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## Fun, here we come! It's Catholic Schools Week!

by Maggie Bartony

### CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



### DIVIDENDS FOR LIFE

We celebrate Catholic Schools Week this year from January 31 to February 6, 2010. The main part of Catholic Schools Week is the whole school Mass on Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:15 in the school auditorium with Fr. Philip Farrell, Vicariate 4 Vicar as Celebrant. The whole school will get to have a lot of fun during the week. There is so much fun for students, but also there is fun for parents and teachers while the students are having fun.

The parents get to eat lunch with their child, and the teachers get to go along with all the fun things the students do. During the week we do Junior Achievement Days, PJ Day, Crazy Day, Buddy Day, Movie Day, Dress Down Day, Dress Up Day, Talent Show, Generation Day, and



Fr. Philip Farrell,  
Vicariate 4 Vicar

**NO HOMEWORK DAY!** In the Talent Show there will be dancers, magicians, singers, and other fascinating talents. That will be on Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 12:45 PM. "I love movie day and PJ day," says Bridget Preston in preschool. What is your favorite part?

## Forensics can speak for itself

by Sarah Dodd

Do you know what goes on in Butler Catholic up in room 201 on Wednesdays? It is a club called Forensics! Forensics helps people speak clearer, publicly, and with enthusiasm. Students from grades 5 through 8 can join. Mrs. Frederick and Mrs. Moran are the teacher moderators.

The first meet was on November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Everyone did really great. There were several people with 1st place ribbons and some 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place ribbons. At our last meet on January 16<sup>th</sup> at St. Maurice in Pittsburgh, Butler Catholic place 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 12 other schools.

Each student chooses a reading that is five to eight minutes long, and they practice this reading for the upcoming meet. Students can choose from different categories for their reading. The categories could be poetry, prose, declamation, multiple read, impromptu, and drama. Impromptu is different from the rest of the categories.

Impromptu is a response that you write to a topic that you randomly choose. Students who pick impromptu have to come with sentences in their head and have up to 50 words to help them think of the sentences. The short essay about the chosen

topic is to be within a two to five minute limit. When all the students have practiced their reading, the students go to a forensics meet to present and read their reading. Everyone was so excited that day! Remember that forensics can always use more people to join!

## Who wants E.G.G.s?

by Kirsten Voelker

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are working on their E.G.G.S. projects. E.G.G.S. stands for eighth grade graduate studies. Mentors for the project are teacher volunteers who work with the students and guide them on their time-line. Mrs. Sadowski, 8<sup>th</sup> grade homeroom teacher, is E.G.G.S. moderator. It is an opportunity to explore career choices or an area of special interest. E.G.G.S. shadows what you want to do when you get older.



Eighth Grader Jordan Camp says, "I am going to shadow my drum teacher, and I hope I don't blow out my ear drums!" The project then gets displayed for people to see. E.G.G.S. is a great way to learn about a new thing while sharing your experience. Presentations will be given to family members the evening of February 10<sup>th</sup> in the school auditorium.

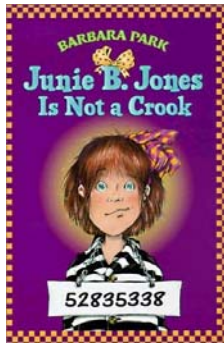


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### Junie B. Jones faces jail time

Book Review by Maggie Bartony

For about 20 years many children have fallen in love with the *Junie B. Jones* series of books. Barbara Park writes them. This book is called *Junie Not a Crook*. Junie gets mittens from Miller. Junie school and at someone When she and found” pen that can colors. Instead of “lost and found” she keeps it. She also knew she should give it to lost and found but she didn’t! Junie finds out that another girl from the other kindergarten was the one who stole her mittens. She is angry at first but then she realized the girl did the right thing by giving them back. Will Junie put the pen in the lost and found? Read to find out!



Mrs. Rosemary Watson is the teacher for Teacher Feature this issue. Mrs. Watson has been a teacher for 21 years. Mrs. Watson said, “I always wanted to be a teacher so I could be creative and enjoy it.” She has taught at St. Anthony, St. Aloysius (both in Pittsburgh), St. Mary of the Assumption (Herman) and started at BCS in 2000. She has taught 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade (in her first year), kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> grade, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, and 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Other than 4<sup>th</sup> Grade math, reading, social studies, English, spelling, religion, and library, she also teaches 5<sup>th</sup> grade social studies. Mrs. Watson’s favorite subjects are English, handwriting, and art. She is one of BCS’ most outstanding teachers.



**TEACHER FEATURE**  
by

### Brownies do more than sell cookies!

by Nicole Laborie

On December 1, 2009, in the cafeteria the Brownies were weaving baskets out of hay to make a Christmas decoration. Grades 1, 2, and 3 are in Brownies, and Girl Scouts are grades 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8. Davana, who is still making progress from a serious auto accident, comes to Girl Scouts also every other Friday. The Brownies have it every Tuesday. Mrs. Preston is still in charge of both Brownies and Girl Scouts. “Brownies is really, really fun!” agreed Zofia Minke and Alex Watson.



Julia, Abby, Alyx, Mia, and Leah are Brownies who know how to have fun.

Brownies are doing fantastic!

### Become a Book Worm!

by Kristen Bayer

So far, since kids went to the Book Fair, the books have been exciting. The Book Fair was on Dec 7<sup>th</sup> through the 11<sup>th</sup>. The whole school went.

