



Established 1897

# SCHOOL NEWS

"The human spirit is never finished when it is defeated... it is finished when it surrenders."  
- Ben Stein

## Events Calendar

**Tuesday, Nov. 30**

**Last Day for entries to Scrip Customer Appreciation Raffle**

*(Every \$100 in scrip purchased, earns you one entry into a raffle to win a \$250 Walmart/Sam's Club gift card)*



**Wednesday, Dec. 1  
Scrip Raffle Winner Announced**



**Saturday, Dec. 4  
SMPS Christmas Craft Fair**  
*(Angelus Center, 9 am - 3 pm)*



**Thursday, Dec. 9  
SMPS Christmas Play**  
*(School Hall)  
Morning, afternoon, and 7pm performances*



**Friday, Dec. 10  
\$1 United Way Dress Down**  
*Proceeds go to United Way*



**Dec. 14, 16 & 17  
Junior High Exams**



**Friday, Dec. 17  
Spelling Bee**  
*(School Hall, 1:30 pm)*



**Monday, Dec. 20  
Noon Dismissal**

## Everything You Need to Know About SMPS...

Bookmark our school website:  
[stmikesparishschool.org](http://stmikesparishschool.org)

Become a Fan of our Facebook Page:  
[facebook.com/The.Official.Site.of.SMPS](http://facebook.com/The.Official.Site.of.SMPS)

Get all Mustang Athletic Information:  
[leaguelineup.com/stmikesmustangs](http://leaguelineup.com/stmikesmustangs)

## Steed named 2010 Awesome Author

15 SMPS Students named finalists in Ohio County Library's 'Awesome Author Fall Creative Writing Contest'

November 15 was an *awesome* day for St. Michael fourth grader Luke Steed...it was the day he found out he had won the 2010 Awesome Author Award from the Ohio County Public Library. During an evening reception held at the library, Steed received the news that his submission entitled "Kid" earned top honors among 145 entries submitted by students in grades 3-6 to the 3rd Annual Awesome Author Fall Creative Writing Contest. Participants represented eight different schools and eight home-schooled families located in the Ohio Valley.



Fourth grader Luke Steed won the overall Awesome Author Award from the Ohio County Public Library for his story, "Kid." Tia Tomacari was named winner of the Third Grade division for her story "Mille."

In *Kid*, Steed shares his deep love for his grandfather by recalling the many life stories his grandfather told to his family before his passing. The story is a true tribute to a grandson's endearing love for his grandfather.

St. Michael third grader Christiana "Tia" Tomacari was named winner of the third grade division. Her story, "Mille," earned the highest score among the six finalists in her category.

In all, 15 St. Michael students were named finalists in the writing competition: (3rd grade) Eja Bowman, Lydia Bischof, Maggie Fahey, and Tia Tomacari; (4th grade) Luke Steed, Sydney Dunlap, Ashley Linder, and Cameron McCabe; (5th grade) Daniel O'Leary, Ava Zende, and David Gaudio; (6th grade) Jessica Ghobrial, Anna Dean, Lexi Kosanovic, and Sydney Bauer.

Dorothy Dudzik, third grade teacher at St. Michael's, says she was happy to see so many students participate in this voluntary writing competition.

"Our students enjoy the Awesome Author contest because it encourages creativity," Dudzik said. "Because there is no set theme, the students can use their writing skills and personal experiences to develop a story that is special to them. Every entry is judged according to content, creativity, organization, and mechanics."

You are cordially invited to the SMPS student production of

## A Gift For Christmas

**Thursday, Dec. 9** ◆ **SMPS School Hall**

Three FREE showtimes: 9:30 a.m., 1 p.m., and 7 pm

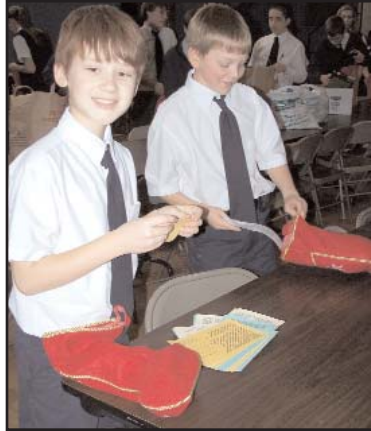
Join us in celebrating the Holiday Season!

