St. Coletta News

St. Coletta Day School of Milwaukee—A Nonprofit Program Educating Boys and Girls with Cognitive Disabilities Age 8 to 17

SUMMER 2006

ST. COLETTA DAY SCHOOL CELEBRATES 50™ ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

Watch for Your Invitation

MISSION STATEMENT

T o provide an academic curriculum designed to meet the special learning needs of each student that will help prepare the students to realize their full learning potential and to become productive and contributing citizens as adults.

VISIT OUR WEB SITE!

www.scdsmke.org

COLLETASCOPE 2006

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 Village Church Arts 130 East Juneau Avenue Downtown Milwaukee

ark your calendar and tell all your friends. ColettaScope, our main fundraiser, will be held on Saturday, October 21, 2006. This year our event will once again be held at Village Church, located one block west of Water Street. Watch your mail for your invitation in the fall of 2006. If you or someone you know would like to volunteer for this event or become a guest artist, please call Bill Koehn at (414) 453-1850.

PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF IT!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

B elieve it or not, St. Coletta Day School of Milwaukee celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. We've been serving children with cognitive disabilities since 1956. To celebrate this momentous occasion, we would like to invite you to a special event.

On that day we will celebrate with our current students and their families, alumni and their families, friends, supporters and special guests.

Archbishop Timothy Dolan will officiate at a special liturgy at 2:00 p.m. honoring St. Coletta Day School's anniversary. The mass will take place at St. Sebastian Parish, 5400 W. Washington Blvd. in Milwaukee. Rev. Richard Aiken, pastor at St. Sebastian Parish, will assist.

St. Coletta Day School enjoys a unique relationship and faithful partnership with St. Sebastian Parish. It's fitting that they are celebrating their 95-year history on the same day and share a day of school tours and a walk down memory lane together.

An event such as this only comes along in only once in an organization's history. St. Coletta Day School would be honored to include you in the festivities. You'll have an opportunity to reunite with old friends, make some new ones, meet the people who developed St. Coletta Day School and those who continue its mission and vision today. We'll also be sharing with our guests our vision of St. Coletta Day School as we look forward to the next 50 years.



Watch your mail for an invitation containing complete details.

REFLECTING ON

THE FUTURE

If you would like to get involved in planning this event with the committee, please call Bill Koehn at (414) 453-1850. We would enjoy having you as part of the team.



WILLIAM A. KOEHN—Administrator ASHLEY OLSON—Teaching Assistant

Ann Meehan—Treasurer

1740 North 55th Street • Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208 • (414) 453-1850 E-mail: info@scdsmke.org • www.scdsmke.org

NEW COMPUTERS

hanks to a generous grant from the Doolittle Foundation, we have four new computers and 2 new laser printers in the classroom. Of course this generated a lot of excitement in the classroom and created an opportunity for our children to harness their enthusiasm for learning through technology.

THANK YOU DOOLITTLE FOUNDATION!



LEARNING IN AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOM







HELEN BADER FOUNDATION AWARDS ST. COLETTA DAY SCHOOL **THREE-YEAR GRANT**

hanks to the hard work of the Grant Team—Jackie Ceille, Joan Kelly and Bill Koehn—St. Coletta Day School of Milwaukee was awarded a \$15,000 grant for a three-year period from the Helen Bader Foundation. The grant will support the salary of a classroom aide to enhance academic delivery to St. Coletta Day School students and to leverage a unique opportunity to allow Bill Koehn, administrator, to facilitate the next stages of St. Coletta Day School's institutional development.

As readers of this newsletter know, several forces came together in the spring of 2005. The Parent Group of St. Coletta Day School realized that a revisioning must occur—to bring the school to the next level of academic achievementby providing our older students an intensive learning environment. Through a visioning process, facilitated by Dr. Robert Pavlik, Director of the Institute for Transformation of Learning at Marquette University, an enhanced vision, a more dynamic governance structure, comprehensive business plan and measurable fundraising goals were developed and created.

At the heart of the revisioning process, it was realized that St. Coletta Day School needs to expand our current student capacity by creating a transition program for older students that will focus on daily functional life skills and occupational preparation.

The business and fundraising plan adopted by the Board of Directors and The Parent Group sets out numerous goals requiring Bill Koehn's facilitation and leadership. Thanks to the Bader Foundational support, Bill and Ashley will be able to provide the leadership to focus on administrating the school; and facilitating the dayto-day administrative leadership for the enhanced vision for St. Coletta Day School.

This grant clearly shows outside foundational support for the mission and goals of St. Coletta Day School, and allows the program the financial resources to assist present personnel with taking them into the next 50 years. If you know of any other foundational opportunities for financial support of the mission and goals of St. Coletta Day School, please contact Bill Koehn at (414) 453-1850.







We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the following individuals and companies for their financial and in-kind support:

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SAYING THANK YOU

ur faithful volunteers Judi and Jane are always available at a moments notice. They assist with all of our mailings. That may sound like a small task, but it's very time-consuming. Each mailing includes stuffing and sealing envelopes, affixing labels and sorting by zipcode. It can be tedious, but Judi and Jane accomplish the task with diligence and perseverance, and they have fun while doing it!

They do an awesome job and so we say **THANK YOU** for all of your efforts!

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THE PARENT GROUP OF ST. COLETTA DAY SCHOOL OF MILWAUKEE

1740 North 55th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53208

Every day, students at St. Coletta Day School of Milwaukee discover their unique abilities by being challenged to achieve their best in a safe environment of respect.

Please help support St. Coletta Day School.

A PARENT PERSPECTIVE



O ur son Oscar began attending St. Coletta Day School in the fall of 2005. Oscar has many special needs, and had been very unhappy in previous school placements. He had been trying—and failing—to fit in, and was resorting to antisocial behavior to be accepted. This was not part of his normal personality, which is truly kind and good. We were on the verge of home schooling him due to these issues.

I cannot begin to say how happy we are with St Coletta Day School and his progress. Oscar loves school, his teachers and his classmates. They all support each

other, and different seems to be just fine. Bill, Ashley and Marsha are so enthusiastic and kind that all of my children have asked if they could go to school there too! Oscar gets to attend *Peace Builders* with the St. Sebastian students, and they are all kind and supportive. He frequently brings up the peace lessons that they have learned, and was able to participate in the Christmas program, which he was so very proud about as he had a significant role.

I can see his confidence growing by leaps and bound this year. It is amazing to see him learning and enjoying learning, making relationships and enjoying them too. There has not been one day this year that he did not want to go to school. As many years as St. Coletta Day School welcomes Oscar, we will send him there.

CLASS-A MOTTO

Today is a new day. Today I will try to get along with everyone. Today I will try to follow the rules.

Today *I will try* to follow the rules Today *I will try* to do my best.



A New Standard of Education

For Students with Cognitive Disabilities

- Ages 8 to 17
- Full Academic Program

FALL 2006 ENROLLMENT

We are currently accepting applications for fall enrollment. Please have anyone you know who may be interested in learning more about the program contact administrator/teacher Bill Koehn at (414) 453-1850.