

Some Observations



As I was trying to decide what to write about this week, I looked at my calendar and saw a couple of things that are coming up, both of which are pretty important. Parent-Teacher Conferences are the 24th and 25th, and then on the 29th and 30th I'll be at an AdvancED Accreditation workshop. But I decided that those things can wait. There have been a few other things that I've noticed lately that I'd like to report to you instead.

Did you know that we have about ten different clubs that meet after school that students can join? There are Robotics, Construction, Choir, Speech & Debate, Rosary club, Yearbook, and several others. It's a pretty wide variety of choices, and it gives students an opportunity to find something beyond the regular classroom that will enrich their school experience. Guess which club had the highest membership the last time I checked? The Rosary Club! I was both shocked and pleasantly surprised that the Rosary Club appealed to more kids than any of the others.

Then the other morning I was downstairs in the hallway near the kindergarten classrooms when morning prayer began over the intercom. The K-2 teacher aides were also there since we had just gotten all the kids inside and to their classrooms. Of course, when morning prayer begins over the intercom everyone stops and prays. So, that is what we did. As soon as it was over I headed up the stairs, but I noticed the four ladies all gathered around the statue of Mary and started saying another prayer. I wish every single parent of a kindergartner, first grader, and second grader could have heard that prayer. It would have warmed your hearts to hear those ladies praying for your children and for God's guidance in helping each child they would come into contact with that day.

Recently some older students were misbehaving at school. [On a side note, I find it interesting when people make a comment or indicate surprise that kids in a Catholic school would misbehave. I always want to remind them of something I heard once. *The Catholic Church is a hospital for sinners, not a museum of saints.* We all misbehave at times. That's why Jesus gave us the Sacrament of Reconciliation.] Anyway, back to the misbehaving students. After they were given a matter-of-fact lecture and a stern warning, I had a couple of kids come to my office and talk to me. They thought that maybe if they could talk to these kids they could help them stop their misbehavior. I just found it so refreshing and positive that these kids cared so much for their classmates and their school that they wanted to help out like that.

You should know that these are not isolated incidents. I just picked out three things, two of which I just noticed this week, and this is only Wednesday night! Things like this happen everyday at your school. I know that not everything is perfect, and they never will be in this life. But for the most part, your kids are in a very caring, nurturing environment in which our goal is to *grow in spirit, mind, and body as Disciples of Christ.*

Yours in Christ,
Jim Makey, Principal