## SERVICEspotlight

### Students stuff 100 stockings for U.S. Soldiers

In remembering our U.S. troops throughout the world this holiday season, St. Michael students collected various items and stuffed 100 stockings that will be shipped to U.S. troops. In coordination with Boatsies for Baghdad, students (Preschool-Grade 8) donated many essential items needed for our troops: tissues, bags of hard candy, playing cards, white crew socks, game books (Sudoku, Crosswords), women's/men's deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste, wet wipes/baby wipes, and bars of soap.

On Nov. 17 both Miss Felton and Mrs. Burge's classes were asked to help prepare the stockings for shipping. We thank all students and families who participated in this donation to brighten the holidays for those who sacrifice so much for our freedoms.



*David Coleman (left) and Eric Hasenauer, both 7th graders, help stuff 100 stockings with such items as soap, toothpaste, socks and puzzle books.*



*8th Grade Teacher Sarah Felton fastens each stocking shut for its long journey to soldiers in Iraq. Also pictured are 7th graders Nicole Lewis (left) and Lindsey Baker.*

### Change for Life collection benefits needy

Last month as part of Respect Life Month, St. Michael students were given baby food jars and asked to collect their loose change in them for a stewardship project with the Gabriel Project of Wheeling. In total 260 jars were collected at the month's end with more than \$934 raised. The money will be used to buy cribs and car seats for needy moms. The Gabriel Project has been one of the school's primary stewardship recipients over the past few years with students donating money and baby items to the agency. We thank Mrs. Hilk, Mrs. Gretchen, Mrs. Dunlap and Miss Payne, our 2010 Respect Life Month Committee and project organizers.



### Second graders receive First Penance

We congratulate our second graders on receiving the sacrament of First Penance on Nov. 16. Please continue to pray for them as they prepare for First Holy Communion in May 2011.

Bella Abernathy	Ian Guggenheimer	J.D. LaHood	Parker Skedel
Cole Bonacci	Gracelyn Hanna	Gage Michael	Kaci Spry
Joey Carter	Zach Harris	Hailey McCallen	Dailey Ward
Brianna Coughlan	Margaret Hartzell	Isabella Morano	Gracey Wear
Mariam Dhahir	Andrew Komorowski	Carson Namack	Ethan Williams
Michael Funka	Eli Kutrovac	Alexis Paras	Kaden Yocum
Tori Futey	Sydney Mansuetto	Tyler Radaker	Alaina Zende
Charlize George	Halea McCabe	Madie Riedel	

## Thank You GRANDPARENTS

We thank the more than 100 grandparents who attended our TK-2nd graders' Grandparents Day on Nov. 10. It was a wonderful morning! The event began with a Mass celebrated by Fr. McSweeney that included heartwarming songs and poems by the students. Grandparents were then welcomed into their grandchild's classrooms for an up-close look at their projects. Then it was off to the school hall for a reception of delicious treats and refreshments!

We congratulate the winners of our Win a Free Hot Lunch for a Month raffle entered by grandparents: Evan Wilson (TK) and Marino Alexander (KR)!! Both will receive free hot lunch during the month of January!



*Jim Kelly, grandparent to first grader Kelly Riedel, looks over his grandson's projects while visiting Mrs. Smoulder's classroom.*

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304.242.3966  
[www.stmikesparishschool.org](http://www.stmikesparishschool.org)

For registration or class shadowing information, please contact Mrs. Marilyn Richardson, school principal.

*Welcoming children of all faiths.*