

# ST. GREGORY THE GREAT SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

Fr. Dave R. Ireland, Pastor  
Parish Office 216-382-7601  
www.saintgregoryparish.org  
Extended Care 216-382-9513



Mr. Peter Wilson, Principal  
School Office 216-381-0363  
Attendance Office 216-381-7781  
www.stgregoryonline.org  
Fax 216-381-7561

*Lord, teach us to enter more deeply into the mystery of the Church that it may be more effective for ourselves and for the world as a sacrament of salvation.*

‘HOME OF THE JAGUARS’ MARCH 26, 2007

**SCIENCE NEWS:** Congratulations to the students who participated in the Northeast Ohio Science and Engineering Fair. The following students received Second Place awards and a cash prize of \$25.00: Katie Bloom, Katie Marshaus, Luke Knudson, and John Mohorcic. Third Place award and medal went to Amy Paluf. Honorable Mention was awarded to Pat McCluskey. Special Awards were presented to: John Mohorcic who received a certificate and medal for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Pat McCluskey received a certificate and a \$100.00 award from the Cleveland Clinic Bakken Heart Brian Institute.

**PTC NEWS:** The following PTC committee positions are available for the 2007-2008 school year. We are looking for a parent(s) of an incoming 7<sup>th</sup> grader to head up the Confirmation/Graduation committee. We are also looking for volunteers for the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade social, Breakfast with Santa and Pastries with Parents. The PTC’s biggest fundraiser, the Magazine Drive, is looking for a few people to co-chair that event. If you and/or a friend are looking to be more active at the school and with the PTC, please consider signing up for one of these events. Please call Chrissy Novinc (440) 446-9399 for more details on any of these events.

**CERTIFICATE PROGRAM NEWS:** Due to the Easter Holiday, there are several schedule modifications. Please keep these changes in mind when placing your orders. Orders placed Monday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> will be available for pick-up until 5:00pm on Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup> (assuming the orders have been processed). **THE RECTORY IS CLOSED FROM 5:00PM THURSDAY, APRIL 5<sup>th</sup> UNTIL 9:00AM TUESDAY, APRIL 10<sup>th</sup>.** If the orders are not ready by Thursday, you may pick up your certificates on Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> FROM 10:00AM-12:00PM ONLY. All orders for Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup> must be placed through the Rectory. Please drop your order in the collection basket when attending any of our weekend masses. Heinen’s certificates WILL NOT be available for the April 9<sup>th</sup> order date. We apologize for this inconvenience. Our regular ordering process will resume on Monday, April 16<sup>th</sup>.

**JAGUAR READERS:** Thank you to the following students for donating books to the Library: Andrew Ponchin, and Conner and Peter Hurley. A Special thank you to the following members of Girl Scout Troop 450 who have purchased a listening center for the library: Sarah Augusta, Caitlin Ewing, Kaitlyn Gressley, Cianna Hunt, Abigail Kowalczyk, Alex Lease, Alisa Loduca, Anabel McGuan, Avery Miracle, Olivia Novario, Maggie Rahill and Bayleigh Stovall.



**Congratulations...**to Mrs. Mary Kay Jones and her students in room 112 for winning the movie and popcorn party for the Box Tops for Education contest. Her students collected 600 Box Tops labels earning them an afternoon of fun! Our last collection of the year will be April 20<sup>th</sup>. The classroom that turns in the most Box Top labels will earn an end of the year treat! Keep collecting from your family and friends.



**Return to Spring:** The Women’s Guild would like to invite all women of the parish to our Luncheon/Fashion Show on Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at Acacia Country Club. The event begins with a social hour at 11:00AM and lunch at 12noon. Fashions by Coldwater Creek of Legacy Village, featuring some our school moms, will be shown during dessert. Tickets are \$40 and proceeds from this, our only fundraiser, benefit both the parish and school. In the past some of the proceeds have bought the school DVD players, Enchanted Learning, computer projects, library books, playground equipment. Attending this event is a good way to support the work of the Guild and have a great time too! For more information contact Barb Pugel at (216) 291-2941 or Leanne Poelking at (440) 684-0999.

