

# THE WRITING IRISH

Produced by the Sacred Heart Academy Sixth Grade

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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

By: Mrs. Lemke

Happy Halloween, Sacred Heart families! Welcome to the inaugural issue of The Writing Irish, a quarterly newsletter written and produced by the Sacred Heart sixth graders. Grab a steamy potion, snuggle up with your black cat, and make the most of the bewitching hour as you read about the many spooky happenings in our elementary classrooms!

**Being a Christian is like being a pumpkin:  
God lifts you up, takes you in,  
and washes away your dirt.**



**He opens you up, touches you deep inside,  
and scoops out all the yucky stuff.**

**Then He carves you a new smiling face  
and puts His light inside of you  
to shine for all the world to see.**



## PHENOMENAL FIRST GRADE

By: Jason Boge & Tsipporah Chu

Mrs. Theisen's first graders are flying high like leaves on a windy October day. In social studies they are making a book about the symbols of the United States of America. They are also having an awesome time finding their reading levels and discovering what kind of books fit that level. Mrs. Theisen is reading the first-graders a book called My Father's Dragon, which they can't wait to hear every day! In religion they are learning about what can be found in church and the things that are used during mass. (They especially love pointing them out!) In math the first graders are learning their doubles in addition. It may be tricky, but they are fascinated! In science they are being taught about their senses with lots of fun activities. Finally, the kids are excited about Halloween and getting bags full of candy, as they wear costumes of black, orange, purple, and green. 1st grade is the place to be!

## KINDFUL KINDER PREPS

By: Nyah Carson & Aidan Baker

Kinder Prep is having an outstanding beginning of the school year with Mrs. Lyon! Mrs. Lyon really enjoys teaching language arts, math, science, and social studies! Kinder Prep kids are on their way to becoming excellent readers while they work on the alphabet, practice letters, and letter sounds. But the fun doesn't stop there... they are also working with numbers and counting apples to become precise mathematicians! The Kinder Preps love dancing and are looking forward to Halloween!

## FLYING INTO KINDERGARTEN

By: Grady Pieratt & Sami Stratton

The kindergarteners have so much to learn this year! They are learning about the alphabet, counting, praying, reading, using their five senses, and school rules. They're learning incredibly fast! Most importantly, they get to learn about Jesus! One recent fun adventure the kindergarteners had was to go on a nature walk with the 6th graders to collect leaves and then took them home to make beautiful pictures. They also went to the STEM lab in the high school to make gooey slime! Finally, the kindergarteners are excited and looking forward to Halloween, so they can wear their Halloween costumes and go trick-or-treating.

## FANTASTIC FIRST GRADE

By: Cecilia Lossio & Matthew McConnon

If you were a butterfly, you would want to flutter into Mrs. Jones' lemon-colored room! It's filled with many first graders, eager to learn. Mrs. Jones amazingly teaches every subject from math to social studies. All the first graders are learning to write complete sentences with subjects and predicates! They are learning to unscramble funky sentences and identify nouns, verbs, and adjectives. In science, the first graders are excited to march to the STEM lab for awesome experiments and cool science lessons. The students have had a fabulous first marking period and are ready for the next one. Mrs. Jones is an outstanding teacher and a good listener. She really makes it easy to learn. Keep up that streak, first graders!



Mrs. Jones' class during Homecoming week

### ***SPECTACULAR SECOND GRADE***

***By: Jackson Verleger & Amber Waclawski***

Ready to learn? Mrs. Hansen's second graders are learning lots of fundamentals, and they're having a blast! In second grade religion, the students are practicing for their first reading at Mass. Language Arts is currently thrilling because the students are learning to write in cursive. In math, the students are learning a vital skill, which is subtraction with regrouping. However, the students aren't just learning the basics. Outside the classroom, the students are going to the science lab to mix colors and they're pumped up for their colorful creations. They're also getting ready for an intriguing field trip to the Chippewa Nature Center to learn about Native Americans and how life was centuries ago. Mrs. Hansen's students are energetic and ready to venture out into the woods. It's obvious that the second graders are savoring their time in Mrs. Hansen's class.



**Mrs. Hansen's class on a field trip to the 1870 school house**

### ***SUPER 2ND GRADE***

***By: Brooklyn Taylor & Joe McDonald***

If you were a kangaroo you would be hopping into Mrs. Simon's class! Mrs. Simon teaches reading, math, science, social studies, spelling, and writing. In writing Mrs. Simon is teaching cursive. It is very hard, but they are the on the right track. In science the super second graders went to the science lab and they mixed food coloring to make a super colorful rainbow! In math they are learning how to subtract with regrouping. It is difficult, but the students are making great progress. In reading the students are reading some fantastic books, and Mrs. Simon is helping them. In social studies they are looking forward to going to the Chippewa Nature Center to learn about life in the 1800s. These Super Second Graders are having fun and they can't wait to learn more about all of their subjects!



