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SNEAK  
PEEK AT  
MAY'S  
LINK

- Coach Brown's Indian Dance Troupe performance
- Details on Very Special Arts week
- Fun Easter Recipe & Crafts
- SPED student honored at Grace King Arts Festival

## Grace King Special Education Department

### Publishes Its First Newsletter

The Grace King Special Education Department is pleased to have begun production on its first newsletter. Department Head, Vickie Pickering, thought producing a newsletter for the department would be an excellent way to inform parents and staff about the great things that are happening in Special Ed.

The students in SPED are making great strides everyday, and the newsletter provides a platform to showcase the accomplishments that give them a great sense of pride and confidence.

In creating the newsletter, each class was asked to do a brainstorming exercise and nominate a name on behalf of the entire class. After the students listed nearly one hundred names, the final nominees were announced. With very little deliberation, the students chose the "Leprechaun

Link" as the name for their newsletter.

"They wanted the name to have real meaning, as well as show their Irish Pride," said Micolette Thomas, a substitute teacher in the department. There is, in fact,



**Reporter Andrea Sabillon interviews Jared Williams, Junior, for an upcoming story.**

much meaning behind the name. "Leprechaun" was selected as a

way to showcase their school spirit, and "Link" represents one of the goals of the newsletter, which is to connect the SPED students with all of the other students in the school.

Inside each issue of "The Link," as it's already been nicknamed, readers can expect to find things like: class highlights, community accomplishments, school news, upcoming events, birthday announcements, easy-to-make recipes, and lots more.

All of the students have chosen a role to play in production. Some are reporters who conduct interviews for each article. Others are photographers, assistants, writers, researchers, editors and delivery people. No matter the role, each student takes pride in the contribution they're making to "The Link."

## American Airlines Pilot Visits Broadcast Team



**The G.K. Broadcast Team poses for a photo with Captain Steven Grant**

Captain Steven Grant, retired Air Force Officer and pilot for American Airlines paid a visit to the Grace King Broadcast Team. The Broadcast Team was assembled as a part of the Speech Therapy program as a way to boost the student's participation and confidence.

During his presentation, each of the students took turns asking him the questions they were so

eager to have answered. Some of things the Captain taught them were: how to properly behave on an airplane, emergency procedures and effective techniques to avoid ear-popping while in flight.

Paraeducator, Sherry Dietsch, who was in attendance said she enjoyed watching him interact with the students. She added, "He seemed to conform to each student's exceptionality with ease."

### Candid Moments



Recipe



of the Month  
Easy Beignets

Ingredients:

- 1 Can Grand Biscuits
- 1 Bottle Canola Oil
- 1 Box of Powdered Sugar

Cooking Instructions:

1. Preheat oil to 350 degrees
2. Cut biscuits into 4 pieces each
3. Deep Fry until brown on one side, then flip over to brown other side of biscuit
4. Drain
5. Cover in Powdered Sugar
6. ENJOY!

*"Success is never final. Failure is never fatal. It is courage that counts."*

*-Winston Churchill*



Suzanne Dietze was honored as Grace King Paraeducator of the Year.

Congratulations!

Exec. Board Producing Irish Idol Talent Competition



Idol is coming to Grace King. No, not American Idol; Irish Idol, the G.K. version of the hit television show that airs on Fox. Executive Board, the head of Student Council, is organizing the event.

Andrea Sabillon, Link reporting team member caught up with Jared Williams, Exec Board V.P. "It's a pop culture thing that stuck with the student body and we decided to continue it," Williams said. This year marks 6 years since Exec. Board brought Idol on campus.

The board urged all students who have any special musical talents to audition in Room 401. "I think it's important to involve the students who oth-

erwise wouldn't be active in Student Council events," Williams said when asked why he thought Irish Idol has continued year after year. He added, "It gives [the students] a chance to express themselves and the rest of us benefit from seeing a different side of them."

Idol will be held on Friday, March 27, 2009 at 1:15 p.m. in the gym. Admission is \$1.

Community Spotlight: Ms. Depp's Class

Each week, many Special Education students participate in the Community and Vocational Skills Program. The program is a part of the students' curriculum that allows educators to use the community as an extension of the classroom.

Currently, Ms. Depp's class is utilizing Lakeside Mall and McAlister's Deli to help the students master the skills needed to excel in the program and society.

Shopping at Lakeside is aiding

the students in the development of money and budgeting skills. Jefferson Parish Public School System provides funds



Rachelle, Aundrea, and Tracy having fun working at McAlister's

and allots a fixed amount of money for each child per trip. The students are taught to complete the purchase cycle, from browsing to completing a sale, working within their assigned budget.

McAlister's Deli affords them the opportunity to learn a variety of food service and retail skills.

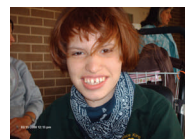
Ms. Depp doesn't hide her fondness for the program. "If I could have it my way, we'd be in the community everyday,"

April 2009

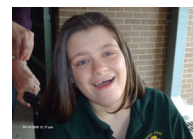
MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



Happy Birthday to You...



Maggie  
March 1st



Falyn  
March 6th



Ms. Jacquie  
March 7th



Rachelle  
March 14th

March Events



**March 20th:** Coach Brown's Indian Dance Troupe Performance in the G.K. Gym at 8 a.m.



**March 27th:** Irish Idol will be held in the G.K. Gym at 1:15pm; Admission is \$1.



**March 27-29th:** Art work from G.K. Visual Arts Students displayed at Lakeside Mall during business hours



**March 29th:** Arts Festival will be held in G.K. Gym Foyer 4-6 p.m.; Culinary, Music, Theatre and More!!



**March 31st:** Talent Performance for SPED in G.K. Gym 11:40 a.m.; Admission is FREE