

# SASJ Students Shine in the Arts

## Annual Second Grade Play

This year the second graders presented the story of Ereth's Birthday by Avi. The children wrote summaries of the story and read them to each class at school. Each summary described the characters, setting, problem and solution of the book. They drew pictures of their favorite scenes and made posters to advertise the play. The program covers were designed and drawn by eight of the children. Some of the eighth graders drew the background scenery and the second graders helped paint it. The shows were held in Friendship Hall on Wednesday, May 18th at 1 PM, Thursday, May 19th at 1 PM and Friday, May 20th at 7 PM.



## Night of the Arts

Our beginning and advanced bands, our choir and a few of Mrs. D's piano students performed on May 9 in a school-wide assembly, as well as at an evening performance for family and friends. The music ranged from Mozart to Lady Gaga, and the students enjoyed it all! Before and after the concert, student artwork was showcased at SASJ's "Night of the Arts."



## New SASJ Pre-School Options

Pre K and Nursery Tuition for 2011-2012  
Full year cost

|   | 2 days per week (year) | 3 days per week (year) | 4 days per week (year) | 5 days per week (year) |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Half Day (8:10 a.m.-11:30 p.m.)</b>    | \$1190                 | \$1785                 | \$2380                 | \$2960                 |
| <b>Extended day (8:10 a.m.-1:00 p.m.)</b> | \$1590                 | \$2325                 | \$3100                 | \$3875                 |
| <b>Full Day (8:10 a.m. -2:40 p.m.)</b>    | \$1980                 | \$2970                 | \$3860                 | \$4950                 |

## St. Anthony-St. Joseph—A peaceful place

St. Anthony-St. Joseph is a faith-based school community. We embrace and welcome each child, recognized as a gift from God, in an atmosphere respectful of each faith tradition.



St. Anthony ~ St. Joseph Elementary School

# The Good News-Letter

Celebrating the Good News of SASJ! Volume 1 Issue 3

## SASJ Scientists Share Knowledge

The SASJ middle school students put together an incredible Science Expo showcasing their recent new-found knowledge in different fields of science. Through questioning and collaboration, each grade extensively researched their topics to become masters in their field.

The sixth graders became masters of physics, especially pertaining to Newton's Law of Motion. Using Isaac Newton's laws as a guide, they created roller coasters from recycled materials. Each sixth grader was able to explain how the laws worked on their interactive coasters and describe how they calculated the ride's average speed.



The seventh graders became very passionate about saving the world's animals including many endangered species. They used the Internet to gain current information about the world's biomes and endangered animals living in their assigned biome to develop interactive "real life" biomes for the Science Expo. Our students and parents experienced a variety of biomes ranging from the rainforest to the tundra.

Finally, our eighth grade turned their eyes to the skies in their study of astronomy. Their research took them from our closest neighbor, the moon, to beyond the edges of our galaxy. Together they created a "planetarium" that modeled the night sky and invited our guests to star gaze with them.

This year's Science Expo was a great success thanks to Ms. Wallace and our middle school students. This annual experience created science enthusiasm that will last a lifetime!



Alex Diver and Andrew Capone search for endangered species on the savannah



Astronauts Gabe Wagner and Sarah McLaughlin monitor the "bubble"

## 8th Graders Explore Our Ocean



On Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, the eighth grade embarked on a journey to Assateague Island Maryland, where we discovered the white sands and ponies that characterize the Assateague National Park. Spending time doing environmental studies of the beach and bay, the eighth grade discovered new ways of seeing the sea life and nature that surrounds us. It was a wonderful day of learning and companionship, and a great way to conclude their student careers at SASJ!



Visit us on the web and learn more about us at [www.sa-sj.org](http://www.sa-sj.org)

• St. Anthony - St. Joseph Elementary School • 260 Forest Avenue • Ambler • PA • 19002 • 215-646-6150

## Fourth Grade Debates Slavery

After studying the Civil War and the effects of slavery on it, the fourth grade students had a debate over the “right and wrong” of the slavery issues. They drew cards to see which side they would represent, prepared for the discussion, made flags and were raring to go. The debate was wonderful and well-prepared, although it was difficult for those on the South to speak for the need of slaves, when in their hearts, they knew it was wrong.



