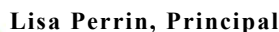




Tobasko Times



George Bode, LaSonn Porter & Melissa Smith
Assistant Principals

230 Pirate Dr.

St. Rose, LA 70087

504-464-9254

fax: 504-468-8064

Principal's Message

The holidays are rapidly approaching, and they will provide another opportunity to make magical moments with our children. It is the perfect time to enjoy our families and friends, relax, and rejuvenate.

During this time of the year, I also like to reflect on the first semester of school. Many wonderful things have happened at SRE in the first two nine weeks, and we are very proud. Our faculty, staff, and students are truly taking the time to work hard each and every day to make ordinary moments yield extraordinary results. Please take time during the holidays to support our efforts to continue to increase our students' achievement. Consider setting aside a time each day to read to and with your children. Talk about the stories, characters, and events and have your child retell you the story orally and in writing. Make time to review math facts and practice with flash cards each day. We would also like to encourage our students to write! A holiday journal would be a great idea to continue working on those skills. Your child could write about the magical moments during the holidays, and you could respond to your child in this journal. Another idea is to write about their plans for the new year and set goals for the next semester.

We would like to wish all of our SRE families a joyous and peaceful holiday season. We appreciate your continued help and support. Your assistance truly makes a difference in our school. It is only through a true partnership that we create positive conditions for learning and achieve extraordinary results.

~ Lisa Perrin ~



Ordinary to Extraordinary

Save the Date!

12/2 K-1 Concert
@ Cammon

12/4 Santa Pictures

12/7-12/11 PTO Santa Shop

**12/10 Rotary Club
Lights**

12/15 Band/Choir Concert

12/18 Early Dismissal
-Red and Green
Spirit Day

12/21-1/1 Christmas Holidays

Upcoming Events

1/4 School Resumes

1/6 Science/Social Studies Fair

1/14 & 1/15 Parent/ Teacher Conferences



Extraordinary Efforts

We know that you witness many extraordinary efforts at home and out in the community such as helping neighbors clean, cleaning without being asked, or kindness to others.

We would love to hear about your child's extraordinary act.

Student	Teacher
1	1
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97	97
98	98
99	99
100	100

Grade	Parent/Guardian Signature
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Extraordinary Effort:

From the Nurse:

Melissa Bird, RN



Dear Family,

"Wash your hands before you eat!" You've spoken these words plenty of times, and it's good advice. One way germs are spread is through hand contact, and the objects we handle the most every day are the dirtiest. Can you guess what they are?

If you guessed the toilet, you're right. But get this: a kitchen sink may be even dirtier than a toilet! A kitchen sink can be crawling with bacteria from leftover food particles. Other germ-y items include remote controls, cell phones, computer keyboards, door handles, coins, and paper money—the list goes on and on.

Germs on your hands can enter your body through your eyes, mouth, and nose. What's the first line of defense? Hand washing with soap and water! Clean hands are the best protection against colds, flu, food poisoning, and lots of other nasty infections.

Let's work together to promote good hand hygiene, both at home and at school. Even though we teach kids about hand washing early, research shows they need to be reminded throughout their teenage years. Reinforcing this lesson will help them stay healthy for the rest of their lives.

Fast Facts

- People wash their hands more in public restrooms than at home.
- "Fist bumping" spreads significantly fewer germs than either hand shaking or high-fiving.
- Every 3 minutes, a child brings his hand to his nose or mouth.
- Some viruses can survive on surfaces for up to 72 hours.
- Every year, nearly 22 million school days are lost due to the common cold.



How to Wash

- **Wet** your hands under clean, running water.
- **Lather** up your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails with soap.
- **Scrub** for at least 20 seconds. Time yourself by singing the "Happy Birthday" song twice.
- **Rinse** under clean, running water.
- **Dry** with a clean towel.



When to Wash

- Before eating
- Before, during, and after preparing food
- After using the toilet
- After changing diapers or helping a younger child use the toilet
- After coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose
- Before and after treating a cut
- After being around someone who's sick
- After touching money
- After petting an animal or touching animal waste
- After touching anything that's dirty, like garbage or soil



St. Rose Elementary School implements the *The Olweus Bullying Prevention Program (OBPP)* to prevent and reduce bullying. Our efforts are designed to improve peer relations and make the school a safer and more positive place for students to learn and develop.

