



Wednesday, February 14, 2024

**Project Heifer update:** Our Penny War was a huge success. Congratulations to the Money Makers! This group includes Hazel, Rosie, Dekker, Keilana, William, Ari, and Bayne and won bragging rights for collecting the most money for Project Heifer. Thank you very much to other donors who contributed to our total amount. The generosity of St. Charles parents and community is truly a blessing. Thanks to generous donors, the final amount raised for Project Heifer was **\$400– CONGRATULATIONS!** The Student Council will decide how to spend the money later this week.

**Everybody Has a Story (Author's Chair writing):** What a lovely showcase of our students' writing. If you weren't able to be here to listen in person, or just want to hear the stories again, you can find the recording on Facebook.

**Catholic Schools Week 2024:** This was a very enjoyable week for everyone. Students and staff enjoyed the activities and the weather cooperated for our field trip to Whitetail Ridge. Thank you to everyone who made the week successful.

**Vision Screening:** Vision Screening was cancelled last week due to school closure; however, Tom Jeffers, as well as Jenny Nickelatti, representing the Genoa Lions Club will be at St. Charles on **Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>** to do vision screening for students. He usually begins as soon as the students arrive at school. Enclosed is the informational flyer for parents regarding the Lions Club Vision Screening.

**Mite Boxes:** Ash Wednesday, **February 14<sup>th</sup>**, begins all the activities of our Lenten Season. A Mite Box is included for each student. Each year, support from the Missionary Childhood Association (MCA) provides for more than **2 million children** who are enrolled in catechesis and Christian formation programs, as well as more than **600,000 children** in nursery school through secondary school. We ask our students to donate what they are able and to return the mite boxes to school **as soon after Easter as possible.**

**PTO Take-Aways:**

- Spread the word, Trivia night **February 24!**
- Spread the word Fish Fry's **March 8 and March 22, first come first serve** only!
- Keep shopping for Spring Carnival prizes (clearance aisles, bulk candy/toys, etc.).
- Next meeting **March 5 @ 5:30 PM** in the school gym!
- If you're able to help with Trivia night and/or Fish fry please let Jessie know **ASAP** - will need volunteers (more for Fish Fry).
- PTO minutes are enclosed.
- **Questions: Text/Call Jessie Cina at 608-780-1146**

**2023-2024 School Year:** Enrollment is open for St. Charles 4K-6<sup>th</sup> grade for the 2023-2024 school year. If you, OR if you know of families that may be interested, please have them call the office (608) 689-2642 for an application. You may also call or email Fr. Sedlacek (608-689-2646; frdanielsedlacek@gmail.com) OR Mrs. Hytry (608-689-2642; phytry@stcharle.org). There are flyers in the office if you would like to give them to others that may be interested.

**PTO Scrip Program REMINDER:** Thank you to those who have already signed up for the scrip program. It's easy to earn money back while you are buying your groceries, gas, or shopping around at many retailers. (Megan Olson 608-385-7815; [mjtrussoni@gmail.com](mailto:mjtrussoni@gmail.com))

**Hunger Knows No Season:** We'll be collecting food once a month from now on. Our next collection will be March 26, just before Easter Break. This is sponsored by the Middle School Student Council. The food items will support the St. Matthew's Food Pantry.

**Taking Care of the Body God Gave Us:** Winter has turned unexpectedly mild. However, being in Wisconsin it's best to be prepared for any weather God gives us in February. Snow pants and boots might still be needed for warmth if the temperatures turn cold. Everyone will need winter hats and gloves/mittens for the time being. The little knit gloves may be cute and comfortable, but really do not hold up well with the cold, wind, and snow, so please avoid them. We will go outside unless the real-feel temperature drops below 10 degrees, or at the teacher's discretion.

**RootinCrown Consignment Store:** Have good used items you no longer need? Please consider donating them to the RootinCrown Consignment Store at 47 Copeland Avenue in La Crosse. Let them know your donations support the St. Charles PTO and a percentage of the sales go to PTO. Please consider shopping there and liking them on Facebook as this supports the PTO. [www.rootincrown.com](http://www.rootincrown.com)

**De Soto Area Schools Message Alert:** If you would like a **message alert from De Soto** concerning school closings or early dismissal due to inclement weather please go to the De Soto Area Schools website. Click on "for parents" at the top of the page. The pull down menu should show "alert sign up". Follow those directions.

**St. Charles Wellness Policy:** We are required to post the St. Charles Wellness policy on-line for parents – here is where you can find it: <http://www.mwt.net/~st.charl/School.html>.

