



St. Denis – St. Columba School

A Holy Ground of Loving and Learning

Family Newsletter



Weeks of November 13 -24, 2017

A Message of Gratitude from Sr. Kathleen

What better time than during this season of Thanksgiving to thank you each of you again for your generosity and your commitment to SDSC– for sharing your many gifts and talents, and especially for volunteering your time in service to us. I never cease to be amazed and overwhelmed by your love and support! Words cannot even begin to express my gratitude, and I cannot even begin to list all that each of you has done for us.



Thank you! We are certainly blessed that you are a part of Saint Denis-Saint Columba School! Special thanks to:

- our PSA Executive Board for all of their efforts in planning, organizing, and coordinating events;
- all those who organized our Magazine Drive, Community Day, and our Harvest Fest Carnival and Dance;
- all those who planned and coordinated our Uniform Exchange, Walk-a-thon, Doll's Tea Party;
- our Hot Lunch Coordinator and the teams who faithfully work to prepare hot lunch for our students;
- our parents who each day help in the cafeteria;
- our maintenance staff who work diligently to assist where needed and to keep the school clean
- our generous donors and contributors to SDSC;
- and **each and every one of you** who continue to support our SDSC School community in any way!

SDSC wins FIRST PLACE at Academic Olympics!

Congratulations to the Grade 8 Team who earned FIRST PLACE OVERALL at the annual Our Lady of Lourdes High School Academic Olympics! Our students competed against 8 other local Catholic schools. No other Catholic School has won 1st Place as often as SDSC. This is truly a testament to the dedication and hard work of our students and our teachers! Congratulations also to Tommy Gigliotti who won FIRST PLACE in Social Studies and Genevieve Bernhardt who won FIRST PLACE in Religion! The team members are: Genevieve Bernhardt, Abigail DeFrancesco, Emma Drumm, Tommy Gigliotti, Lily Graves, Julia Lippman, Leanna Mastrorilli, Brigid McArdle, Rebecca O'Connor, Ariana Porco, Katarina Renna and Owen Walker. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!



TADS Educate (formerly Cornerstone) will open on evening of November 15th

TADS Educate (formerly known as Cornerstone) is suspended so that the faculty can prepare the First Quarter Report Cards. Educate will open and Report Cards made available electronically on Wednesday, November 15. Remember that you only will receive your children's report cards electronically. **Hard copies of report cards will not be sent home.** Please note that all tuition, ASP, and fee payments must be up to date to receive report cards. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Parent-Teacher Conferences – November 16 and 17

The First Quarter Parent-Teacher Conferences will take place on Thursday evening from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. and Friday afternoon from 12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Conferences are held with your child's Homeroom Teacher. If you have not done so already, please schedule a time to meet with your child's Homeroom Teacher. If you wish to have a conference with a specific subject matter teacher, please contact her directly to set up an appointment. Please bring a copy of your child's report card to your scheduled conference.

Half-Days – November 16th and 17th

Please note that Thursday and Friday are half days, and the students will be dismissed after prayers at 11:55 a.m. Bus transportation to and from school will be available as usual. The After School Program will be available until 6:00 p.m. on both days. Please be sure your children have a lunch with them.



SDSC Storytime a Great Success!

Special Thank you to Mrs. Fisher and our SDSC student performers who presented **Story Time** to nearly 50 children in our community this past weekend! Our great story tellers included Brigid McArdle, Emma Lloyd, Nicole Benros, Lilly Graves, Matthew DeMelo, Elva Jeong, and Abby Lloyd. Thank you for your generous service to our community.

Grade 8 Parent-Teacher Conference Bake Sale



Come support the 8th grade at their annual Bake Sale during Parent-Teacher Conferences this week on Thursday, November 17th and Friday, November 18th. Funds raised are used for the Grade 8 trip to New York City and their Graduation Dance. Thank you for your support!

Photography Class and Art Program – Schedule Changes

Both the Photography Class and the Art Program will meet as scheduled this Friday, November 17. However, the times have changed for both classes. Students in the classes should bring a packed lunch to eat beforehand. Classes will take place from 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. on Friday.

Thanksgiving Liturgy – Wednesday, November 22

We will celebrate a special Thanksgiving Liturgy as a School community at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 22nd. All are welcome! Come and give thanks for the blessing in our lives, including the precious gifts of your children, our students. Thank you, Mrs. Galletti and the Grade 5 Class for coordinating the Liturgy.



Thank You, LORD!

Thanksgiving Food Drive CHALLENGE: November 6 - 17



The SDSC Thanksgiving Food Drive ends this Friday, November 17th. The students in the Upper Hall (4-8) and Lower Hall (K-3) are competing in a challenge to see who CAN share the most with our neighbors in need. The Hall with the most donations will win extra recess. **Currently, LOWER HALL is winning!** Let's have some fun while we help the less fortunate in our community.

Thanksgiving Vacation – Wednesday, November 22 – Sunday, November 26

Thanksgiving Vacation will begin at our 3:00 p.m. dismissal on Tuesday, November 21st. Enjoy your Thanksgiving Celebrations with your families and friends! Thank you for your love, support and commitment to Catholic Education. Together we provide our children with the Catholic Education they deserve.



