

# THE SFR LANCER

February 2010



## Open House & Science Fair



### Upcoming Events

✚ March 18  
Eat out for school  
night (Thursday)  
at Shakey's Pizza  
in Covina, CA

✚ March 25  
Talent show, come  
and see what the  
faculty and  
students have  
prepared for you  
for this evening!

✚ March 25-  
K-1<sup>st</sup> field trip to  
Citrus College

✚ March 31-  
The Living  
Stations by the 6<sup>th</sup>  
grade



On Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup> we had our Open House and Science Fair. It was a wonderful evening and a great success!! A lot of family and friends showed up for this amazing event. Great job to all the students who put their best effort into their projects and experiments!! Projects from roller coasters to volcanoes, to California missions, solar systems, and clay animals were among some of the fantastic items on display. Parents and family members really enjoyed them all. Thank you to the students, parents, teachers and staff for all of the help in making this night possible.

By: **Gracyn Helbert** – 7<sup>th</sup> grade &  
**Abraham Trego** – 6<sup>th</sup> grade

Thank you to the committee of junior high students who made this newspaper possible.

**Editors in Chief:** *Gracyn Helbert and Kevin Oda*

**Editors:** *Savannah Cortes, Isabella Delemos, and Valerie Velasco*



## Fun Facts



- The moon is about 4.5 billion years old
- There are footprints on the moon.
- The sun is also about 4.5 billion years old.
- The sun is a ball of fire.

**By: Valerie Velasco & Savannah Cortes – 7<sup>th</sup> grade**



## Quote of the Month

**“Success is a peace of mind which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you did your best to become the best you are capable of doing.”- John Wooden**

**By: Aaron Machado-7<sup>th</sup> grade**

## Who Am I?



My name starts with an A; I work at school, and regularly volunteer at church and other religious retreats. I was born on February 29, and play piano, and the guitar. I also love to sing and praise God, not to mention help children practice their vocals. The kids love me, and are always joyful to see me when I walk through that door with a smile on my face. Who am I?

**By: Kevin Oda- 8<sup>th</sup> grade**

*Find answer on the last page*

## LENT

The beginning of Lent is on Ash Wednesday, a day in the Catholic Church when we receive ashes on our forehead, which symbolize repentance. It also reminds that we were made of "dust" and that one day we will be judged by God. Most Catholics give something up on Lent and it reminds us of the sacrifice that Jesus made for us. Lent is also a time to come closer to God and examine our souls and be free of sin. There are also three things we should do this time of year and they are: prayer, almsgiving, and fasting. We pray to become closer to God, we fast to be reminded of those who live in poverty, and we give to care for those in needs and share what God has given us.

**By: Valerie Velasco 7<sup>th</sup> grade**



## Student of the Month featuring 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Student... Adrian Hernandez

For this edition of The SFR Lancer, I chose someone who has a great attitude and an amazing brain!

Q: How long have you been at SFR?

A: Since kindergarten, so nine years.

Q: Who's your favorite teacher?

A: Mrs. Lennon because she's awesomely awesome in every awesome way.

Q: What are you looking forward at the end of the year?

A: The Knott's Berry Farm trip at the end of the school year.

**By: Nicole Ramirez – 6<sup>th</sup> grade**

## Teachers of the Month...Featuring Mrs. Alvarado & Mrs. Ortega

*This month we would like to showcase two of our fantastic teachers!*

I interviewed our incredible Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Alvarado and here is what she said:

Q: How long have you worked at SFR?

A: "This is my fourth year."

Q: What do you like most about SFR?

A: "I can feel the Holy Spirit among us, and I see His work all around."

Q: What makes SFR stand out from other schools?

A: "The feeling of family."

Q: Why did you choose to bring your children to SFR?

A: "I wanted them [my children] to have a catholic school education, and it has been very convenient for me to bring them here-the best school there is."