Do you like to read? Would you ever give the books as a gift? The volunteer parents conducting the Book Fair were Mrs. Draeger and Mrs. Greci. Most of the books that were there were *Ripley’s Believe It or Not*, *Dairy of a Wimpy Kid*, and *Junie B. Jones*. Happy reading!



# BC

# BUZZ



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### February Events:

- 3- Information Night
- 5- Hoagie Orders Due
- 6- (7/8 graders) BC Challenge
- 10- Grade 8 EGGs Presentation
- 11- Valentine's Day Party 1-2 PM
- 12- No School for Faculty in Service (Snow Make up day if Needed)
- 14- Confirmation Spirit Day
- 15- No School President's Day
- 16- Hoagie Pick up 2-4 PM
- 17- ASH WEDNESDAY
- 20- Forensics at Holy Trinity
- 25- Skating Party
- 27- PJAS at Slippery Rock University

### Students think about winter

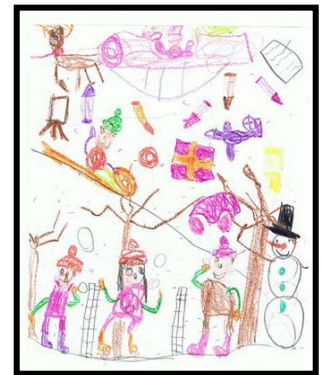
by Sarah Dodd

For this second issue of the BC Buzz newspaper, we held a contest for students to express their feelings about winter through poems and/or drawings. These entries were chosen by the BC Buzz staff to be featured.

### No Place to Go

The snow is falling down,  
But we need to go to town.  
There is so much snow,  
That we have no place to go.

By Skylar Geibel  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade



### Snowy Weather

We are having snowy weather,  
So we can go outside together.  
Look, I found a pretty feather!  
I think it is made of leather.

Drawing by Michael Konopski  
1<sup>st</sup> Grade

by Tom Voelker  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade



Drawing by Maggie Feczko  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

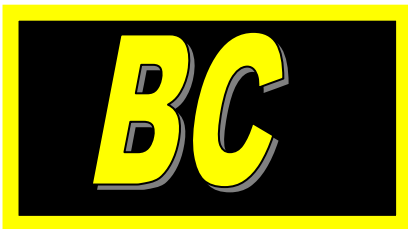
### ***From the Principal –***

**Catholic Schools – Dividends for life!**

When we hear this phrase, what image comes to mind? Reading through this issue of the *BC Buzz*, we can see the beginnings of those dividends now. Using the talents that God has given us is evident in the accomplishments that you, our students, achieve. It is here in elementary school that we form the habits and work ethic that are the foundation for all that we do. Just as money invested in early years provides a large dividend for later life, the effort we put into being the best reflection of Jesus will bring dividends that will last forever. May each day find you investing your effort to be that reflection of Jesus that brings dividends now and builds for the tomorrows to come.

Have a wonderful Catholic Schools Week Celebration!

*- Sister John Ann*



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**On with the show** by Lena Tirk

Kindergarten and preschool had a Christmas Pageant. It was on Tuesday, December 15, 2009, in the auditorium at 6:30 P.M. Here are some quotes of how the kindergarten students and preschoolers felt about the play. When asked, Taylore Bair responded, "I was nervous. I didn't want to mess up; that would be embarrassing." "I was scared," said Anastasia Benson from St. Michael's Room. Regardless of how they felt, the play was great!

**Robots Rule** by Lily Murray



Winning Robo-Pens Team

Have you ever programmed or built a robot? It sounds pretty hard, right, but for people who are in Robotics Club it is a piece of cake! You're probably wondering

what you actually do in Robotics. In Robotics there is an obstacle course that has different challenges for the robots to go through. Then you must program the robot to do some of the challenges on the table, and you have two and one half minutes to do them. You can also build extra parts to put on the robot to make the challenges easier.

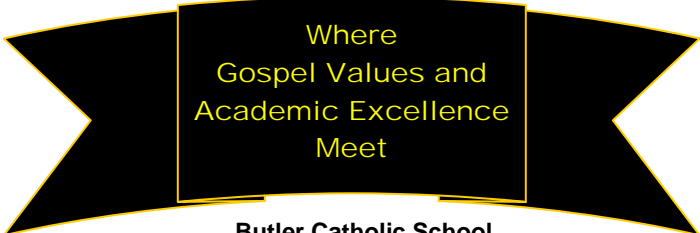
Mrs. Chobot, Robotics coach, has a Robotics class for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> that is two semesters long. The students in robotics class did a project on how dangerous it is to text and drive, and they had to do a skit. The Robo-Pens (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders who are in robotics) went to a competition at Carnegie Mellon Robotics Consortium. They plan to compete in the May Madness competition at the Sarah Heinz House in Pittsburgh. She also started an after-school Robotics Club for the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades on December 10 and it will run until January 28, which will be the competition day.

**Did You Know?**

by Logan DeFelice

Butler Catholic has many interesting stories that many of us don't know about. Here are some of the more interesting things we came across:

- The Psalms murals on the walls were painted in 1992.
- Three students' articles were published in Our Sunday Visitor Christmas Memories issue.
- We have made \$1,619.16 recycling papers for ABITIBI from August through December.
- BCS was built in 1959.
- Anna Swartwout was the WISR student of the day on 1/12/10.
- Mr. Greg has been working here for 20 years.
- Do you know any interesting facts we could add to this column? Give them to someone on the BC Buzz staff.



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