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5th grade
Seton Catholic School

Seton Contests

I am going to be writing about several of the contests that we participate in at Seton Catholic School. These contests are the Contig Contest, the Geography Bee, and the Knights of Columbus Poster Contest.

For the Geography Bee, the teacher asks the students questions about places around the world. There are seven rounds in the Geography Bee. A student receives one point for each correct answer. If you get all seven points, you are very lucky! In the end, there is a tiebreaker. Whoever wins the tiebreaker moves on to the middle school to compete for the championship.

The Contig Contest is a little more complicated. Two to four students have a grid of numbers. They take turns rolling three dice, and they must add, subtract, multiply, and/or divide to come up with a number on the grid. They can earn points by marking a square that is touching other marked squares. If you lose against the other player, you are out. The final two winners then play against each other to see who is number one. The number one person will then go to Wilson Middle School to compete for the championship.

The Knights of Columbus Poster Contest is when each student draws a poster to discourage people from drinking alcohol or taking drugs. When you are finished, the art teacher sends the posters to the contest judges to see whose they like the best. They give a \$25 gift card to whoever wins! This year we even had two 5th graders win prizes in this contest!

There are still more contests that we participate in at Seton. The contests are so much fun because everyone gets to participate and it's a change from our normal school day!

Katrina Pfeiffer
5th Grade
Seton Catholic School

My Visit with Pope Francis

The red and blue lights were flashing. "Papa Francisco!" "Papa Franchesco!" "Pope Francis!" people yelled. I stepped forward. I was trying to get the best view of the Pope. Now I was up against the metal bars. People were pressed up against me. Security guards, people, and porta-potties were everywhere.

After four hours of waiting in line to get in, I finally got to see the Pope. Security guards were in front of us, on roof tops, simply everywhere. One guard even threatened to zap some children if they did not get down from a tree. They even took my sister's lunch because they thought it was dangerous.

The Pope came in his Pope Mobile. He was dressed in white. He said that family is the most important unit in the world and that we should love everyone as if we are one big family.

We prepared to see the Pope the preceding week by going to the youth congress at the World Meeting of Families. We went there while our parents went to meetings. We met children from all over the world including Syria, Italy, Mexico, Africa, Canada, Argentina, Spain, and many more. While we were in the congress, we did stuff like gospel dramas, time capsules, Saint Francis activities, scavenger hunts, playtime with nuns, dancing, science experiments with Brother Leo, and more. We also sang with Steve Angrisano and Jesse Manibusan who are international Catholic performers.

The event was so exciting!!!! I hoped Pope Francis would hug me because I heard that he hugged children, but I knew he would probably not hug me because security guards wouldn't allow it. After two days, and a week's worth of meetings preceding, it was all over. Time to go home. It was so fun and exciting. I loved it!

Kate Rector
5th grade
Seton Catholic School

The Importance of Reading

Reading is very important but also fun. Reading strengthens your grammar and spelling. It increases your vocabulary, too. Most of my vocabulary comes from reading incredible stories. In history books and other educational books, you can learn about the past and interesting events.

The fun side of reading is that books can take you on amazing adventures to places you can only dream about. I love to read and I find that it's like my own little world that I can escape into. Sometimes when a character has a problem and fixes it, it might help you with a problem of your own. You can find super cool heroes and infamous villains.

Sometimes we take reading books for granted. Some children in the world don't know the magic of reading their first book. Some don't even know what a book is. They only know the stories of their own heritage. We get to read stories that have been written on the other side of the world and learn new things about different nationalities and cultures.

Reading is a great opportunity to learn new things and experience magical places. It lets you create and dream all the while learning grammar, spelling, and vocabulary. I don't know what I would do if I couldn't have a nice book to read whenever I wanted to read it.

Josie Roland
5th grade
Seton Catholic School

JA BizTown

The students at Seton Catholic School are going on a field trip to JA BizTown this year. Let me tell you about what we have been learning for this field trip and about some of the fun jobs that we might get to have for JA BizTown.

First, we became official citizens of JA BizTown. We learned about the circular flow of an economy, and we also learned about the difference between private and public goods and services. Then we learned about how approximately 25% of a person's paycheck goes to taxes to help pay for the public services. I'm not sure what we are going to learn about next, but I know it will be fun!

Next, I'm going to tell you about some of the jobs at JA BizTown. One job is the D.J. of the Radio Station. This person takes care of the music and announcements for the town. It's my favorite. Another job is the designer of the Print Shop. This person makes the products for the shop and greets the customers. The last job is mayor of JA BizTown. It is an elected position, and this person must write and give speeches for the town meetings.

Emma Sottos
5th grade
Seton Catholic School

The Importance of Going to a Catholic School

When I wake up in the morning, I pray before I eat. When I go to school, we pray for all the families in our class who need prayers. Then we all stand and pray. This is one of the reasons why I like going to a catholic school. You're free to learn about God in school, not just at home. We usually have thirty minutes of religion each day where we have fun doing things like acting out stories from the Bible and learning about the rosary.

Every Thursday we go to mass. The priests' homilies inspire me to do things for other people, love God, and be a faithful Christian. I like to participate in mass too, like helping with the readings and alter serving.

Choir is another thing I do to participate in mass. I love singing and going up to the choir loft. I don't think that my life would be the same without music. The songs inspire me to be a strong follower of God. Even if you are not Christian, you can still listen to inspiring songs. If I didn't go to a catholic school, my life wouldn't be the same. I love God, and by going to a catholic school, I am able to show my love to Him every day.

Grant Welch
5th grade
Seton Catholic School

Catholic Schools Week

During the week of January 31st to February 6th, Catholic Schools around the country celebrated Catholic Schools Week. The theme of Catholic Schools Week was *Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service*. What this means is that all of the Catholic schools make a community of faith, a community that believes in God. We are also a community of knowledge, which is knowing a lot about God, and then we are a community of service, which is serving God in many different ways such as simply going to mass, praying, or talking about the readings of the gospels. All of these things and a lot of others serve God and God loves that.

Throughout Catholic Schools Week, we had many different activities. On Monday, the middle school students attended mass at Alleman High School. Another activity was the Open House on Tuesday. Our parents and grandparents were able to come and visit us in the morning and then take us out to lunch. Then two of my favorite activities were the Spaghetti Dinner and basket raffle and Student Appreciation Day. There were a ton of games and many different kinds of baskets at the Spaghetti Dinner. For Student Appreciation Day, the students got to make their own ice cream sundaes and eat them during lunch. They were both so much fun!

I love that I can be a part of Seton and Catholic Schools Week. It was one of the best weeks at Seton! In fact, I hope all students of Catholic Schools enjoyed their week like us at Seton School.