

Principal's Paragraphs

I Pledge Allegiance.... Do you remember saying the pledge of allegiance in school when you were a child? We still say it today. In fact, it's a requirement of the State of Illinois that it is said every day at school. At St. Paul we not only say the pledge to the flag, but we also say the pledge to the cross.

Since Christmas break we have been using the intercom to have 7th and 8th grade students lead the entire school in saying the pledges together. For the first couple of weeks I was in the office with the students making sure they turned on the intercom correctly. Now that they know what they are doing, I've been standing in the 8th grade doorway saying the pledge with my students. While I'm standing in the doorway I can hear my students recite the pledges, but I can also hear the sixth graders and fifth graders from down the hallway. It's really a pretty cool experience knowing that all of us upstairs, as well as all the other classrooms, are joining together as a family to recite the pledge to the flag and the pledge to the cross.

St. Paul definitely has a family atmosphere. You can see it through the love and respect the teachers have for the students and you can see it in the love and respect the children have for their teachers. But it goes beyond that. That love and respect is also shown student to student and teacher to teacher. Add to that the cooperation, teamwork and volunteerism we have with parents, the wonderful support we receive from the St. Paul congregation and you can see that St. Paul Lutheran School is a very special place. We are not perfect. Just as with all families, we have our times of sin and conflict. But, just as the pledge to the cross ends, "with mercy and grace for all," we all under God's mercy, grace and forgiveness.

What a blessing it is to be a part of St. Paul Lutheran School. May the mercy, grace and forgiveness of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ continue to be the center of our school!

CHAPEL – Chapel service this week is at 8:40 a.m. today. Everybody is cordially invited to join us for our weekly chapel. This week **2nd Grade** will be leading chapel. Chapel offerings on February 1st were \$62.50.

SPELLING BEE WINNER – Congratulations to St. Paul Spelling Bee champion Katherine Bakken and runner up Hannah Tesreau! Katherine will represent our school in the Lee/Ogle Spelling Bee in Dixon on February 23rd. Good luck Katherine!

CANDY BAR SALE – Thank you to everyone who is helping the PTL raise money through the annual candy sale. The sale has been a huge success so far! Keep up the good work! We ask that all money for the candy be turned in by Friday, February 17th. In order to qualify for the top seller the money must be turned in by that date. THANKS!

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday:	3:00-4:30 p.m. Var Boys Practice 5:30 p.m. Girls vs Steward
Tuesday:	5:30 p.m. Boys at Freeport 5:30 p.m. Girls vs Kings
Wednesday:	8:40 a.m. Chapel – 2nd Grade 3:00-5:00 p.m. Girls BB Practice KINDERGARTEN DAYS
Thursday:	3:00-4:30 p.m. Var Boys Practice 4:30-6:00 p.m. JV Boys Practice 5:30 p.m. Girls at Cornerstone KINDERGARTEN DAYS
Friday:	JV Girls at St Paul Rockford Tournament Var Boys at Elgin Tournament
Saturday:	JV Girls at St Paul Rockford Tournament Var Boys at Elgin Tournament 6:00 p.m. Church Service
Sunday:	9:00 a.m. Church Service 6th/7th/8th Grade Choir Sing Var Boys at Elgin Tournament
Next Monday:	3:00-4:30 p.m. Market Day Pickup 3:00-4:15 p.m. Yearbook Meeting 4:30-6:00 p.m. Cheer Practice

KINDERGARTEN DAYS – Kindergarten Days for students in Mrs. Reineck and Mrs. Bialas' 4 year-old pre-school classes will be held Wednesday, February 8th at 10:00-10:45 a.m., 12:30-1:00 p.m., 2:15-2:45 p.m. and 6:00-6:30 p.m., and Thursday, February 9th at 10:15-10:45 a.m. and 2:15-2:45 p.m. Please contact the school office if you have any questions.

45th ANNUAL 5/6 BOYS TOURNAMENT – Our annual tournament is on February 24th and 25th. We are looking for people to do scorebook, clock, and to help in the kitchen with concessions. Sign-up sheets for food donations and work schedules are included with this week's Gazette. We need everyone's help to make this tournament a success again this year. There will also be a sign-up in the hall. If you're interested in helping with the scorebook or clock, contact Mr. Kruse. To help with concessions, contact the school office.

BUS SERVICE – There will be no bus service on Friday, February 17th. Please make the proper arrangements.

EIGHTH GRADE NIGHT 2012 – Make plans now to support our 8th graders at this year's eighth grade night. This will be at the February 21st game against St Paul Rockford. GO CRUSADERS!!!!

3-YEAR-OLD AND 4-YEAR-OLD PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION – Pre-Kindergarten registration information for the 2012-13 school year was mailed to St. Paul member families with Pre-Kindergarten aged children and families with children that are currently enrolled at St. Paul. Our policy is to fill the classes on a first-come, first-served basis and therefore encourage members to register early to avoid disappointment. Priority for enrollment is given to members of St. Paul Lutheran Church and current students in the 3-year-old program. However, enrollment will be open to other families on Tuesday, February 21st. Those who do not register by that date will lose their priority status. Anyone who would like registration materials should contact the school office.

FINANCIAL AID – Parents may now apply for financial aid for the 2012-2013 school year. Applications for financial aid are made online at www.tuitionaid.com. All parents wishing to receive financial aid, including those who received aid this year, must complete an application for the 2012-2013 school year. Contact the school office if you have any questions about the application process. Applications should be completed by May 15th in order to be considered for financial aid.

BOX TOP CONTEST – The Kindergarten through 4th grade classes will earn a snowman part for every 50 Box Tops collected. The first class to build a full snowman wins a pajama day and movie party. In the 5th through 8th grade classes, the first class to collect 500 Box Tops wins an ice cream treat. Help out our school and send in your Box Tops!

EMERGENCY CLOSING INFORMATION - In the event of severe weather, parents will be contacted via the AlertNow phone call system. Also, WRHL radio (1060AM, 102.3FM), WTVO TV (channel 17), and WIFR TV (channel 23) will announce if our school will be closed.

MARKET DAY – Market Day pickup is February 13th!

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

St. Paul Lutheran School, Rochelle, IL, admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to the students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school administered programs.

YOUR CHILD ABSENT? Don't forget to call the school office (562-6323) before 8:45a.m.

The Mission of St. Paul Lutheran Church & School
Building relationships in Christ
now and forever!