**Summer Exploration program:** An opportunity for students in grades seven and eight who may have an interest in a healthcare career. It is a two-week discovery experience in a Healthcare Careers Initiative Summer Exploration program. The session is July 9<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>. There is no cost for this experience, lunch is included and a modest stipend will be awarded. For more information and the requirements for the program please call (216) 987-3975 or email [healthy-careers.org](http://healthy-careers.org).

**Dear parents...** we ask that you send in two 39 cent stamps with your child. These will be used for mailing out your child/children's report card at the end of the year. Thank you!

**NEEDED:** The school is always in need of half clean paper so teachers can duplicate it for use in the classrooms. We gladly accept donations and will use it to benefit our students. Thank you!

**Wrestling News:** On the evening of Saturday March 18, 2007, Matt Lawler, an eighth grade student at St. Gregory the Great School, achieved his Junior High School athletic goal of becoming an Ohio Junior High School State Wrestling Champion. Matt beat all comers over the two day period of the Championships to end up as the #1 wrestler at the 102 lb weight class from a field of wrestlers traveling from all across Ohio.

Matt got his start in wrestling as a 1<sup>st</sup> grade student at St. Greg's when one of his classmates invited him to go over to the Mayfield Wrestling Club. Matt received much of his initial coaching from our own Phil Madda, a longtime wrestling coach who specializes in teaching the youngest and the newest wrestlers the sport. Matt stayed with the club for 6 years gaining skill and experience each year and gradually translating the lessons and skills into other areas of his life. Due to the self-discipline that he learned in wrestling, he improved his study habits and his grades. He was also able to become a better overall athlete and despite his relatively small size he was named a captain on the St. Greg's football squads in each of his 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade seasons.

Starting in the fall of 2005, during Matt's 7<sup>th</sup> grade year, he began to wrestle in the CYO program for Holy Cross and ended that season as a City Champion at the 90 lb weight class. After the CYO season ended in early 2006 Matt went on to wrestle with the West Shore Wrestling Club and participated in his second Ohio Junior High School wrestling tournament series. In 2006 Matt wrestled at 90 lbs and took second place at both the district level and at the state level.

In the fall of 2006, after the St. Greg's varsity football team had another great season; Matt became a leader and team captain of the newly formed St. Gregory the Great CYO wrestling team. Together with his teammates, Matt and this new team had a terrific opening season ending up 3<sup>rd</sup> overall all in the Diocese and with Matt claiming his 2<sup>nd</sup> straight CYO City Championship, this time at the 105 lb weight class.

Following the pattern of the previous year, Matt continued his season with the West Shore Wrestling Club, wrestling out of St. Edward High School, and dominated the field at the District Tournament by pinning all of his opponents except one that was disqualified for a rules infraction. Together with Matt's 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish at the 2006 State Tournament, this first place District finish earned him a #1 "seed" in his bracket for the 102 lb weight class at the State Championship Tournament.

As a fitting final piece, the Junior High State Tournament was held in Cleveland this year allowing Matt the luxury of staying close to home and of being on familiar turf. The tournament was held in the excellent venue of the Wolstein Center at Cleveland State University and began on Friday evening with three rounds of championship wrestling. Matt progressed through all three rounds in good control of each of his opponents. This set the stage for the semi-final match on Saturday afternoon and then the finals on Saturday evening. As expected, the level of competition grew with each round and Matt's margin of victory began to shrink a bit. His confidence was always strong and although he only won by scores of 3-1 and 5-2 in his last two bouts, he was always in the lead and was clearly in control of both bouts from beginning to end.

Matt has made many sacrifices over the years in order to achieve his goals and he has realized many disappointments along the way together with his many successes. He was recruited by several local high schools and has decided to attend St. Ignatius High School starting this fall. If Matt's hopes and dreams come true you will see him in the future as one of Ohio's High School State Wrestling Champions and then possibly as an NCAA or All-American Wrestler in college.

Matt and his family are very grateful and appreciative of the many classmates, teachers and friends of St. Gregory the Great who have and continue to support him.