Mrs. Edwards, our art teacher, guided our third, fourth and fifth graders to design a T-shirt to promote our efforts to prevent bullying. The Take a Stand T-shirt (pictured above) design was inspired by Rayne Sanchez, Joy Terrell and Ja'Leah Gibson. Our students are encouraged to wear their bully-free shirts every Friday. This T-shirt is an approved school t-shirt for everyday wear.

Every Friday is Bully-Free Friday when each classroom teacher holds a class meeting with students, during which key concepts about bullying and related topics are discussed. Among the topics for discussion are:

What is bullying?

What are the different forms bullying can take?

What are the different roles students can take in a bullying situation?

What are possible consequences of bullying for the student who is bullied? How may bullying affect bystanders? Why is there reason to be concerned about students who bully?

What are the four school rules about bullying?

What should you do if bullying happens to you?

Who should you talk to if you see or experience bullying?



Bullying is when someone **repeatedly** and **on purpose** says or does mean or hurtful things to another person who has a hard time defending himself or herself.

Library-Technology Connection



*Accessing Online Resources from Home/ School

A great site to help students when doing research for reports and projects.

1. Go to the St. Rose home page
<http://www.stcharles.k12.la.us/strose>
2. Scroll over FOR STUDENTS and click on LIBRARY
3. On the left, click on ONLINE RESOURCES
Click on Worldbook Online Encyclopedia
(Online Encyclopedia)

Log in: sre (lowercase)

Password: dragons

****To access Gale Group Resources, the magazine, newspaper, encyclopedia database, follow the same steps 1-3. Then click Gale Student Edition Gold Resources.**

Password: dragons

****Access the St. Rose Elementary Library Catalog Online from Home**

- Go to our St. Rose Home Page
<http://www.stcharles.k12.la.us/strose>
- Scroll over FOR STUDENTS and click on LIBRARY
- On the left, click on LIBRARY CATALOG

Eureka Math Homework Help

- Go to our St. Rose Home Page
- Scroll on FOR FAMILIES and click on EUREKA MATH TIPS & HELP
- Select the grade, then the module

Homework Assistance Offered Through State Library of Louisiana

The State Library of Louisiana offers homework assistance services to parents and students at www.homeworkla.org. Homework Louisiana offers free online tutoring and academic resources from Tutor.com for Louisiana residents from kindergarten students through adult learners. Get help in math, science, social studies or English from a live tutor. The services can be accessed from a Louisiana public library, your home computer or your mobile device.

Library Nook



Sweet Magical Reads

Librarian- C. Whittaker

Assistant- L. Benedic

Our school wide reading program, **Sweet Magical Reads**, is going great.

-Please remind students to continue to read, complete the reading log, and return the form to the library.

-Prizes will be distributed to **all** students who turn in a reading log.

***Forms are due by the last Thursday of each month.**

Grade Level Library Spotlights:

Kindergarten students have begun checking out library books. They are very excited to select their own books.

First Graders have been reading Non Fiction texts and discussing /recording facts learned.

Second Graders are becoming efficient users of our Library Catalog.

Third Graders are reading fictional passages and showing comprehension through retelling and providing text evidence.

Fourth Graders are learning about a variety of text structures and the purposes for using different structures.

Fifth Graders are working on their biography research by selecting topics, analyzing resources, and citing sources.

****Please remind students to keep library books in their school bag and to return them on their library day!**

“Reading opens the doors to magical places.”

ESL CORNER

Thank you for coming to our ESL lunch at Saint Rose! Our next ESL lunch will be on Thursday, December 17 from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. **at Luling Elementary School**. Come celebrate Christmas with our ESL families!

Our next ESL lunch at **SRE** will be on Thursday, January 21 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Our ELL students are taking the second benchmark assessment this month. This assessment is aimed at tracking our students' progress in learning English (reading, writing, listening, and speaking).

Have a wonderful Christmas! Enjoy your December holidays!

El próximo almuerzo va a ser a la escuela de **Luling** el jueves 17 de diciembre de las 12:00 a la 1 y media. Vengan a celebrar la Navidad con las familias de ESL!