Hot Lunch Program – Help Needed

Do you have a few hours to spare once a month? Please consider donating your time and talents to the SDSC Hot Lunch Program. Our kitchen is run 100% with volunteers. Additional volunteers are needed in order to keep our Hot Lunch Program running five days per week. We have the following Kitchen Volunteer openings. If you can help for three hours once a month (10:00a.m.-1:00p.m.), please contact Judy Boulton by emailing her at lunchprogram@stcolumba.net or calling her at 914-474-3035.

Team 4 Monday: 11/20, 12/18, 01/22, 03/19, 04/23, 05/21

Tiramisu's Cheese Tortellini, Steamed Broccoli, Fruit and Spring Water.
Two volunteers needed.

Team 4 Wednesday: 12/20, 01/24, 02/21, 03/21, 04/25, 05/23,

Lazy Kids Tacos, Salsa, Fruit and Spring Water.
One additional volunteer needed.



IMMEDIATE NEED: Recess Volunteers

We are in need of volunteers to help the teachers with the supervision of our students during recess each day (*between 12:05 p.m. and 1:00 p.m.*). We gratefully accept all assistance no matter how frequently you can help. If you are able to assist, please contact Mrs. Marrero at 845-227-7777 or bamarrero@stcolumba.net

Box Tops for Education Contest

Remember that the class who submits the most Box Tops by December 15th wins extra recess! We'll have an update on the contest after Thanksgiving. Please note: Box Tops must be **unexpired** to qualify. Good luck!

SDSC Annual Walk-a-thon

Thanks to each of our families for supporting our annual Walk-a-thon financially. We have almost reached our goal! So far you have raised nearly \$12,500 for your school! We are so close to our goal of \$15,000. If you haven't sent in your sponsor money yet, please do so ASAP. Remember your contributions are not about the amount as it is about the participation of every student. Once again thank you for your very generous support of SDSC! We are blessed to have you, our dedicated and supportive families! THANK YOU!

Earn Money for SDSC WHILE YOU SHOP!

Don't forget to use the AMAZON LINK on our School Website and School APP to earn money for our school. Now that the holidays are approaching, be sure to use the Amazon link on the SDSC website at www.stcolumba.net when shopping Amazon. SDSC earns up to 10% of each purchase that you make. If you are an Amazon Prime Member, you enjoy all of your membership benefits AND earn money for SDSC! Bookmark the link in your favorites to make accessing the site easier!



Upcoming Events

SDSC Outreach Advent Gift-Giving Project:

Each year our SDSC students share in the joy of giving when they join together to choose, donate, and wrap Christmas gifts for less fortunate children in our area. These children live in difficult, heartbreaking situations. For many, Christmas gifts are beyond their means. If your family would like to share a gift with a child, wish lists will be available on SignUp Genius in the coming days. Wrapping Day will be Friday, December 8th. More information will be forthcoming!



Storytime – December 9th



Mrs. Fisher and the SDSC Storytellers will present a Christmas edition of Storytime to children in Pre-K through Grade 2 on Saturday, December 11th from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. here at SDSC. Storytime features puppet shows, storytelling, interactive music, singing and dancing. Storytime is free and is open to all, so bring a friend!

Private Screening – STAR WARS: The Last Jedi

Once again the SDSC PSA has arranged for a **private screening** of the newest STAR WARS Film! The screening will take place at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 16th at the Carmel Cinema 8. Tickets will be on sale soon and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.



Breakfast with Santa – December 18th

SAVE THE DATE! Our SDSC Class of 2018 will be hosting our annual Breakfast with Santa on Sunday, December 18th from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon. Details will be forthcoming.

SDSC ANNUAL GALA - Save the Date!

The SDSC Annual GALA will take place on Saturday, April 28, 2018 from 6:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. at Dutchess Manor. Funds raised at next year's Gala will support our new Academic Intervention Program, as well as a new library resource and research center. Plan on an elegant evening with great food and drinks and fabulous prizes!

Community News

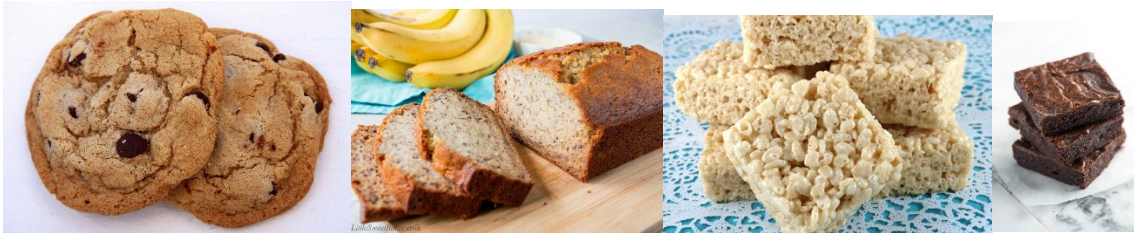
School Parents Elected to Public Offices!

Congratulations to Nicholas D'Alessandro, who was elected as Town Supervisor of East Fishkill. Congratulations also to John Metzger, who was re-elected as County Legislator for District 12 (Town of East Fishkill). Congratulations to both the D'Alessandro and Metzger Families!

GRADE 8 BAKE SALE

Come join us during parent/teacher conferences to help us raise money for our 8th grade dance.

We will have homemade goodies and cold water to sell, please stop by!



We are also selling raffle tickets for a chance to win a
Foursome at Trump National Golf Club
Hudson Valley, NY

Tickets are 1 for \$5 OR 5 for \$20

Drawing will be December 17th....perfect timing for a Christmas present!



Trump National Golf Club