**St Charles Facebook Page:** "Like" the St Charles Facebook Page for updates and events.

**Enclosures:**

MITE boxes

Vision Screening Informational Handout

PTO Minutes

Account Statements

**Dates to Remember:**

Fridays during Lent: Stations of the Cross at 2:30

February 16: Vision Screening

March 1: Adoration plus Stations of the Cross

March 7: Optional Parent/Teacher conference

March 8: Reconciliation (2-6<sup>th</sup> graders)

March 22: End of third quarter

March 28-April 1: Easter Break, students return Tuesday, April 2

**February Birthdays**

February 13: Rosemary Lavey

February 19: Dekker Eckes

# LIONS

## VISION SCREENING

Dear Parent / Guardian

Every child need regular vision screening and the American Academy of Ophthalmology suggests "that during childhood, babies up to age 2 should have vision screening during regular pediatric visits, and screening every one to two years ages 3 to 9."

To effectively address vision issues in children, Spot, a revolutionary automated vision screening technology has been developed to quickly detect indications of the most common treatable sight threatening conditions in children such as: **refractive errors** (nearsightedness, farsightedness, unequal power and astigmatism), **amblyopia** (lazy eye), **strabismus** (crossed eyes) and a comparative analysis for unequal refractive power (**anisometropia**) and unequal pupil size (**anisocoria**).

By using the latest technology for this screening. Our local Lions Clubs are taking a leadership role in the community to identify vision issues. Many of these vision issues can hamper your child's ability to learn. The prevalence of vision issues as a profound social impact:

80% of what a child learns until age 12 is **visually acquired**

25% of school age children **have a vision issue**

Unlike other ailments, **pain is not associated with vision issues**

Children with vision issues **do not have a reference point for good vision.**

Kids love how easy Spot is. The screening is performed from a comfortable distance of about 3 feet away, similar to having a picture taken at home with a digital camera. It takes only a few seconds to administer, and is quick, safe and fast.

Automated screening does not replace a complete and comprehensive eye examination by an optometrist or ophthalmologist, nor can it detect all eye diseases or conditions. Screening determines if your child requires the attention of a vision care specialist.



## PTO Meeting - Minutes

February 12, 2024 5:30 PM

### Attendees

Jessie Cina, Danielle Trussoni, Crystal Lavey, Holly Rach, Megan Olson, Mrs. Donovan, Miss Donovan

### Teacher's Report

- Will let staff know to start working on their Amazon Shop lists for the summer as things for classrooms and school overall come up.
- End of year field trip will be to Mississippi River Museum 5/22

### Treasurer's report

- As of January, we have \$11,475.05 in our checking and \$4,879.94 in savings.

### Business

- Fundraising
  - Trivia Night! 2/24 6-8pm, 10 rounds of 10 questions per round
    - \$10/person, 2-10-person teams
    - Contact Mrs. Donovan to sign up!
    - Cash prizes will be offered
    - PTO to serve food for purchase
      - BBQ, Hot dogs, chips, pickles, bars will be served
      - Beer and seltzer also available
      - Setup starts 4:30, food served beginning at 5:30, Trivia starts 6
  - Fish Fry X 2: Save the dates!! 3/8, 3/22 at school gym
    - Lion's club will be cooking fish again.
      - Consider supporting them in all their community work!
    - There will be 250 dinners available, on a ***first come first serve basis***
    - Food will be served 5 – 7pm, cash or check at door
    - \$15/dinner 3 Pcs. Fish, baked potato, baked beans, coleslaw, bun
    - Tip boards and cash prizes
    - Setup Friday afternoons ~ 4pm
    - Posters – next week
  - Spring Carnival: Apr. 21 10am – 2pm (set up Apr. 19 after school & 20 morning until done)
    - Raffle tickets have been submitted and proofed, hope to have physical tickets in the next week or 2.
    - If you have suggestions for basket raffles or other donator ideas, please contact Jessie to make sure we're not double-contacting.
    - Keep collecting items for prizes/Jar game/pop bottles, etc.
- Scholarship info being updated - Deadline March 29th - review April 2nd; rewards night May 1st at DeSoto

### Next Meeting:

- Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm in the school gym
  - Last minute details of Fish Fry's
  - Spring Carnival

### Take-Aways:

- Spread the word on Fish Fry's 3/8 and 3/22, ***first come first serve*** only! Posters next week!
- Keep shopping for Spring Carnival prizes (clearance aisles, bulk candy/toys, etc.)
- Next meeting **3/5** @ 5:30pm in the school gym!