El próximo almuerzo a la escuela de **Saint Rose** será el 21 de enero de las 12:00 a la 1 y media.

Los estudiantes van a tomar el segundo examen de ingles este mes. Este examen sirve para verificar el progreso de los estudiantes al escuchar, al hablar, al leer y al escribir. Feliz Navidad! Disfruten sus vacaciones de fin de año!



**Dragons
have
spirit!**



October Students of the Month



Congratulations to 3rd grade teacher **Melissa Lestelle**! She was recently honored as SRE's Teacher of the Year for 2015–2016. We wish her the best of luck as she represents SRE at the district level.



Congratulations to the following 5th grade students who were eligible to be named Student of the Year and represent SRE at the district level: Emma Loper, Neveah Williams, Bradly Hubbard, Joshua Walther, Bailey Reynaud, Lydia Guichard, Helena Schuler, and Kaleb Tassara. **Joshua Walther** will represent SRE as the 2015-2016 **Student of the Year**. Congratulations, Joshua!

Congratulations Mrs. Mire!

At its annual conference in November, the Louisiana Association of Teachers of Mathematics (LATM) honored Mrs. Mire as the **2015 Outstanding Elementary School Mathematics Teacher**. This award recognizes Mrs. Mire for the outstanding contributions she has made to mathematics education. Congratulations, Mrs. Mire, and thank you for all that you do for the students and teachers at SRE!



Counselors' Corner



Welcome to our Counselors' Corner,

Wow, it is already December! It has been quite a busy year for us at school. This month can often be challenging as many of our schedules change with the upcoming holiday season. Here are a few helpful tips to ease the stress and enjoy our school time and family time.

*Keep to the schedule as much as possible. Children do well with routines.

*Continue working on homework and reviewing notes with your son or daughter.

*Plan future fun activities at home (for the weekend and off weeks from school). This will give children something exciting to look forward to for the weekend and holiday break.

*Ask about your child's day each day. For example: What was the most exciting part of your day? Children love talking about their learning and their school day.

*Go to the local library for a field trip. You can let them pick out their favorite book. After they read the book with you, they can tell you about the story, write about the story, and even draw something cool from the story. Nature hunts are also fun and can be done around your home. Children can write and draw about their discoveries.

*Discuss positive things each day. They can start a gratitude journal. Each journal page can have a title such as "Today, I am grateful for..." You can help them and give them ideas. They may want to write about their families, school, friends, teachers, coaches, etc.

As this busy season approaches, remember to focus on what really matters most. Slowing down and making time to enjoy our "priceless" moments make life fun and memorable.

Please remember that if you need to speak with Mrs. Denise or Mrs. Gabriel, feel free to contact us at (504) 464-9254.

Mrs. Denise (PK-2nd) & Mrs. Gabriel (3rd-5th)

Choir News: Holiday Events

The holiday season is here, and the St. Rose Elementary choir is looking forward to performing for you! Please join us at the following events:

♦ Tuesday, December 8th - Celebration in the Oaks

Performers meet at 7:30 pm. outside of the Carousel Park Entrance Gate.
Performance begins at 8:00 pm. Performers get in free. Tickets may be purchased online ahead of time if you'd like.

♦ Thursday, December 10th - West Bank Bridge Park Rotary Club Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

Performers meet at 5:30 pm at staging area 1. Performance is at 5:55 pm.

♦ Tuesday, December 15th - Holiday Program at SRE

Performers meet in the library at 6:00 pm. Performance begins at 6:30 pm.

Upcoming rehearsals: December 2nd, 8th, and 15th

Dress Code reminders for choir members:

Girls: long khaki pants or skirt (with stockings), long sleeve white blouse with collar, black dress shoes

Boys: long khaki pants, long sleeve dress white shirt, black dress shoes

DRESS CODE REMINDERS

- Outerwear (sweatshirts, sweaters, jackets) **must open the entire length of the front** by snapping, buttoning, or zipping.
- Plain white or hunter green sweatshirts/sweaters may be worn over the uniform.





Cake Bingo!



Thank you to all the families that were able to make it to our Cake Bingo night! It was a great night for families to relax and have fun together! Lots of yummy cakes were given out, and we had happy raffle winners, too! Thank you for showing your support for SRE!



Bus Notes!!



