



Blue Jay Briefings

Little Flower School Alumni Newsletter

Spring 2012

School News

28+4+3+1=36

Twenty-eight years in sixth grade, four years in fourth grade, three years in second grade and one year teaching the first/second combination class equals 36 years at Little Flower School. Vernice Brossart began teaching at Little Flower August 1976. Her first contract was \$6,600 a year. It wasn't the money that kept her at Little Flower for 36 years but the benefits: good students, strong support of both Little Flower Parish and Little Flower School PTO and being able to ensure a Catholic education for her own four children. Vernice has felt at home at Little Flower and because of her loyalty to the students, parents and the school never left.

Vernice credits her colleague, Delores Aas, as the person who taught her a lot when she first started at Little Flower. Delores was a mentor, a mother figure and a friend. She instilled in the young teachers the idea of service to others. Vernice has continued many of the traditions of promoting the school and helping people in the community. Her classes have made numerous cards and treats for homebound Rugby residents.

When asked what her plans were for retirement, Vernice replied, "I don't have any plans—do I have to?"

No, Vernice, you don't. Enjoy every day. Thank you for all the

Little Flower students and parents that you have helped in your thirty-six years.

Everyone that knows Vernice knows that she will stay very busy with her gardening for the farmers market, making homemade jellies and baking. PTO presented Vernice with a red wheelbarrow complete with an apple tree and other perennials to plant at her home.

Vernice is married to **Mike Brossart ('65)**. They have four children, **Elizabeth ('91)**, **Rachael ('92)**, **Rebekah ('97)** and **Mike ('98)**. They have one granddaughter, .

Kids First Principal

Principal, Bruce Ganerilli has decided that after 11 years at Little Flower School he is ready for a change. He admits that it is the kids that he will miss the most. His philosophy has always been to do what is best for the kids.

Along with being the principal at Little Flower School Bruce has taught phy. ed. Each phy. ed. class includes a walk to the Memorial Hall. Especially with the younger students that walk often becomes an exploration of the dandelions and the mud puddles along the way.

One of the biggest changes Bruce has seen at Little Flower over the last 11 years has been the declining enrollment that has led to the combination classrooms. The goal of the school remains the

same, to offer a quality Catholic education to all students that attend Little Flower School.

Bruce will be starting a new adventure with the North Central Area Vocation and Technical Center. He will be teaching Welding I and II to juniors and seniors at 12 area schools. This is a new program with the vocation and technical center and Bruce will have the responsibility for developing and carrying out the curriculum. There is currently a high demand for workers with vocational training in North Dakota. The welding skills that the students will be taught will help them at technical colleges and in the workforce of manufacturing and oil exploration in the state.

Bruce is not a stranger to secondary education, as he was a secondary assistant principal in the Rugby Public School.

Kids will still be important to Bruce. They will just be older and at a different stage in their education. A few of them may even be some of those first and second graders who accidentally splashed muddy water on Mr. G when they were exploring mud puddles.

Staffing

Alumni News & Reflections

Where are the Alumni?

Aaron Ferg ('90) married Jennifer Falasca on March 18, 2012, in Orlando, FL. The Fergs live in Apopka, FL. Aaron is

Alyssa Bednarz ('01) was promoted to First Assistant at Maurices in Bismarck, ND.

Stephanie Hooker Brossart December 30, 2011

Danny Schneider ('96) and his wife, Tallie, welcomed their son, Camden John, into the world April 19, 2012. Camden's birth weight was 7 lbs. 15 oz. and she was 21.25 in. tall. The Schneiders live in Rugby.

Michael Schmaltz and his wife, Christine, welcome their daughter, Aubrie Ann, who was born The Schmaltz live in Rugby.

Jena Suchor Triplett ('99) and her husband Kurt The Triplets currently live in Bismarck, Jena is a Pampered Chef Consultant.

Elizabeth Mack graduated from the University of Mary with a degree in Music Education. She is currently touring with the University Elizabeth will be teaching music at Wilton Public Schools in Wilton, ND this fall.

Those we will miss

Joseph Welk passed away December 23, 2011, in Fargo, ND. The funeral was Wednesday, December 28, 2011 in Fargo.

Joseph Buchl passed away April 6, 2012, in Fargo, ND. The funeral was Monday, April 9, 2012, at Nativity Catholic Church, Fargo.

(Year refers to graduation date from LFS)

Lindsay Hamilton studies in Rome

Is your class having a class reunion this summer?

The Alumni Association would be willing to open LFS for a tour.

Please contact the school office

or email lfsalumni@goNDTC.com

Newsletter Opportunities

The first edition of the *Blue Jay Briefings* was written the spring of 2008. Since then we have had several alumni or alumni parents submit information or reflections to be shared.

Our goal in publishing this newsletter is to let alumni know what is happening at LFS and to provide a link to alumni. **We are looking for people to submit memories as well as current events in their lives.**

Please continue to share those stories with us. We know that others enjoy reading about the school and the alumni.

We are currently looking for someone to take over the job of editing the newsletter.

Updates

Please let us know when you move so we can be sure we have your new address and you receive your alumni mailing.

*Enjoy your Alumni Newsletter,
Blue Jay Briefings!*

Current Resident or

*Blue Jay Briefings is
a publication of*

Little Flower School
Alumni Association
306 3rd Avenue SE
Rugby, North Dakota 58368
lfsalumni@goNDTC.com

Little Flower School
Alumni Association
306 3rd Ave. SE
Rugby, ND 58368

Congratulations Graduates

Sixth grade graduation celebration took place at the 9 am Mass May 25. Seven students joined the ranks of Little Flower School Alumni. There was a social for family and friends in the church basement following the Mass..

What I will miss about LFS

By **Maria Mack, Jace Odden, Mariah Pfeifer, Seth Jaeger, and Nate Haman ('12)**

I miss nap time and buddies in kindergarten. Kindergarten was a fun year with snacks and the loft. It was also the first year of ABCs and reading .

In first grade I remember reading the *Boxcar Children*. We had bigger lockers. It was Miss Dobitz's first year.

In second grade I remember going to the museum. We went on cool field trips. We had Mrs. Klebe and started adding and subtracting numbers. We had *Word of the Week*. We also started reading bigger chapter books.

I miss the fish tank, foosball table, field trips and all of the plays in third grade.

In fourth grade I remember reading *Where the Red Fern Grows* and *Hatchet*. I remember going to KXMC News and then going to Planet Pizza. In fourth grade we had Mrs. Graner with no more phonics and new vocabulary. I remember when Mrs. Graner would lose her glasses. I will remember Mrs. Graner and her back rubs.

In fifth grade I remember going to Lucy's Amusement Park. We had our first year of band. I remember when Mrs. Mosher would light candles and we would listen to music.

In sixth grade I remember going to the Minot Air Force Base and Market Place for Kids. We went to see the senior citizens at the hospital in Rugby. In sixth grade you are the ones the younger kids look up to and that's a great feeling. I will miss the marathon. I will miss getting Mr. G wet with water guns and water balloons. I will miss recess and phy ed. We had lots of fun.

I will miss Little Flower School. I'm going to miss the teachers and the lunch. I'm always going to remember Little Flower because it is a part of my life.

Kindergarten

Kindergarten graduation was held on Friday May 18. There were 5 students in kindergarten this year. All 5 students took part in the celebration of the Mass with reading petitions and prayers of the faithful as well as bringing up the gifts at offertory. Congratulations to the students on a great year.

Miss Dobitz will continue to teach kindergarten next year as Little Flower School moves to a 5 day program. There are currently 10 children registered for the fall start of kindergarten.