserved were booked full! Thank you to all who came. Thank you also to Tari and Troy Webber who organized the event, and most of all, thank you to Double Decker Lanes who donated 25% of the proceeds to St. Michael's School. It was a fun family night.

Christmas

This past Christmas we sent out an appeal letter to the friends of St. Michael's. Over \$8,000 was raised from our generous supporters from near and far and that amount has been matched as well! This will go toward the general funds of St. Michael's School. Thank you and may God bless you all who have contributed toward the school.



St. Michael's School is now accepting applications for the 2008-2009 school year.