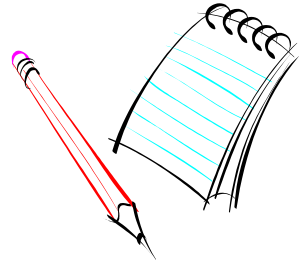




# St. John Gazette

St. John School

October 7, 2008 Volume 2, Issue 1



Ryal and Maddie

## The First Day Of School

All the students of St. John School gathered on August 25, 2008, in front of the school as their parents waved goodbye. Students spent the first hour of their morning classes getting all of their supplies ready.

“All the students look happy to be back at school,” quoted Mrs. McD., the intermediate science teacher.

After their morning classes students enjoyed a recess. More classes came, then lunch, and another recess. After their last classes, students returned home to get ready for another school day.

“It was crazy and hectic at the same time! It was fun to see all the students,” Mrs. Alexander said.



Photos by school and Gazette staff



## Yum! Ice Cream!

By Maddie, Marlee, and Kenny



Saint Johns families met in the church hall to eat ice cream and mingle, August

27. The PTO supplied the ice cream, and the school families brought all the toppings. Parents and students talked and had fun eating their ice cream and playing in the churchyard!!!!!!!!!! This event brought people together, new and old students. Hannah said, "It was awesome and yummy." This is always an event that students look forward to.

"It's fun to catch the kids that go back for seconds for ice cream!"

exclaimed Ms. Domann. (It's obvious that St. John's kids love ice cream!) Hopefully this tradition of the Ice Cream Social will carry on for many years to come!!!!!!!!!!





## Lab Rats

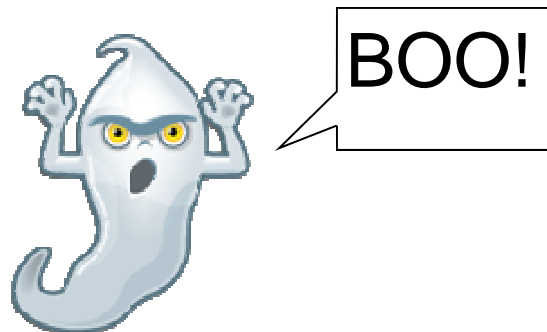
By Ryal, Maddie, and Kennedy

Last week sixth graders and Mrs. McDonald started an experiment to learn the importance of eating healthy foods and how bad food can affect your body. The experimentees were rats! The names are Test and Control. Test gets unhealthy food and Control gets the opposite. Every week students measure the rats' tail lengths and weight.

### Open to all ages of students:

During October please submit any creative fall or Halloween ideas fit for publication including:

- drawings
- comics
- scary stories, legends
- costume ideas
- poems
- jokes



You may submit them to Mrs.. Powell with your name on the back. We hope to include as many as possible in the next issue of the Gazette.



## Elmo Advice Column

Dear Elmo,  
I'm not sure, but I think my friend is being bullied. Help!  
-Concerned



Dear Concerned,  
Do you know who is bullying your friend? If so, tell a trusted adult or teacher, or ask the bully to stop. At the same time, don't turn all of your friends against the bully. That is really nice to be so concerned about your friend.  
Your best buddy,  
-Elmo



Dear Elmo,  
Sometimes I feel lonely even with my friends. What should I do?  
-Lonely

Dear Lonely,  
Are you playing games at recess that you like? Maybe you could suggest playing a game YOU like to play with your friend. Or try a new game with a different group of people. Maybe even try to play with a different grade of students.  
Your best buddy,  
-Elmo



**Enrollment Day**  
**August 22, 2008**  
Photos by school and  
Gazette staff



# OLWEUS BULLYING PREVENTION PROGRAM

Prevent Bullying

By: Olivia, Hannah,  
and Lauren

On September 3 in the gym, 6th graders in the Varig class performed skits for the whole school showing examples of bullying. Mrs. Broadwell practiced and prepared with the sixth graders. The skits demonstrated where bullying happens and when and how the victims feel after being bullied. One of the skits was about a kid who was teased because of his glasses and his clothes. Another was about a kid who was left out because he was a boy and the rest were girls sitting at a table. He started crying. The other skit showed how some kids might save spots at lunch by putting a milk or their feet up to make them think that someone was sitting there. These were good examples of what students should not do and also helped demonstrate how bystanders can help.

