

# PTO Newsletter

St. Boniface-St. Mary PTO

## Update on Smart Boards

I am sure that by now, you have heard a lot about the smart boards in the schools. Here are some details on smart boards, their uses in our classrooms and how the PTO is trying to help.

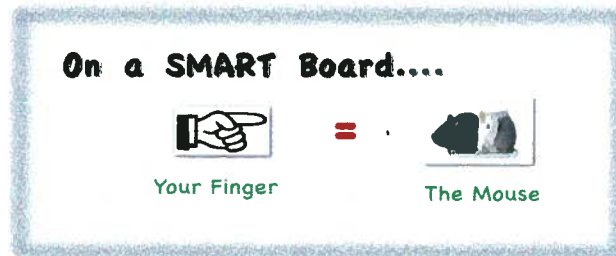
A smart board is an interactive white board. Gone are the days of the chalk board! Instead, smart boards use touch detection for input. Specifically, a projector is used to display a computer's video output on the interactive whiteboard, which then acts as a large touch screen, which can be used by the teachers and students.

The smart board allows many opportunities for teachers to use visual learning with the kids, in an easy and engaging manner.

The PTO is dedicated to helping our schools with this exciting technology. The funds raised by the PTO helped the schools' use of the boards.

The PTO technology fund for the schools was used to help purchase short throw projectors, mobile stands, sidewing tables for the computers, electrical assembly and a mobile porcelain steel interactive board for St. Boniface. St. Mary received laptops and will get additional short throw projectors.

Thank you, once again, for supporting the PTO and your schools!!



## Students See Convocation Shows

The PTO is sponsoring trips for the St. Boniface and St. Mary students to attend Purdue Convocation performances.

As you are aware, on February 13, students from St. Mary attended "The Magic School Bus Live! The Climate Change." This performance was at the Loeb Playhouse.

On April 16, students from St. Boniface will attend "Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters" at the Long Center.

In order to ensure that all students have the opportunity to view these performances, the PTO is purchasing the tickets. This should be a wonderful experience for all the kids.

## February 2012

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### Mission Statement:

The St. Boniface-St. Mary PTO is an organization whose purpose is to strengthen, enhance and encourage the educational, spiritual and social environment of our schools.

Our goal is to compliment the school curriculum with additional opportunities for parents, teachers and students to learn, socialize and grow.

## Room Parent Thanks!!!!

A huge **thank you** to all the room parents who did such an awesome job coordinating our classroom parties this year (names to the right). The most recent one was a fun Valentine's Party.

Also, a huge **thanks** to all the parents who have volunteered to help with the parties. The kids have lots of fun at these parties and look forward to them. **Thanks for helping to make them special.**

And a big thanks to Kristen Brkaric, our room parent coordinator.



### St. Boniface — Room Parents

Ms. Hall -- Stacey Hack  
Ms. Herold -- Kari Schrader  
Ms. DeBoer -- Kathy Cherry  
Ms. Roetker -- Suzette Weeks  
Ms. King -- Donna Mills  
Ms. Zahn -- Ginny Windler

### St. Mary — Room Parents

Mrs. Rice: Kirsten Brkaric  
Mrs. Sexton: Jill Hardebeck  
Ms. Thieme: Alesa Dienhart  
Mrs. Yarnall: Beth Searle  
Mrs. Bordenet: Erin Albregts  
Ms. Skiba: Laura Meijia de Ayala  
Ms. Farrell: Tara Seaburg  
Ms. Rooze/Ms. Lyke: Renee Mallen

## PTO Activities — More Success in Bringing Families Together and strengthening our schools

The PTO works to provide additional opportunities for parents, teachers and students to learn, socialize and grow. We have had some wonderful events which have done just that.

**Christmas Craft** — The Christmas trees have long been put away, but its not to late to give a big thumbs up to the Christmas Craft. We had 90 kids participate in making crafts, watching a movie and having tasty treats. A big thanks to Linda O'Gara for chairing this event and to Kim Ferruzzi and all the wonderful parent volunteers who made this a fun time for the kids!

**Staff Party** — The teachers and staff have expressed their appreciation for the wonderful Christmas parties that the PTO held for them. It is a great way to let them know that they are appreciated! A huge thanks to Jill Hardebeck and Shelly Hicks for chairing this for St. Mary's and to Mindy Ortman for chairing it for St.

Boniface. Thanks also to all the wonderful volunteers. It was a wonderful time and a great kick off for Christmas break.

**Movie Night!** On January 20, we had another successful movie night. This time, the kids watched The Smurfs. It is a fun time for the kids to socialize at the school. Thanks again to Jeanne Marks and the parent volunteers who made this a great event.

**There is just one more movie night left this year** — make sure to mark your calendars for April 20. If you would like to help with movie night, this year or next, please contact Jeanne Marks at [jeanne-marks1@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanne-marks1@yahoo.com).



## Mark These PTO Events on Your Calendar!

- **Feb. 13**—Magic School Bus for St. Mary students (during school)
- **Feb. 14**—Classroom Valentine Parties
- **Feb. 17**—Long lunch (St. Boniface)
- **Feb. 21**—PTO provides lunch for in-service day
- **March 16**—Long lunch (St. Boniface)
- **April 16**—Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters for St. Boniface students (during school)
- **April 20**—Long lunch (St. Boniface)
- **April 20**—Movie Night (6-8p) at St. Mary

# February 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6 Buccaneer Bay	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 Magic SchoolBus	14 Valentine Parties	15	16	17 Long Lunch	18
19	20	21 In-service Lunch	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

## Letters of Thanks . . .

The PTO recently delivered this semester's checks to the teachers. These are small amounts given to the teachers to help them purchase supplies that the school budget does not cover. Lisa Cooley (Guidance teacher) thanked the PTO and shared that she would be purchasing additional books to use with the kids. Here are some quotes from a couple of the other thank your cards that we received:

\* "Greeting Fabulous PTO – Thank you so much for the generous checks you donate each semester... Your help allows me to do many exciting hands-on activities in my classroom. ... Much thanks!" Angela Herold

\* "I really appreciate the funds because it helps me enrich the students' art experience... Numerous craft items are purchased for student use. ... Thank you for your support!" Alicia MacIsaac (art teacher)



## Call Out for End-of-the-Year Picnic!

Looking for an opportunity at which to volunteer? Please consider helping with this end-of-the-year event at Columbia Park. We need volunteers for both St. Boniface and St. Mary celebrations. What a fun time with the kids and a great way to start the summer. If interested, contact Jill Hardebeck at [jill@buildwithcornerstone.com](mailto:jill@buildwithcornerstone.com)



## A Splashin' Good Time



In case you missed it, February 6th was a slide-filled, splashing, laughing, good time at Buccaneer Bay. What an awesome time for kids to play together and parents to socialize. A special thanks to Carrie Vinarcik and all the wonderful volunteers who arranged this event, served the tasty snacks, and made this event such a success!

## Questions? Suggestions? Comments? Want to find out how you can help with PTO events?

Then feel free to contact one of your PTO co-leaders. They would love to hear from you! The co-leaders are: **Liz Pestow** ([epestow@gmail.com](mailto:epestow@gmail.com)); **Jill Hardebeck** ([jill@buildwithcornerstone.com](mailto:jill@buildwithcornerstone.com)) and **Jeanne Marks** ([jeannemarks1@yahoo.com](mailto:jeannemarks1@yahoo.com)).

### ***PTO's GOAL for 2011-2012***

Assist the Faculty and Staff of St. Boniface and St. Mary in increasing the use of technology throughout the schools and in all academic areas.