**Mrs. Simon's class at the 1870 school house**

### ***TERRIFIC THIRD GRADE***

***By: Eliana Gursky & James Struble***

If you were a bull, you would be charging into Mrs. O'Brien's class! There is so much going on in 3rd grade. For example, the students are learning how to add and subtract with regrouping and are working with friendly numbers. They are also learning the parts of speech, cause and effect, and types of sentences. Pretty tricky, but those smarties can handle it! But the fun doesn't stop there, because the students just started their 40- book challenge, which is a challenge where you have to read 40 or more books in a year. The students have also learned some funny songs, such as "Sally the 3-humped Camel". The 3rd graders are looking forward to field trips and learning new things. You've got this, thundering third graders!



**One result of Mrs. O'Brien's request for students to bring in pencils**

### ***THE TERRIFIC THIRD GRADERS***

***By Ellie Morrow & Ryan Wiggins***

As the third graders meander into the new year, they have been learning their multiplication facts and how to write sentences correctly using proper punctuation! With their curious minds the students have been having fun with microscopes in the STEM lab. This year they are looking forward to a couple of field trips, such as the State Capitol Building in the spring and the zoo. They are also looking forward to the 40-book challenge: students who read 40 books this year get to pie Mrs. Donajkowski! She loves teaching all her excited students!

### ***FABULOUS FOURTH GRADE!***

***By: Nicole Goenner & Carter Farrell***

If you were a snake you'd be slithering into Mr. Carey's royal-blue room! Fourth grade has been so busy this fantastic year! For example, in math the students are working on memorizing their multiplication facts. This can be tricky, but the fourth graders are doing a phenomenal job! They have already gone on a field trip, too! They went to a cow farm and saw some adorable calves. The fourth graders are also looking forward to showing off their unique costumes at Halloween! Finally, Mr. Carey's students are very excited to enjoy cheesy hot pizza at a pizza party coming up this year. It's a very busy and intriguing year in Mr. Carey's room!



### ***FANTASTIC FOURTH GRADE***

***By Ayden Wills & Megan Szymczak***

Do you like field trips, mapping your own world, or the Ten Commandments? If so, then Mrs. Puhlman is perfect for you. Mrs. Puhlman teaches everything but science to fourth grade. So far this year the students went to Bryant Farm, where they learned about animal health, bees and a lot of other fun stuff! You'll never guess what the students are doing in social studies...they get to make a map of their own world. What fun! In math they are playing a lot of fun games, and their favorite is Factor Captor. In religion they are making a Google Doc of the Ten Commandments. Finally, two things the fourth graders are looking forward to are Halloween and snack time!

### ***FASCINATING FIFTH GRADERS***

***By: Taryn McGuirk & James Endres***

If you want to be a scientist, Mr. Parsons' class is the place to be! In science the fifth graders are learning how to be real scientists. Also in science the kids are inventing things in the Maker Space! In social studies, the students are learning about Early American History and are also creating their own codes! In math the fifth graders are learning how to do long division. It is really tricky, but they can do it! Almost all the fifth graders are excited for their class parties and for more hands-on science experiments. The 5th graders are all enjoying the fun times in Mr. Parsons' class. Thanks be to God!



**Mr. Parson's students meeting a STEM challenge in his Maker Space**

### ***PHENOMENAL FIFTH GRADE***

***By: Chelsea Lynch & Param Patel***

There is a lot of exciting business going on in fifth grade. One example is that Mrs. Boulis is reading Fish in a tree. This is a novel that speaks to anyone who ever thought there was something wrong with them because they are different. In language arts fifth graders are learning how to write personal narratives and make them more creative. They are using picture books to review elements of fiction, which the students are thrilled to be learning about. Fifth graders are also racing into math, learning how to multiply 2-digit numbers. In religion they learned the sacraments, made sacrament posters, and learned about the Beatitudes. Believe it or not, Mrs. Boulis also teaches P.E to the kinder prep kids. They love playing with the parachute! Mrs. Boulis' class is looking forward to an awesome Halloween.