At the beginning of the assembly we sang “All Are Welcome,” and at the end of the assembly we sang “We’re All in This Together.” Many kids danced and sang, so did the teachers. It is obvious that the teachers and the students want to prevent bullying!

Testing! Testing!

By A Gazette Reporter



Iowa Tests of Basic Skills and the Cognitive Abilities Tests have been completed by the third and fifth graders from September 15<sup>th</sup> through September 25<sup>th</sup>. The students took a portion of the tests every day, mostly in the morning. The tests measure the students' performances in the basic content areas as well as thinking skills. It is the first time for the third graders to take these types of standardized tests. Mrs. Powell said, “The students worked very hard. I think they are very glad to be finished...for now.” The student schedules are back to the normal routine, and everyone is glad about that.

# Sixth Staff Summer Stories

## My Summer at Table Rock Lake

By Marlee

This summer my family went to Table Rock Lake in Missouri for our annual summer vacation. We have gone to many different places for our summer vacations, but over the past few years we have gone to a lake in Missouri, either Table Rock or The Lake of the Ozarks. This year there was horrible flooding in Table Rock Lake, because of the huge amount of rain. Most docks were under-water as well as some tree-trunks. By the time we got there though, the flooding had gone down, and it was safe to ride your boat on the lake. We stayed in a lake house near the shore. While we were on the lake, we went to a place where you could rope swing into the lake. We also went to a place where you could go cliff jumping into the lake, on cliffs as high as fifteen-twenty feet off the ground! It was a lot of fun! My family and I also enjoyed tubing and skiing on the lake! Hopefully we will be

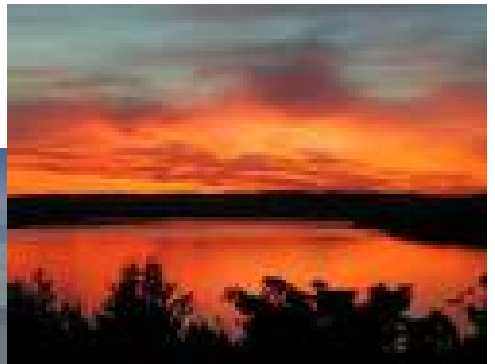
able to go there next year and enjoy



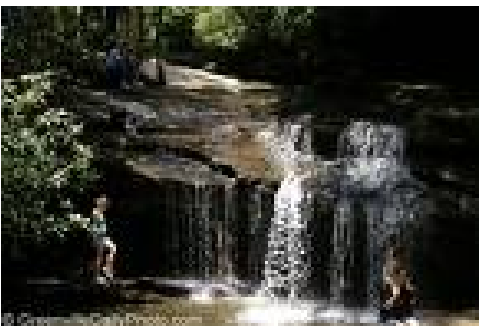
mo.gov



knitorknot.net



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# Marvelous Morocco

By Sadie

Summer is the best time for adventure, I think. You get to do sports, hang out with friends, and travel. I like that traveling part a lot. This summer I got to go all the way across the world. My family and I traveled to Morocco, Africa. Let me tell you more.

The flight there was the hardest part because we were all so excited. We got our first taste of Moroccan food, and learned one of the words we used the whole trip, “*Merci*”, which means “thank you” in French.

A lot of our trip was touring cities. Each city has a Medina, which is basically a market with a road that's very thin and twisty. Morocco is a third-world country, which means that a lot of people are living in poverty. A cool thing is that if someone asks you for money or food, it is part of the culture to say yes.

Another different thing is their money. Their currency is called dirham. It takes seven dirham to make an American dollar. We spent most of our time shopping and eating. Moroccans are known for food. Every Friday everyone in the whole country eats couscous, which is like bead-shaped rice. On top are various vegetables like pumpkin, carrot, squash, and potatoes.

Religion is a huge part of their culture. Just as we practice Catholicism, most Moroccans are Muslim. Five times a day there is a call to prayer, and all the men go to the local mosques. The traditional outfits are very conservative, and the women cover almost all of their body.

Some of my favorite parts of the trip were when we stayed in a beach house and in the mountains.

Morocco was an amazing experience. I got a taste of a whole new world, and I really loved it. It made me realize just how fortunate we are in America.



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