Roots to Wings

When you think of childhood, education and the process of “growing up” what it really boils down to is “Roots to Wings”. As a young child we establish roots, especially at Seton Catholic. Beginning at home, and in preschool and kindergarten, we are rooted in our faith thanks to very faith-filled women like Mrs. Cheryl Kitchin and Mrs. Angie Parker. We go through the process of learning about everything, big and small, with the help of many amazing educators. Our primary and intermediate students begin serving God through the church by being greeters, song leaders, readers and altar servers. Mrs. Debbie Hanneman, Mrs. Lis Deitsch and Mrs. Terri Schroeder teach us how to serve the Lord through the church. Throughout the junior/senior high years, our faith is strengthened and our moral compasses are set North as Mr. Mike Waters and Mrs. Marcy Valentini challenge us to look at the world through the eyes of Christ. We begin to formulate opinions about the world and all of it's challenges until one day we graduate from high school and “spread our wings”. Then we are released to fly into the world to share what we have learned. The Seton Catholic experience is truly one that allows human growth from “Roots to Wings”!

Two Friendly Requests:

1. Are you a registered graduate from Seton Catholic Schools (Holy Family, St. Andrew's or St. Mary's)? If not, please submit your name, address, phone number and email information to us at alum@setonschools.org.

2. We would appreciate it if you would pass along your copy of Cardinal Points to family, friends and former classmates!

Class of 2012 Goes Above & Beyond…

On Sunday, June 3rd, the 20 members of the Class of 2012 joined the ranks of the 73 alumni who have already graduated from Seton Catholic High School. This year's graduating class is the first class to surpass the $1 million mark with awards topping $1,730,000 in merit-based college scholarships and grants. With a graduation rate of 100%, all members satisfied the requirements established by the State of Indiana to receive a
Enrollment Blessings Come Through State Dollars

Seton Catholic Elementary and High School populations have grown tremendously this year! Our enrollment growth is thanks in large part to the state’s new voucher program. The Choice Scholarship program gives Hoosier families the opportunity to send their children to a school that best meets their learning needs. A voucher, or “Choice Scholarship,” is a state payment that qualifying families can use to offset tuition costs at participating private schools; such as Seton Catholic Schools. Both choice scholarships have opened a door to make Seton Schools a viable, affordable option for families. Presently, Seton Catholic High School has 12 students enrolled using the Choice Scholarship option and Seton Catholic Elementary has over 30 students using both scholarship options! Families have been excited to join the Seton family where their children will be challenged with a rigorous academic program, including religious studies, offered in a safe and structured atmosphere for both Catholic and non-Catholic students.

For the Love of Art!

Our school is very blessed to have Mrs. Angie Parker as part of it’s staff! Mrs. Parker shares the love of art with her students each year during Art Month. During this time students learn the history of famous artists like Michelangelo, Vincent Van Gogh, Leonardo Da Vinci, Claude Monet and others. Then, the students are asked to replicate their work. At the end of the unit parents, grandparents and community members are invited to come view the gallery and hear a historical presentation from the students. It is a very enriching unit that the students love!

Seton Catholic High School Branches Out

On Friday, April 27, 134 SCHS students and nearly 30 staff and parent volunteers took part in our annual Branch Out Day. Branch Out Day featured the entire SCHS student body spending a school day performing meaningful Christian service out in the community. Once again this year, we were blessed to be able to partner with a number of terrific Richmond-area nature preserves, nursing homes, Richmond Civic Theater, Richmond Parks Department, Starr-Gennett Walk of Fame, as well as charitable and social outreach organizations to make this happen. Mayor Sally Hutton helped one team spruce up a neighborhood. Branch Out Day proved to be a profound experience for our students as they engaged in Christian service in a different way. Scripture tells us that when we give of ourselves in service to others, we receive more than what we give. This thought is at the core of Branch Out Day.
Our 5th Grade Students Create Their Very Own Wax Museum

Alexander Graham Bell, Deborah Sampson, John Pemberton, Lucretia Mott... what do they all have in common? They were all featured at the 5th Grade Wax Museum this year. The Wax Museum is an annual project completed in the 5th grade in which a student selects an American figure and reports on how that person helped to shape the United States. Students are required to do research, create a written report, then give a brief presentation “Wax Museum-style”. Student, Taylor Haager says, “I like the challenge of memorizing the facts and reciting them to anyone who ‘pushes my button’”. It is a fun project that students are eager to do!

Kindergartner to Senior...

For the Class of 2012 some 2,375 school days passed between kindergarten and graduation. Much has happened, but what has really changed? As Meghan Cooper, co-Salutatorian, stated in her recent speech at Commencement, “I'm not sure our class ever left kindergarten, and I wouldn't have it any other way.”

“In Kindergarten, everyone is your friend; snack time is the best time; no one can pick on your siblings but you; and your dreams will be your future,” Meghan recited. Anyone familiar with the Class of 2012 knows that they never gave up on any of those beliefs. The senior hall affectionately became known as the “Senior Snack Bar” by faculty and staff, as there was always enough food to go around.

Meghan continued, “Another great part of the kindergartner in each of us is that we stick together and stick up for our school.” Through class retreats, prayer and worship students become a family that may sometimes bicker, but always come together in the end to support each other.

Lastly Meghan spoke on dreams. “Our dreams will be our futures. Mr. Love always tells us in band that it won't matter if our careers are lucrative, we should do what we love and that will always be enough.” Not one member of the Class of 2012 has lost sight of what they wanted to be from kindergarten to present... happy. Meghan quoted John Lennon in saying, “When I was 5 years old, my mother always told me that happiness was the key to life. When I went to school, they asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up. I wrote down 'happy.' They told me I didn't understand the assignment, and I told them they didn't understand life.” Never lose the kindergartner inside of you, never compromise, never stop laughing and never take life too seriously.

Co-Salutatorian Meghan Cooper addresses her fellow graduates at their commencement ceremony.
Class of 2012
Goes Above & Beyond…
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Core 40 Diploma; and 50% graduated with Academic Honors. At the top of the class, Harold Smith received the honor of Valedictorian; while Meghan Cooper and Lauren Klaine were Co-Salutatorians for this fine group of young people. Clay Dolesh was presented with the Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein award during the Commencement Ceremony for his academic success, service work to the school and community, and his overall Christian attitude.

One graduate will enter the military in the fall, while the remaining 95% of graduates will enter college. Five of the graduates will be attending out-of-state schools, while 70% will remain in-state heading to the college towns of Indianapolis, Terre Haute, West Lafayette, and Bloomington.

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Elise Hope Armstrong
College: Ohio University
Major: Music Performance

Mathieu Shane Blakely
College: Marian University
Major: Undecided

Bo Chen
College: University of Illinois
Major: Civil Engineering

Meghan Elizabeth Cooper
College: Earlham College
Major: International Studies, Theatre

Gabrielle Mackenzie Curren
College: Marian University
Major: Nursing

Mary Beth Deitz
College: Purdue University
Major: Graphic Design

Samuel Joseph Dickman
College: Indiana University
Major: Psychology

Matthew Clay Dolesh
College: Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Major: Mechanical Engineering

Samantha Elise Elstro
College: Marian University
Major: English

Liliana Guzman
College: Earlham College
Major: Art & Language

Katelyn Brook Haager
College: Miami of Ohio
Major: Psychology

Lauren McKenzie Klaine
College: Earlham College
Major: Biology/Pre-med

Ashley Nicole Mann
College: IU East
Major: Business

Robert Daniel Marsee
College: University of Dayton
Major: Electrical Computer Engineering

Christina Marie Pennington
College: Purdue University
Major: Psychology

Brian Matthew Retter
College: IU East
Major: Marketing

Audrey Elaine Shake
United States Navy

Harold Edwin Smith
College: Purdue University
Major: Computer Engineering

Colleen Susanna Straight
College: Earlham College
Major: Elementary Education

Caleb Joseph Warner
College: IU East
Major: Criminal Justice

Please join us in congratulating them on their tremendous efforts. They will be truly missed!