## First Grade Measures with Hands-On Technology



The first grade recently practiced measuring with the help of the Smartboard. Students measured the lengths, heights, and widths of various items using such nonstandard units of measurement as spoons, basketballs and the three little pigs. Along with lining up the measurement units, students practiced touching and dragging items on the Smartboard.

## 7th Grade Investigates American History

Recently, the seventh grade had the opportunity to study a very significant event in American history: the Trail of Tears. They began their study by observing the famous painting *Trail of Tears* by Robert Lindneux via the Smartboard. After observing the painting, the class took part in a discussion about the painting and shared their thoughts about how the Cherokee people must have felt during their trek to Oklahoma. When the class finished discussing the painting, small groups of students rotated among three stations. At station one, students visited a website created by The Museum of the Cherokee where they learned important facts about the Trail of Tears and the locations the Cherokee stopped along their journey. At station two, students read family stories about the Trail of Tears and shared their

impressions of what it would feel like to be forced to leave their home. At station three, students used their map skills to locate and label the states the Cherokee traveled through to get to Oklahoma and traced their route. Our technology gives students a chance not just to learn the facts of this event in American history, but allows them to use first person resources and cooperative learning to place themselves in the “shoes” of the Cherokee people and develop empathy for their hardships.



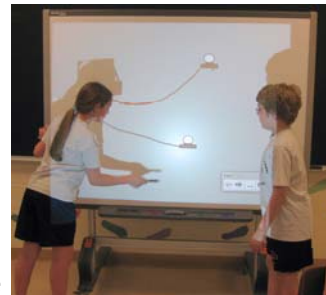
## Kindergarten Learns How Our Bodies Work

Kindergarten spent several weeks learning about some of the internal organs in the body. These organs included the heart, lungs, liver, stomach, small and large intestines and kidneys. There were many activities which helped the children learn about the various jobs of these organs. We listened to our hearts, squished food and water in plastic bags and moved oatmeal through pantyhose. The children learned songs as well to help them more easily retain the information. The final product was an "Anatomy Apron" that each child got to proudly wear home from school.



## Electrifying Education in Fifth Grade

In fifth grade science, the students studied electricity through various hands-on experiments. First, the students discovered how static electricity works in our “balloons on a wall” activity. Next, the students experimented with current electricity. They worked together to make circuits using batteries, wires and light bulbs. They were also able to make a switch that opened and closed their circuit. They then used their homemade circuits to test various materials to see whether they were insulators or conductors.



Next, the students were given the challenge of creating a parallel circuit. Small groups of students worked together to create a plan to get two bulbs to light in their circuit. They used the Smartboard to present their ideas and diagrams to each other and then put their plans into action. In the culmination of our unit, the students discovered how to make a battery from a lemon! These young scientists showed a great deal of enthusiasm as they used their critical thinking skills to “discover” electricity!



## S'Mores Go Solar

After studying global warming and the greenhouse effect, third graders used pizza boxes to create their own green houses. Once completed, a hot, sunny day was all that was needed to make “Solar S’mores” in the green houses! A yummy result to a fun science experiment!



## What Students Say About SASJ

SASJ is the best school a child could ask for. The teachers are great. The students are great. Everything is just great here. I want to come here until 8th grade. I am proud of SASJ because we don't let anything get us down, and we are the best!

~Stephanie Braun—5th grade

Our school deserves an A+ because not only do we teach about our universal religion, we also teach friendship, community and love. We practice peace, respect, charity, imaginative creativeness and love towards God. Knowledge and pride flourish in our students and our faculty.

~Carolyn Hopper—8th grade

For more student thoughts on our school, check out our webpage at [www.sa-sj.org](http://www.sa-sj.org).

## Pre-School Students Host Tea



Early in May, the Nursery and Pre-K classes celebrated Mother's Day by hosting a tea. The children were very excited to sing songs and give their Moms a gift! Just look at those big smiles for Mom!

**We LOVE our Moms!**

Looking for something **different** for your child's education?

Check out St. Anthony-St. Joseph Elementary School

Call us at 215-646-6150 to arrange a visit. You can also speak to one of our parent ambassadors.

SASJ  
Dedicated to  
**Love-Faith-Knowledge**