

Summerville Catholic School

Where Faith and Knowledge Meet

Volume 5 Issue 1

Fall 2011

OUR MISSION

Summerville Catholic School, located in Summerville, South Carolina within the Diocese of Charleston, serves K-4 to 8th Grade families. As a Catholic school community, we believe in the uniqueness, dignity and potential of every student. Following the life and example of Jesus Christ, we strive to build character while teaching compassion. By strengthening our students in spirit, mind and body, we prepare them to lead lives based on faith, values and learning.



Educational Excellence
Spiritual Strength

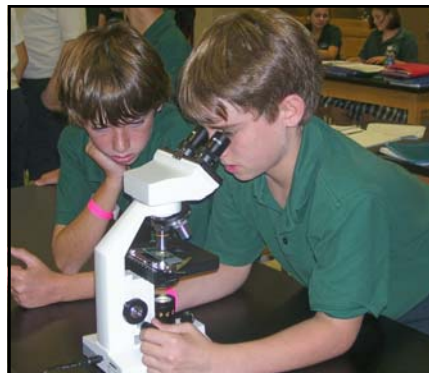
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Enhancing our Education

Firmly grounded in the Catholic faith, at SCS we inspire academic inquisitiveness and spiritual growth. Our faculty and staff nurture the unique talents and strengths of each student while being fully engaged with parents and the surrounding community. This is the vision of Summerville Catholic School.

Academic inquisitiveness is exactly what all our students can now experience in our newly renovated science lab. Our second graders visit the lab on a regular basis. They made a hypothesis about seed development in different growing conditions. Our kindergarten students put an egg in vinegar and made a prediction about what would happen to the egg shell. The junior high students examined plankton under the microscope and were amazed by these unusual organisms. This hands on learning approach has even inspired some students to conduct their own science experiments at home!



Students in K4-8th grade regularly visit our newly renovated science lab.



Community Connection

The mission of Summerville Catholic School is to prepare our students to lead lives based on faith, values and learning. These values are visible throughout the year as our students and families reach out to those in need. Members of our Junior High Beta Club recently sponsored a bake sale during lunch and raised just over \$100. The Beta Club officers went shopping for crayons, markers and coloring books that were donated to My Sisters House.



Connecting with the community by donating books to My Sisters House.

Letter From the Principal

Dear Families and Friends,

We live in a world that appears increasingly materialistic and selfish. As followers of Jesus, we often struggle with this reality. Jesus told us that "I have not come to be served, but to serve." On a very hopeful note, many children today are able to see clearly the overemphasis on material things in our world and are determined and ready to do something to change that. Social researchers call many of the children in today's schools a "hero generation." We see evidence of this in many programs that young people have started in their schools and communities to meet the needs of the poor and needy. It is certainly part of

who we are here at Summerville Catholic School. Today's young people are committed to making our world a cleaner and more just world in which to live.

As technology brings the world closer, it becomes clearer that all human beings rely on one another. It is our charge to work together to do all we can to make our world a better place. The kinds of changes necessary to do this are both grand and small in scale.

What can you do to teach your child the importance of service to others?

- *Model reverence for all creation.
- *Show compassion for those who are less fortunate or in need.

*Consider a family service activity such as working in a soup kitchen or helping a neighbor with yard work.

*Encourage your child to be generous in helping at school either through clubs or whenever there is need.

*More importantly, lead by example.

The path of service is a rewarding one. Do what you can to encourage this belief and practice in your family.



Peace in Christ,
Lisa Tanner
Principal

Parent School Association

The PSA is off to a great start this year. Our annual Welcome Back Picnic provided an evening of food, fun and fellowship. The St. Theresa's Knights of Columbus helped us cook for this event and donated \$500 to the PSA.

Our eager volunteers have already begun to help the school. Many joined us for our school clean up day. They have been selling chocolate bars and are busy organizing our Travel the Orient Express Live and Silent Auction coming up in

November. We once again look forward to working together to support the school. Last year, with your help, we were able to give mini-grants to teachers and help with the cost of new computers for our computer lab. This year, we are working toward getting new playground equipment for the school. Through your donations of time, talent and treasure, we will be able to meet this goal. Thank you for your support!

Suzanne Scott—PSA President



SCS Fun Run for Education

Reflect, Reconnect, and Renew

Take a few moments to **REFLECT** on the expectations you have for your child's education. Do you value an education that believes in the uniqueness, dignity and potential of every child where the life and example of Christ is modeled?

Becoming an active part of SCS allows parents and supporters the chance to **RECONNECT** with old friends, meet new

friends and build a personal connection with the school.

We are asking you to **RENEW** your commitment to SCS and make a gift to the 2011-12 Annual Fund. Donations to the Fund are a demonstration of your support for the quality education the school provides. Money raised this year will be used to continue upgrading technology.



Peace Be With You

SCS students begin each school week pledging to build peace at home, at school and in their community each day. The students pledge to praise people, give up put-downs, seek wise people, notice and speak up about hurts that have been caused, to right wrongs, and to help others.

For the second year in a row, the SCS faculty and students have focused on activities to foster a peaceful learning environment. Students are caught for being a “peace builder” and recognized at morning prayer. A note is also sent home so the family can praise and reward their child with a hug or other activity to celebrate.

Mrs. Tanner recently spent time visiting classrooms and reading a story from one of her favorite books titled *The Big Book of Peace*. The students enjoyed listening to the story and sharing how the main character demonstrated being a peace builder.