***SMART SIXTH GRADE***  
***By: Sophie Hauck & Dylan Hunter***

If you were a sting ray you would be slithering into Mrs. Wyman's sixth grade! There are so many fun activities going on in her classroom! In math, the smart sixth graders are learning about positive and negative numbers, and how to multiply and divide decimals. In social studies, sixth grade is learning about cultures. In religion they are learning about sacrifices! They even created Bible songs and raps about the Old and New Testaments! This focused on team work and presentation skills. For this month's service project, the students collected trash from around the school and church. Finally, students in sixth grade are most excited about the upcoming canopy walk to Whiting Forest. Sixth grade seems to be soaring by!



Mrs. Wyman's students picking up trash for a service project

***SUCCESSFUL SIXTH GRADE***  
***By: Nikki Priest & Jim McDonald***

Skip right in to sixth grade! As the last year of elementary school, Mrs. Lemke tests these intelligent kids to the max and makes these bright kids smarter than they were before! With many fun and exciting activities, the top must be the BIG DIG! "And what is the BIG DIG?" you may ask. Well, the students created their own cultures and artifacts. They worked for three weeks on perfecting their cultures, and each class came up with a creative and funny idea! A pig culture? Wow! These clever sixth graders even made a language to go with it! Another fun thing these sixth graders enjoy is working with Kinder Prep art buddies, who they shape into good artists! In fact, they just took their art buddies on a leaf walk, and collected leaves. Afterward, the sixth graders composed outstanding poems that they owe all to God's creation, as God created all that they saw and touched. Finally, the students had a wonderful time playing games and visiting with the residents at The Laurels as part of their monthly service.



Mrs. Lemke's class hiking back from their Laurels service trip

***ASTONISHING ART***  
***By Ishwarya Shankar & Trinity Dent***

Kid artists amble into Mrs. Chaffee's room carrying paintbrushes. Beautiful art is made everywhere, and the kids' hands move more rapidly than cheetahs. The Kinder Preppers have amazing art buddies with them. The Kindergarteners work on tracing and gluing. The 1st graders learn about lines and make pretty self-portraits. The 2nd graders observe drawings and learn about contrast in paintings. The 3rd graders click buttons on cameras like professionals, taking pictures of still life and the great outdoors. The 4th graders work on complex symbols to paint on their plates and shields that they have painted ~~painted~~. OOPS! We just made a mistake. Don't worry, the 5th graders will turn your mistakes into pieces of artwork. The 6th graders have choice-based art this year, which helps them explore the art world. All the grades are looking forward to working on 3-dimensional clay projects. One of the most intriguing things Mrs. Chaffee has done is start art buddies. This is where the big kids help the little kids work on art projects. It helps the little kids to do art more efficiently and helps the big kids have more leadership.



***MARVELOUS MUSIC***  
***By: Tatum Horak & Yuvi Singh***

This school year in Mrs. Taylor's marvelous music class, she is teaching her 6th grade music class how to play instruments. For example, she is showing them how to play their hearts out with the ukulele, recorders, hand bells, and percussion instruments. Also, her 6th grade class is intensely looking forward to the Christmas concert. Finally, she said that she "loves getting to know her students."

### **COMPLEX COMPUTERS**

**By: Wyatt Browne & Luke Hacker**

Mrs. Stembridge is the K-5 computer teacher and she is ready to have a great year! She is teaching the Kindergarteners how to use the mouse. The 1st and 2nd graders are learning about the computer and about input and output and what those things do. The 4th and 5th graders are using Microsoft Word to create newsletters for new kids so they get to know the teachers and learn where classes are located. When asked about what kids are looking forward to, Mrs. Stembridge said, "They always try to win the GOAT" which means "Greatest Of All Typing" award, and you can win it by being an excellent typist.

Mr. Boutwell, who teaches 6th grade computers, is teaching keyboarding skills and Internet safety. He says that "Internet safety is very important," and that "If you are not being safe on the Internet it could be very bad, and it could hurt you". Mr. Boutwell likes to teach computers because it is something new to him and he likes to try new things. Mr. Boutwell is always nice in class and always helps kids when they have questions.

### **GYM CLASS**

**By: Wyatt Browne & and Luke Hacker**

Mr. Boutwell is teaching gym class this year, so you should be excited to jump into gym class. In the first quarter students performed fitness tests for strength and speed. Mr. B is teaching kids every sport to keep them active. Mr. B is also teaching kids how to be team leaders and good sports. "The most interesting thing I teach is everything," he said. When asked, "What is one thing your kids are looking forward to," Mr. Boutwell said, "The day at the end of the month where they get a free day for good behavior."



Students practicing the flexed-arm hang in Mr. Boutwell's class

### **KIND KIWANIS KIDS**

**By: Ishwarya Shankar**

K-Kids, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club, is into its second year at SHA and includes about twenty 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students who are passionate about helping the community. They take responsibility for planning service projects and run their own meetings. This year's officers are Ishwarya Shankar (President), Ella Reid (Vice-President), Francesca Roma (Secretary), Laura Bigard (Treasurer), Kendall Noyes (Service), Tatum Horak (Social), Brooklyn Taylor (Fund-Raising), and Emme Ervin (Publicity). Last week, the K-Kids joined with the Key Club to make dog toys for the Humane Society. It was really fun!

### **IN MEMORIAL: BISHOP CISTONE**

**By: Taryn McGuirk**

We were extremely sad to hear that Bishop Joseph R. Cistone died last week. He was deeply loved here at Sacred Heart. Bishop Cistone was born in 1949, grew up in Philadelphia, and became a priest in 1975. In 2004, Pope (Saint) John Paul II made Monsignor Cistone an Auxiliary Bishop in Philadelphia. He was then appointed as Bishop of Saginaw by Pope Benedict XVI in 2009. Bishop Cistone believed in love, the word of Jesus Christ, and the Eucharist. He really enjoyed being around young people and was known for visiting the Catholic Schools in the Saginaw Diocese. He will always be remembered as someone who gave so much to others.

### **SHA SPORTS: Hard Work Pays Off**

**By: Grady Pierratt**

The middle school cross country team had an amazing showing at the Uncle John's Cider Mill "Apples to Apples" Invitational on October 5th. All season, coach Nikki Taylor had been training the team hard and well. At practice the team did interval training to see how fast they could run 200 meters, 400 meters, and 800 meters. They also ran hill sprints and regularly did yoga in the courtyard to cool down their muscles after running two miles. By the time the Invitational came along, the squad was ready and prepared to run the race. It was a chilly misty day, which is perfect for running long distances. The boys ran first, and once the gun went off, they were focused and zoned in with Jacob Pickens leading the team. As the race ended the results started to come in and the boys realized that every one of them had set a new personal record! Then, it was the girls' turn. It was business as usual, with Olivia Ervin leading a huge pack through the course. Not only did she get first place, all the girls on the team set new PRs, too! It was a great day for SHA middle school cross country, and one they will never forget. (P.S. The cider and donuts weren't a bad way to celebrate.)

**ADVICE COLUMN**  
**By: Helpful Heather (Cecilia Lossio)**

Dear Helpful Heather,

I hate homework, and I never get it done on time. What's the point of doing homework, anyway?

Sincerely,  
Lazy Leonardo

Dear Lazy,

My advice for you is to finish your homework well before it's due. Then you'll know it's done and you won't have to worry about it! As a bonus, you'll have more time for activities outside of school. School work will be a big part of your grade and your life, and it matters that you try your best to do well! I understand you may not like it, but it will pay off in the end when you are looking for a good job!

Sincerely,  
Helpful Heather

**SHA TEACHER POLL: WHAT DO YOU LOVE BEST ABOUT TEACHING YOUR STUDENTS?**

Mrs. Lyon: "Seeing them learn exciting new things!"

Mrs. Stanton: "They are full of energy and excited to learn!"

Mrs. Jones: "Watching them learn and grow!"

Mrs. Theisen: "Teaching things that are brand new. And they are funny and sweet!"

Mrs. Simon: "I just love them!"

Mrs. Hansen: "The fun that happens!"

Mrs. O'Brien: "Teacher read-aloud time, the excitement in their eyes, that they get hyped up for work, and that they can still be silly!"

Mrs. Donajkowski: "How much they grow in learning, independence, and that they still love school!"

Mrs. Puhlman: "Everything! Seeing them grow! Seeing their energy!"

Mr. Carey: "I love my students! Elementary kids are the best, and they are respectful!"

Mrs. Boulis: "I like all my students. They gain independence but still need help. They are fun to joke around with. I love the moment when they get something right!"

Mrs. Parsons: "I love getting to know the kids!"

Mrs. Lemke: "The students are so loving and courteous and willing to help each other!"

Mrs. Wyman: "Watching how they mature through the year as they understand harder math concepts!"

Mrs. Chaffee: "I like doing different things each day!"

Mrs. Stembridge: "It's fun every day!"

Mr. Boutwell: "I get a new class every day, and I love the effort students put in! I get to teach computers, too, which is new to me!"