Riding any bus other than the one assigned to you is not allowed without permission from the office.

*If this is necessary, a **written note** must be sent from home requesting a bus change, and permission must be granted through the principal's office.*

All notes for bus or transportation changes must be given in **writing prior to 2:30 p.m.** each day.

Notes should include your child's full name, the teacher's name, date(s) of the change, and a parent/guardian signature.

You may fax notes (504-468-8064) or email to: scureaux@stcharles.k12.la.us or cdoriocourt@stcharles.k12.la.us.

Sign in and Sign out Procedures

Anyone signing in a student must bring the student to the school office specialist's desk and complete a tardy slip.

Anyone checking out a student must have a **picture ID** and be listed on the Emergency Card.

St. Rose Elementary Title 1 Family Center
Family & School: Together We Can Make a Difference

December

Sharon Woolf: swoolf@stcharles.k12.la.us

Hours: 8:30am – 3:30pm

Phone: 504-464-9254

Mrs. Cotton has accepted a position as Assistant Principal at Luling Elementary. We are working diligently to replace her. In the mean time, please contact the Family Center if you have any questions or need assistance. We will miss Mrs. Cotton and wish her the best in her new job.

The days are shorter. The winds are cooler. The kids are indoors more than usual. And the holiday songs tell us, "It's the most wonderful time of the year." The key to holiday joy is to focus on the family. There is shopping, decorating, parties, gift-giving, religious celebrations, and loads of busyness. Yet what matters most is the family.

As you think about buying gifts, consider buying a book. No matter what his/her age, make sure your child reads. According to Bob Riley, "No skill shapes a child's future success in school or in life more than the ability to read."

Encourage Your Children to Become Good Readers

There are a number of things parents, can do to encourage children to become good readers. Keep finding new opportunities for kids to read, or for you to read to them. One of the main reasons children don't read more is because they cannot find books they like to read. Help your children find books they love, and you are on your way to getting your children reading more.

Motivate your children to read by setting up a reading log or trying a bingo reading activity. Help your children to really understand and engage with books, making connections with the characters, situations, and settings. This connection will increase their enjoyment of books making it more likely that they will voluntarily pick up the next book.

Don't forget to be a good role model by being seen as a reader. And do continue to read aloud to your children. Up until the age of 13 or 14 years old children listen on a higher level than they read. So when you read aloud to children below this age, you can read stories with a level of complexity and interest which they would not be able to read on their own.

<http://www.childrens-books-and-reading.com/children-reading.html>

READING: KEY TO SUCCESS

- Set a special time each day for reading aloud together.
- Encourage your child to read to you when he or she is ready.
- Let your child see you enjoying reading.
- Use audio books that you and your child can listen to together and have your child follow along with the written words in the printed book.
- Play communication games with your child, such as Scrabble or Pictionary, which involve words and explaining what they mean.
- Practice day-to-day reading and writing, such as following a recipe or writing a note.
- Continue to check with the teacher and the pediatrician about your child's language development.

Reading is Necessary

Read something
 you truly enjoy.
 It could be the sports
 section of a newspaper,
 a magazine, or a book.
 The more you read,
 the easier it is to read.

READ



December



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1	2 Volunteer Day 10am K-1 Concert @ACM 6:30pm	3 Playgroup 10am Student of the Year Ceremony 6pm	4 Santa Pictures
7 PTO Santa Shop	8 PTO Santa Shop Choir Performance @ Celebration in the Oaks 8pm (arrive @ 7:30)	9 PTO Santa Shop	10 PTO Santa Shop Rotary Club Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony @ West Bank Bridge Park 5:55 pm (meet @ 5:30)	11 PTO Santa Shop
14	15 Band/Choir Holiday Program 6:30pm (meet at 6:00)	16	17 Playgroup 10am	18 Early Dismissal @ 12:35 pm Spirit Day-Red/Green Day
21 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	22 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	23 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	24 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	25 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
28 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	29 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	30 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	31 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	

Tobasko the Dragon is our school mascot. He would love to hear from our SRE parents. If you have any suggestions for school improvement, concerns or input, please write them below and return them with your child. We will print a follow-up in our next newsletter.

Student: _____ Grade: _____ Parent Signature: _____

Suggestions/Ideas/Input/Concerns:
