



BARAGA BUZZ



MISSION STATEMENT

TO PROVIDE THE HIGHEST QUALITY SCHOOL EDUCATION WITH A COMMITMENT TO ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND TO SUPPORT FAMILIES WITH THE SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR CHILDREN

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DEC 2009

Principal's Corner

Dear Students, Parents and Supporters,

The many traditions Bishop Baraga Catholic School has gives a sense of who we are and has been so very important keeping the school alive. In the hall behind the Chapel can be seen a beautiful oak trophy case under construction which will be a visible reinforcement of the school's ongoing traditions. The numerous contents will give a sense of history the Cheboygan Catholic School System has undergone from the 1930's and 40's up to the present time at Bishop Baraga Catholic School. Roy Schryer, Mark Maczka and Joe Kwiatkowski have been planning this endeavor to showcase the trophies and past history of alumni in Cheboygan. The handymen putting the case together are Mark Maczka and Bill Swiderek. On behalf of students and staff of Bishop Baraga thank you to all these people as well as Rick Swiderek and Joe Kwiatkowski who have stored trophies from the past. This project was funded by two golf outings held at the Cheboygan Golf Course another Bishop Baraga School supporter throughout the years.

Stop in and see the colorfully decorated tree in the school foyer. Thanks to Mr. Walt Romanik who made sure within a short time of being asked the school had a freshly cut tree delivered to the school entranceway. Check out the variety of creative handiwork decorating the tree made by students from Bishop Baraga School and the Youth Group.

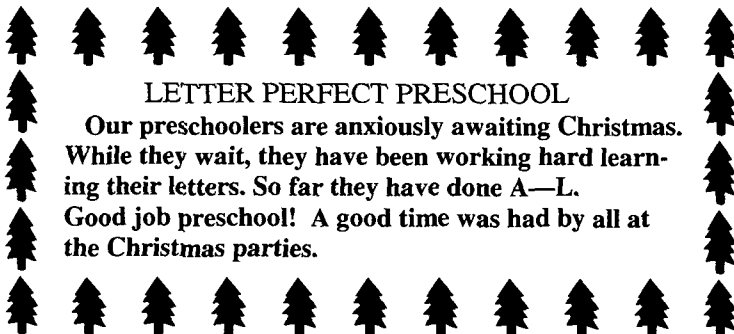
Congratulations to Mrs. Patti Wissner, the staff member of the month. This is Patti's second year as head of the Food Preparation Department. It is evident when she is in the building as wonderful aromas begin to waft throughout the school. Patti is the parent of Nathan a 2006 eighth grade Bishop Baraga School graduate. She can be seen helping at the Knight's of Columbus fundraiser dinners for the school often scooping ice cream. A designated parking space is reserved for Patti donated by the Knights of Columbus as an item from Home and School's March St. Patrick Party.

Bishop Baraga Catholic School will soon have a Technology Teacher. The Finance Council has been cautious voting in favor of the addition of a part-time teacher which should begin the end of January. An ad has been placed in the

BISHOP BARAGA'S 2009-2010 SCHOOL STAFF
At Bishop Baraga we are proud of the dedicated teachers and staff who not only educate our children but also teach the students values and morals through example.

Father Paul Megge, Pastor
Father Robbie Deka, Associate Pastor
Kitty LaBianco, Principal
Lois Reimann, Secretary
Diane Smith, Technology Administrator
Kayte Schryer, Preschool 3 & 4 Teacher
Jamie Deitz, Kindergarten
Joey Miller, 1st grade
Linda Lyon-S., 2nd grade
Molly Mousseau, 3rd grade
Mary Redmond, 4th grade
Jerry Canell, 5th grade
Jill Kwiatkowski, 6th grade
George Krawczyk-4th, 5th, and 6th grade Recorders
Marea Suchey, Preschool Aide
Jan Kasbow, Kindergarten Aide
Kay Watkins, 1st grade Aide
Maryann Schoch, Volunteer Librarian
Marian North, Volunteer Librarian
Bob Boyea, Custodian
Patti Wissner, Food Preparation

Lower Elementary News



LETTER PERFECT PRESCHOOL

Our preschoolers are anxiously awaiting Christmas. While they wait, they have been working hard learning their letters. So far they have done A—L. Good job preschool! A good time was had by all at the Christmas parties.