**By: Savannah Cortes – 7<sup>th</sup> grade**

I interviewed our amazing second grade teacher, Mrs. Ortega and here is what she said:

Mrs. Ortega has been at SFR since fall of 2007. She has been a teacher for 10 years. Mrs. Ortega's favorite part of the day is interacting with all students in the early morning, at recess and lunch. She enjoys teaching English, Math, Social Studies and Science. Her favorite part of teaching is reading. She likes to read novels, knit, and watch movies in her spare time.

**By: Cameryn Lopez -6<sup>th</sup> grade**

## "Pennies for Patients"

During February, SFR students donated money to help raise money to fund research for cancer. SFR is proud to be a part of this special cause.

I interviewed Mrs. Ball, who was responsible for collecting all money for this great foundation.

Here is what she said:

Q: Who won The Pennies for Patients Contest?

A: 1st grade with a huge collection of \$440.54

Q: Was it fun for all the classes to participate?

A: Yes

Q: Do you think the school put a lot of effort in it?

A: Most students did

Q: What was the total amount of money made?

A: \$1292.64

SFR is proud to be a part of "Pennies for Patients."

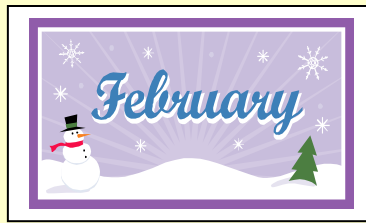
**By: Matthew Robles  
– 6<sup>th</sup> grade**



## SFR School-wide Learning Expectations (S.L.E.s)

Faithful Catholic  
Aware Citizen  
Innovative Student  
Thinking Person  
Honors Life

**F.A.I.T.H.**



During February, SFR students are focusing on SLE "H" – Students who honor life by making wise healthy life choices and setting goals to achieve in the future.

### Fun Facts:

- We swallow an average of 8 spiders per year while sleeping
- You can sweat as much as 3 gallons per day

By: Aaron Machado - 7<sup>th</sup> grade

Junior High Website:  
[www.classnotesonline.com](http://www.classnotesonline.com)

School Website:  
[wwwhttp://www.stfrancesofromeschool.org/.](http://www.stfrancesofromeschool.org/)

Dear Shirley,



How can fish breathe if there is no air underwater?

Dear Friend,

What really makes a fish different is its respiratory system. The water that surrounds a fish contains dissolved oxygen in a ratio of about 5 ml per liter. Therefore, fish must have a system that can extract that small amount of oxygen out of the water and into their bloodstream. They use their gills for this, which are found between the mouth and the beginning of the gut or food tract called the pharynx.

The process starts with the fish's mouth where he takes in water. When a fish opens and closes his mouth, he is pumping water back through the gills – his own way of breathing.



Your friend, *Shirley*

### If you have a question for Shirley...here's what you need to do:

If you have a question you would like an answer to, please "Ask Shirley!" Ask Shirley is a new column coming in every edition of the SFR Lancer. Write any question you have on a piece of paper and take it to the 6<sup>th</sup> grade classroom. Shirley will try to answer as many questions as possible. Be sure that your question remains anonymous.

Sincerely,

**Shirley**

THE SFR LANCER  
THE **Teen**



**Section**

**Top 10 Movies**

1. Shutter Island
2. Cop Out
3. The Craziest
4. Avatar
5. Percy Jackson & The Olympians
6. Valentine's Day
7. Dear John
8. The Wolf man
9. Tooth Fairy
10. Crazy Heart

**Top 10 New Songs**

1. Need You Now
2. Tik Tok
3. I Gotta Feeling
4. Imma Be
5. Bad Romance
6. Party In The U.S.A.
7. Hey Soul Sister
8. Blah Blah Blah
9. Fireflies
10. Soldier of Love

**By: Gracyn Helbert – 7<sup>th</sup> grade  
& Jena Gonzalives – 6<sup>th</sup> grade**



**Justin Bieber Gets a Birthday  
Smash Surprise in Germany!**



It looks like Justin Bieber is still celebrating his sweet sixteen! Last Friday, after his performance on the German music show “The Dome”, the host brought out a birthday cake that ended up on his face!

**By: Brianna Arredondo – 6<sup>th</sup> grade**

**Does Taylor Swift Still Like  
Taylor Lautner?**



(Photo by Kristian Dowling/Getty Images)

It's been awhile since we've last heard anything surrounding the Taylor and Taylor love drama, but it seems to have resurfaced thanks to a recent interview Taylor Swift had with *Elle Magazine*! We wonder if Taylor Lautner is blushing right now!

**By: Julia Alvarez – 6<sup>th</sup> grade**



## What is happening in our classrooms!!!

### Kindergarten News



In Kindergarten we are doing lots of growing up. We are at the beginning stages of writing and reading. We have been learning to read sight words and high frequency words. Some of us can read 105 words now. WOW! We celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school on Thursday 2/18. We can count to 100 by 1s, 2s, 5s, and 10s. In Science we are learning that we are a special gift from God, and that He has blessed us with many gifts. We learned that Jesus loves us very much and wants us to be good.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Grade News



The first graders are learning about the butterfly cycle, insects, and bees. We are using four square writing to communicate what we learn and see around us. Treating others with respect is an important concept that we have been focusing on all year long. We are reading everyday and working on high frequency words.

### 2nd Grade News



In Second Grade we are beginning Theme five in our Anthology book. Theme five is about family and relationships. We are learning the significance of getting along through interactions with others. Students are recognizing various ways to share with others, especially with brothers and sisters. Students will also learn about the importance as to why parents have rules.

### 3rd Grade News



Finishing four square paper on Native Americans  
 Graphing daily temperature of Los Angeles and New York  
 Learning about the commandment: Love thy Neighbor  
 Learning about Canada, eh!



### 4th Grade News



America the Beautiful poster to demonstrate what is beautiful about America (H)  
 Face of what Jesus may have looked like (F)  
 Essay about why leaves change color in the fall (T)  
 Reading Riding Freedom  
 Lenten crosses w/ lent promises upon it  
 Home/family missions on display until March 5

### 5th Grade News



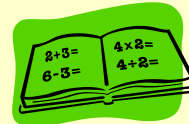
Limericks for March  
 "Good Deed" beads (ongoing Lenten Project)  
 Parents Letters for Open House using four square writing  
 "Town Meeting"- Readers Theater play  
 Tall Tales using four square and Tall Tale dolls  
 Did read- Aloud presentations in K-2  
 Created biographical playing cards for "Who Am I?" game  
 Game celebrating Black History Month

### 6th Grade News



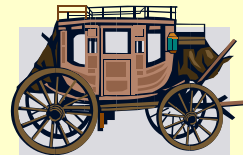
Persuasive Brochures  
 How to essay and posters  
 Story Tree for independent reading  
 Concept Maps for Science  
 Science Fair Projects  
 Four square writing  
 Reading Maniac McGee  
 Lenten Prayers  
 Stations of the Cross  
 Graphic Organizers for Writing  
 Fact and Opinion  
 Five Elements of a Story

### 7th Grade News



Math Concepts  
 Reading Comprehension Skills  
 Science Projects  
 Random Acts of Kindness

### 8th Grade News



Westward Ho!  
 In History, we are setting out on the Oregon Trail and learning what life was like in the Wild West  
 Trail of Tears  
 Creative Mobiles  
 Historical Commercials



Answer to Who Am I:  
*Ms. Amelia Acosta!!!*

### Poetry Contest Winners

In January, students were asked to participate in a poetry contest.

The following students were chosen as finalists for this edition of The SFR Lancer. Stay tuned for more student poetry next month.

### The Lucky Bird Couplet

The bird was the color red,

He had a brown comfy bed,

The bird met a buck

The buck gave him good luck

They became good friends

They said they would be friends to  
the end

**By: Dante Ramirez – 6<sup>th</sup> grade**

### Imagination

Whenever I'm bored  
or in a pit of despair  
I use my imagination  
knowing I'll find happiness there

I close my eyes  
and block everything out  
I can do this well  
not even hearing a shout

I see a world with peace and no  
war  
even down to the planet's sweet  
core

Here's where I go away  
A place I want to stay

I know it is fake  
This is the world I would take

**By: Katelyn Reyes - 7<sup>th</sup> grade**