

St. Helen e-Newsletter - December 22, 2006



Second Grade Christmas Cafe

Parents and friends of St. Helen's second graders enjoyed eggs, bagels, coffee, juice, and other breakfast menu items prepared and served by students at the annual Christmas Café, held this year on December 13. The following day, the second graders were guests on WGN-TV's morning news! "Although the students were very professional and had fun running the café, they became tired and wanted breaks during the two-hour event. They couldn't believe how hard it was to work," said their teacher, Ms. Kate Hunter. "I think they gained a new appreciation for what their parents do all day." To prepare for this hands-on learning experience, the students interviewed restaurant owners to learn about various roles—hosts, servers, cooks, cashiers, and bus boys and girls—and then prepared resumes and interviewed for positions in their cafe. To view pictures of the event, click [Christmas Cafe Photos](#).

Christmas Activities

On the first Sunday in December, the Family & School Association sponsored the fifth annual Christmas Arts & Crafts Fair. During this event, St. Helen opened its doors for community families to make crafts on-site, play games, sample gourmet food, and purchase hand-made gifts. Later that week, 13 intermediate-advanced piano students performed a variety of Christmas songs at the annual holiday recital. The finale for the month of events was the annual Christmas Show, where each class presented musical and dance performances. To view photos of these events, click on the following links: [Christmas Art & Crafts Fair Photos](#), [Christmas Piano Recital Photos](#), [Christmas Show Photos](#) .



After-school Programs

Three members of St. Helen's Chess Club were among the 150 students from 20 schools who participated in the Chess Wizards Fall inter-school tournament. Each contestant in the non-elimination style tournament played 4 rounds of chess; trophies were presented to the top 10 in each division (K-1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-8). To view photos of the tournament, click [Chess Tournament Photos](#).

Practices started in mid November for St. Helen's new volleyball teams! Basketball practices and inter-school basketball games have also started. To view the schedule, click [Basketball Schedules](#). Parents are needed to help work the concession stand during games and sign-up for other [volunteer opportunities](#) that help the St. Helen Athletic Program. Please contact the office if you are interested.

Open House for Preschool, Kindergarten, & 1st - 8th Grade

St. Helen School will host an [Open House](#) for prospective families on Sunday, January 28, 2007 from 10 a.m.- noon. Administrators, teachers, and parents will be present to answer questions and conduct tours of the school. Registration for new families will take place in February for the 2007-08 academic year. Call the school office at 773.486.1055 for additional information or to request an early childhood brochure. Brochures can also be downloaded at this link, [Early Childhood Brochure](#). Please spread the word about the Open House to friends and neighbors.



There are many ways to support St. Helen School !

[Online Book Fair](#) - Purchase books, CD's, and movies at our online book fair website, which is open year round to anyone from anywhere. You'll receive a 25% discount off list price, and St. Helen will receive a 6% return.

[Market Day](#) - These unique foods are available to the community by ordering online from Market Day (10 % back to school) or Peapod (5% back to school). Pick up typically occurs the first Saturday of the month in the school gym at 10:45 a.m.

[Schoolpop](#) - Make purchases online through Schoolpop, and participating merchants (including amazon.com) will return a percentage (typically 3 percent to 5 percent) of the money you spend to St. Helen School. Schoolpop also offers a Visa Card that returns 1 percent of purchase price to St. Helen School for purchases made anywhere.

[Target](#) - Every time you use your Target Visa at a Target store or target.com, Target donates an amount equal to 1 percent of the purchase price to St Helen School. When you use your Target Visa at other stores, Target donates ½ percent of the purchase price.

[Friday Night Bingo!](#) - St. Helen Dabber Bingo with assorted pulltabs is open to the community and continues year-round on Friday evenings in our Bingo Hall at 2347 W. Augusta Boulevard. (Please note - There will not be Bingo on December 22 due to the holidays.)

E-newsletter Subscription Information

*The St. Helen e-Newsletter is sent monthly. The emails are sent to the St. Helen email list which contains **490 email addresses** for members of the St. Helen community (parents, teachers, administrators, alumni, parishioners and community members.)*

*To ensure receipt of our emails, please add info@sthelenchicago.org to your address book. If you would like your name removed from the FSA email list, please reply to this email. Individuals can **subscribe to the email list** on the FSA's web page, <http://www.sthelenchicago.org/associations>*

E-newsletter Highlights

If you would like to submit project highlights for the e-Newsletter, please send an email to info@sthelenchicago.org.

E-newsletter Link References

Links in this newsletter reference the school's website at www.sthelenchicago.org. Photo Galleries can be found under *Our Community > Photo Gallery*. Forms and schedules can be found under *Our Community > Document Center*.