KINDERGARTEN EXCITEMENT

The excitement continues in Kindergarten as they prepare for Christmas and learn about the season of Advent. Each week they have lit a new candle on the wreath and discussed the meaning for the candles; hope, peace, joy, and love. The kindergarteners have been very artistic this month as they used their math skills to make symmetrical mittens and pattern scarves. The conversations in their classroom have gotten very exciting as they add six new amazing words to their vocabulary each week. They are now up to seventy-eight amazing words! Lately, as they describe the weather, their favorite word has been blustery!

BUCKET FILLERS IN FIRST GRADE?

In addition to their regular classes, the first graders have been busy getting ready to celebrate Jesus' birthday. They discovered that the candles on the Advent wreath remind us that Jesus' light is in our hearts. Decorating the Jesse Trees has reminded them of some of the Bible stories of the ancestors of Jesus. They are also making themselves ready for Jesus by trying to be "bucket fillers". If you don't know what that is, ask any first grader!



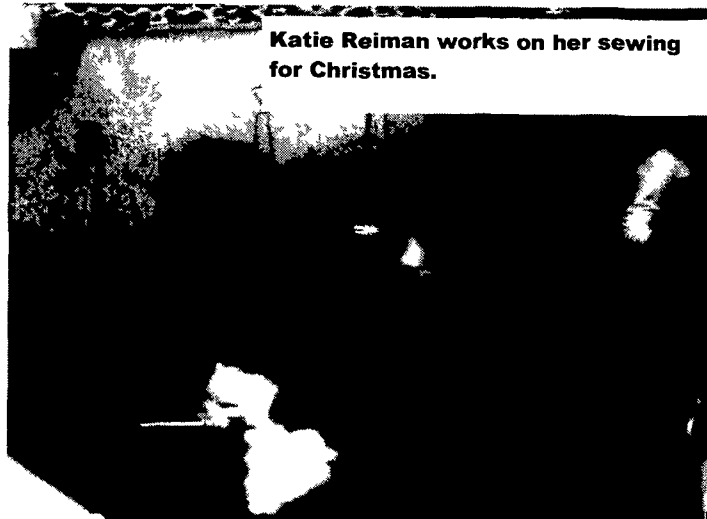
Second Grade In "Deed"

Second graders have been busy preparing for the birth of Jesus—here in school and at home! The class is following an Advent Calendar with activities to do every day. They are getting really close to that special Holy Day! The students write a good deed on a star that goes up on the bulletin board. All these stars build a "star road" to Bethlehem.

The children also made special Christmas presents for their parents, but we can't tell you what they are because it's a surprise!

They practiced and practiced Christmas carols and went to ECU/Larson Hall to sing them for the residents. Of course, the people really enjoyed listening to such angelic voices! One lady thought they should perform on TV!!

Katie Reiman works on her sewing for Christmas.



THIRD GRADE BRAINIACS

Third graders have really been stretching their brains! They wrote and illustrated poems about the stars. These look great hanging in their room. The poems fit in nicely with their Science unit, which is about the sun, moon, and planets.

The class sewed mistletoe hearts for their parents for Christmas. That was a lot of work! They had to thread needles, tie knots, and stitch the fabric by hand!

They've been continuing in their Brain Gym activities, and Mrs. Mousseau showed them some "stretch your brain" activities on the computer and in class. They've really been getting into cribbage as a way to practice subtraction facts. Third graders really know how to think!

Upper Elementary News

Out - of - This - World Fourth Graders

Fourth grade has been studying the solar system in Science and are working on Top Trumps cards on the Solar System in technology.

Poetry is the writing of choice in Language Arts. They have tried their hand at many different types of poetry.

Finally, the exciting news is that these students have completed a "No Late Work" chart and had ten days in a row with no late work. They are really getting rewards! Way to go!!!



Fifth Grade Snow Bunnies

Pizza anyone? Get your Little Caesar's pizza kit from any fifth grader and help them raise money for their class trip to Camp Wolverine. Orders need to be in January 20th.

Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow! The fifth graders are very happy to see those snowflakes because they get to go skiing with the rest of the Middle School this year. Skiing begins the first Friday of January. DON'T break a leg!!!



