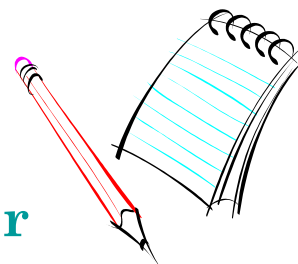




# St. John Gazette

St. John School Student Newspaper



## Coming soon!



The St. John Gazette staff is working hard to bring you the first edition of the school newspaper. Watch this space for our first edition. See a letter from our Editor, John Milburn on page 2.

**Have you read the news?** - There was a camp song that I remember singing in my younger days that it only takes a spark to get a fire burning. In that case, it was God's love and the song called on Christians to spread that love and message to others.

In a way, that's what I am trying to do with a project that we have started this year at St. John Catholic School. With the help of Michelle Powell and Karen Dixon, we are starting the St. John Gazette, an online newspaper written by, for and about the students at our school. The first edition is scheduled to make its debut on the school web page in the coming weeks.

Fifth and sixth grade students comprise the staff. They have divided themselves among beat teams covering a variety of school and parish activities. Some students also will be taking photographs, recording audio, and working on the design of the paper. Other students in the Technology Club will assist with the Gazette's production.

I must say, the enthusiasm shown by the students is inspiring. They have a good concept of gathering news and what would make interesting reading for themselves, parents, grandparents and members of the parish. Students have come up with some good story ideas about what is happening in and out of the classroom, in the parish, and what alumni of St. John are now doing in junior high school and beyond.

The project reminds me of the spark that my elementary school teachers started with me growing up in Pittsburg. They hooked me on reading, writing and researching topics, instilling in me the importance of communicating the events and ideas that I found interesting to others. That pushed me toward the University of Kansas and my career as a professional journalist. Now, as a reporter for The Associated Press and two of our three children in St. John, I hope that my work on this project will help inspire another generation of reporters to go down the same path I once did.

In closing, I would like to thank the school staff for embracing my idea for starting the newspaper and allowing me to play a part in this project. It hasn't hit the web yet, but I already feel it has been a rewarding experience. We will be one of the few elementary schools in the nation with an online newspaper, so take pride in this new effort and in the outstanding effort being put forth by your children. Pray for their continued success. They truly are a blessing.

Thanks for letting me be a part of their development. In Christ's peace, — John Milburn, School Parent