On September 21st, the school community came together for Mass in celebration of International Day of Peace. The Singing Saints lead the congregation in the final song *Let There Be Peace on Earth*. The highlight of the day came when the entire student body gathered in the back parking lot to spell out the word P-E-A-C-E. Fireman Jake and the Summerville Fire Dept. came with their bucket truck so we could get an aerial

view for our picture. SCS parent George Higgins was given an authentic fireman hat and bravely volunteered to be lifted over 25 feet to take the picture. What a perfect way to end the day!



Peace I leave with you;
my peace I give you.

John 14:27

School Advisory Board

Your SCS Advisory Board is back and ready to begin another wonderful year. We welcomed two new members to the board this year and are ready to implement Year 3 of 3 of our SCS Strategic Plan.

Just what does the School Advisory Board do? The members assist with the mission of the school. It acts as a consultative and advisory group to Msgr. Christopher Lathem, canonical pastor, in

the development of policy and the educational needs of the school, and as a liaison between the school and parish communities. The board addresses areas of need raised by the administrator or board members and gives general direction for administrative action. The board evaluates where the school is and where it will be in the next 3-5 years. It develops plans and means to finance ongoing programs. The board imple-

ments ideas where we can share the school’s mission and philosophy with the public. The board is always looking for volunteers to serve on one of the many committee such as development, marketing, mission enhancement or facilities. We invite you to visit our school website for the current strategic plan. We appreciate your support as together we foster a school where faith and knowledge meet.

Differentiating Instruction

SCS teachers have been implementing new strategies in the classroom to make sure their instruction meets the needs of every learner. To assist in this endeavor, we will be using Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) Tests. These computerized tests are adaptive and offered in reading, language usage, and math.

Testing will provide information to guide instruction. Early identification of achieve-

ment levels is foundational for teachers establishing an environment for early academic success. Teachers will use the data to identify the needs of all students, from struggling to advanced. MAP tests utilize engaging test items that encourage student participation for accurate results. MAP tests are important to teachers because they keep track of progress and growth in basic skills. They let teachers know where a student’s strengths are if help is needed

in any specific areas. Teachers use this information to help guide instruction in the classroom. Just as you would measure your child’s height on a growth chart., MAP tests will allow teachers to measure your child’s progress or growth in school.

We are eager to begin this new venture and to use results to guide our instruction. This testing program is one more way to ensure all students experience success.

Summerville Catholic School

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Annual Report 2011

SPIRIT

Prayer Partners
 All Saints Parade
 Pet Blessing
 First Communion Mass
 Social Justice Program
 Living Stations
 Rosary Garden



MIND

Smart Math Program
 Renaissance Fair
 Math Night
 Accelerated Reader
 Musical Performances
 Spelling Bee & Geography Bee



BODY

Sports Program
 Band Program
 Chess & Art Club
 Summer Robotics Camp
 PSA Fun Run
 Jump Rope for Heart

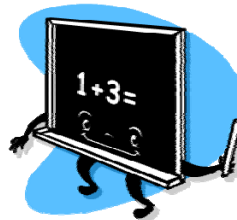


Facts and Figures

Income

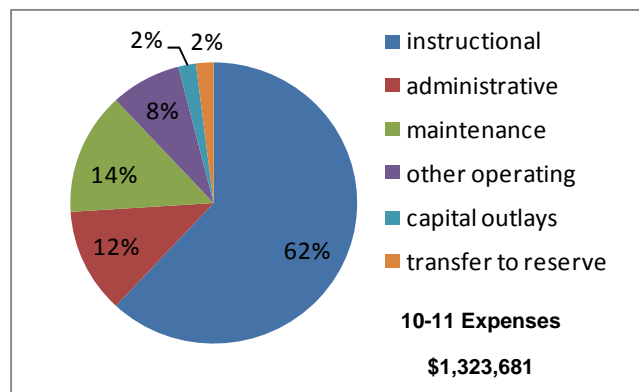
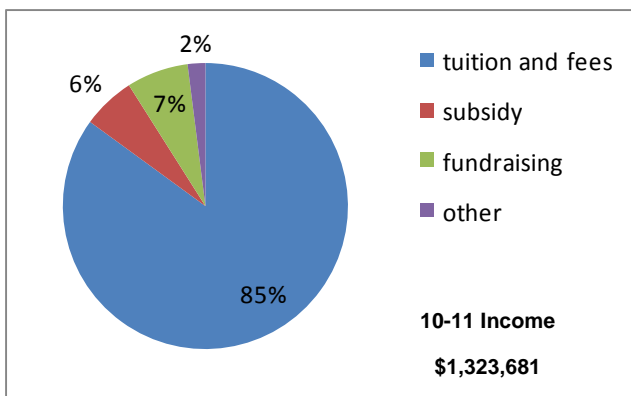
\$22.11: Tuition
 \$ 2.55: Registration/book fees
 \$ 2.32: Parish Subsidy
 \$ 1.18: Fundraising
 \$ 0.38: Other

11-12 per pupil cost: \$5,139
 \$28.55 per day cost (180 days)



Expenses

\$ 4.25: Administrative expenses
 \$17.52: Instructional salary/benefits
 \$ 1.81: Instructional expenses
 \$ 4.56: Maintenance expenses
 \$ 0.11: Other expenses



2010-2011 Annual Appeal Sponsors

Annual Appeal Giving

2010-2011

We would like to thank the friends and family of Summerville Catholic School for their continued generosity and support. We value each and every one of you and your commitment to us as we continue to foster a school where faith and knowledge meet.

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Note to donors- This is a list of all our wonderful patrons who contributed during the 2010-2011 school year and helped us raise \$14,123.05. If there is an error, please call the school office at 843-873-9310.

Thank you ALL for continuing to make such wonderful things happen at SCS.

2010-2011 Funding Supported:

Computers

Landscaping

Tuition Assistance

Remember,

success

is a journey,

not a destination.