Thank you
Mrs. Carol Stempky

Mrs. Stempky came in to talk to the classes about "Bethlehem". It was a wonderful presentation. We learned that Bethlehem actually means "House of Bread" and Jesus is the "Bread of Life"! Every time we go to Communion we revisit Bethlehem! Even our hands are like the manger holding Jesus! Thank you, Mrs. Stempky, for sharing this beautiful part of our heritage.

Sixth Grade

Both fifth and sixth grade art students have been busy making gifts for their parents. We would display them in the hall, but it is top secret!

The history of our church has been the topic for study in Religion. We didn't realize how many people were left out of Christianity in the very beginning of our Church history, and to simulate that, small groups designed badges and came up with a list of requirements for their group. We noticed that Mrs. K. couldn't join any of them, so group names were changed as well as badges and rules to make things more inclusive. There were some very clever ideas.

We have been focusing on gathering ideas for story writing and then practicing six different methods for story leads. We can't wait to get our stories typed up and share them.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas!

HELP NEEDED

Are you in need of volunteer hours? Have we got an offer for you! The sixth graders are holding a spa afternoon the 16th of January and we are in need of hand massagers, nail painters, facial people and foot massagers.

No experience necessary. If interested, call the office to get on the worker list.

Thank you!



Principal's Corner continued...

local paper, bulletins, and Diocesan Weekly. The staff is excited to have the opportunity to coordinate their curriculum using the computer room and other technology to the fullest capacity giving the students a richer learning experience.

God has blessed Bishop Baraga Catholic School with many gifts. Concerned Bishop Baraga parents on the Marketing and Development Board started the Guardian Angel Program this summer when the economic difficulties hit our families. Numerous donations have been given to this program to help school families facing financial hardships. This group has made a difference and will continue to do so with the "Ask Me About Bishop Baraga School" yard signs, bumper stickers and the Bishop Baraga Catholic School Billboard on U.S. 27.

Yes, Baraga parents and members of the community from all parishes in our 'cluster' continue to give, aiding in the Catholic education of Bishop Baraga students. This may be in the form of Scrip donations, or through the Boosters keeping tuition stable by their work during the annual 'Gala' in September. We are truly fortunate to have so many parents involved in the social and fundraising aspect of the school.

Anticipation and excitement fill the halls at Bishop Baraga Catholic School during this time of Advent waiting for the birth of our Lord. Children learning about the Magi and their gifts, Christmas Carols being sung, the Three Kings traversing the halls towards Bethlehem, the candles lit on the Advent Wreath and the beautifully decorated tree in the foyer are only a few of the many preparations for this joyful time. May God bless all of you and keep you safe!

Merry Christmas!
Kitty LaBlance



**THANK YOU TO WALT ROMANIK FOR
DONATING THE BEAUTIFUL CHRISTMAS
TREE THAT GRACES OUR FOYER.**

Upcoming Bishop Baraga Board Meetings

Call the school to learn more about each committee.
(627-5608) Visitors are welcome!

- Advisory-Thursday 14, January (5 30 Conference Room)
- Boosters- Tuesday 19, January (5 30 Conference Room)
- Education Foundation-Tuesday 9, February (5 00 Staff Lounge) New members are needed!
- Home and School- Wednesday 6, January (7 00 Staff Lounge)
- Marketing and Development- Thursday 21, January (5 30 Conference Room)

Battle of the Books

Battle has officially begun! Teams are formed, books distributed and everyone is reading, reading, reading!! Thirty students in grades 3—7 has signed on. We even have two alumni...Sami Reiter and Max Darr!! Here are the 2010 teams. Good luck to all!

S.P.W.R.B

(6 People Who Read Books)

MAX DARR
OLIVIA INGALSBE
MACIE WHITE
ZACH GILDNER
SAMANTHA MUNNS
QUINN ROGALA

READING WARRIORS

SAMI REITER
ARIALL CONNORS
EMMA BRISSON
JACOB BLASKOWSKI
SHAYLYNN JAMES
ADAM GRISDALE

THREE R'S

(Rockin' Rollin' Readers)

EMMA CAVITT
KATE DARROW
ADDY PLETCHER
MARISA PAQUET
LIAM DARR
KYLER LUTTRELL

F.B.I.

(Fun Book Investigators)

GEMMA DARR
ANTHONY PAQUET
SIERRA CHAMBERLAIN
ZOEY WELDON
ZAVIN GOODRICH
RACHEL WATSON

BBW—BARAGA BOOK WORMS

LUKE WARD
MORGAN GOODRICH
JAMES REITER
GINA BASANESE
MATT BRISSON
EMMA ARCHER

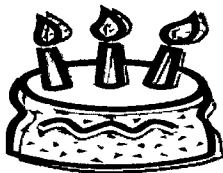
THE FIRST BATTLE WILL
BE FEBRUARY 4TH RIGHT
AFTER SCHOOL

Student Council

Student Council received permission to hold a dress down day for their Christmas service project - The Heifer Project. Money that is raised will be sent to this organization to purchase an animal for a family in a third-world country. They are hoping to raise enough to get a sheep or cow or maybe both! People use these animals to produce goods to sell and help support their families. The Council's goal is \$300. If they don't raise that much they will kick in the remainder from their own treasury.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3rd - LIZZIE WEBBER
4th - ELIJAH GUEVARA
14th - CHARLIE ISARD
16th - ZACH GILDNER
16th—MATT GRISDALE
18th - KAITLIN DARROW
19th - MORGAN GOODRICH
20th - AUSTON SERRA
22nd - ANNA HUDSON
23rd - GAVIN WHIPPO
26th - TYLER ROUSSEAU
27th—LIA BASANESE



A BIG THANK YOU TO
ALL WHO HELPED MAKE
OUR DAD - DAUGHTER
DANCE A SUCCESS! A
SPECIAL THANK YOU TO
MR. CANELL WHO PRO-
VIDED THE MUSIC FOR
FREE! WE MADE \$714
ENOUGH FOR 8 STUDENT
TRAIN FARES!
ALSO THANK YOU TO ALL
WHO BOUGHT WREATHS!

MERRY CHRISTMAS
FROM THE 6TH GRADE

Autumn Brewster
shares a big hug
with Father Paul.



BISHOP BARAGA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Calendar 2009-2010

Check the calendar monthly in the BARAGA BUZZ for changes.

The school day begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 3:35 p.m.

December-23-Jan.3	Christmas break
January-4	School resumes
January-13	School Class Photos-Dress Up Day
January-14	End of 1 st Semester
January-16	Spa-6 th Gr. Fund raiser
January-18	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY-NO SCHOOL
January-19	Preschool Parent/Teacher Conferences
January-19	Report Cards sent home
January-19	Preschool Parent/Teacher Conferences
January-27	Bishop Baraga's Feast day
January-27	Dress Down Day (Canned goods for St. Thomas Pantry)
January-31-Feb. 6	Catholic Schools Week
February-1-5	Food Drive for St. Thomas Pantry
February-3	Spaghetti Dinner
February-3	Hands on History Day
February-10	Valentines Party (Dress in Red)
February-11-15	Mid-Winter Break-NO SCHOOL
February-16	Mid-terms go home
February-23	Progress Reports sent home
February-17	Lent begins-Ash Wednesday
February-24	Retreat K-6
February-24	Dress Down Day (\$1.00 for Scholarships)
March 4	Assembly-Science of Music
March-8	SCHOOL FOR BISHOP BARAGA-NO BUSES
March-13	St. Patrick's Party at K of C Hall
March 15	End of 3 rd Term
March-16	Open House 6:30-8:00
March-17	St. Patrick's Day (Dress in green!)
March-25	Report Cards sent home
March-31	Dress Down Day (Canned goods for St. Thomas Pantry)
April-1-11	Easter Break-No School
April-12	School Resumes
April-15	Spring Program at the Opera House (7:00 p.m.)
April-19	In-School Registration 7:30 am-4:00 pm & 5:30-6:30 pm
April-20	Log Mark Book Fair: April 19 & 20
April-20	Open Registration 7:30 am-4:30 pm
April-28	Dress Down Day (\$1.00 for Susana)
May-4	May Crowning
May-5	ACES-Jean Day
May-5	Progress Reports sent home
May-7	Mother/Son Evening
May-20	Last Day Preschool-3 yr. olds
May-21	Last Day Preschool-4 yr. olds
May-26	Dress Down Day (\$1.00 Scholarship fund)
May-28	Spring Musicale-Gym (2:00)
May-31	Memorial Day-No School
June-1	Track and Field
June-2	6 th Grade Graduation Honors & Award Assembly
June-3	Last Day-All School Slide Show in the p.m.
June-3	Report Cards sent home



Third grader Dylan Pardee hard at work.