



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCHOOL

Principal's Letter January 22, 2010

Dear Family,

One of our classes just did a project revolving around sacrifice. The students interviewed some of our parish members, many of whom were affected by The Depression as well as World War II, to find out how they have sacrificed in their lives, and how it helped form them as individuals. It was inspiring to hear their life stories, and a valuable lesson for the students on the importance of sacrifice. The project also underlined the importance of fostering intergenerational understanding.

The theme for Catholic Schools Week is *Dividends For Life*. Benjamin Franklin said, "An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest." Some of the interviewees mentioned the sacrifice that they made as parents to put their children through Catholic schools; when times are difficult, it helps to remember that educating the whole child by giving them a Catholic education is the best investment you will ever make.

On a lighter note, here is a nomination for "E-mail of the Year":

After being interviewed by the school administration, the prospective teacher said: "Let me see if I've got this right. You want me to go into that room with all those kids, correct their disruptive behavior, check for signs of abuse, monitor their dress habits, censor their t-shirt messages, and instill in them a love for learning.

You want me to check their backpacks for weapons, wage a war on drugs and promiscuity, and raise their sense of self-esteem and personal pride. You want me to teach them patriotism and good citizenship, sportsmanship and fair play, teach them to understand how important it is to vote, to balance a checkbook, and apply for a job. You want me to check their heads for lice (timely!), recognize signs of antisocial behavior, and help them to pass the final exams.

You also want me to provide them with an equal education regardless of any handicap, and communicate regularly with their parents by telephone, newsletter and report card.

You want me to teach with antiquated equipment, a smile, and a starting salary that qualifies me for food stamps.

You want me to do all this, and then you tell me...I CAN'T PRAY????!!! Thank God for Catholic Schools!

Have a Great Weekend,

Sheila