



St. Denis – St. Columba School

A Holy Ground of Loving and Learning

Family Newsletter



Week of September 18, 2017

MAP Assessments

Over the next few weeks all of our students will participate in the **MAP** (Measure of Academic Progress) **Assessment**. This assessment will help teachers and administrators improve learning for all students and make informed decisions to promote a student's academic growth. **MAP** is a computer adaptive test, which means every student gets a unique set of test questions based on responses to previous questions. As the student answers correctly, questions may get harder; if the student answers incorrectly, the questions may get easier. The results assist teachers because they identify a student's strengths and weaknesses. Teachers can use this information to help guide instruction in the classroom. This is not a timed test. Students are encouraged just to do their best and see how far they can go.

Thank you for Marching in the East Fishkill Community Day Parade!

For all those parents, friends, family and students who represented SDSC so enthusiastically on Saturday for our Community Day Parade -- THANK YOU! We had a great turn out! Those students who participated are to bring their NUT Award to school on Monday, September 18th. Be sure they give it to their teachers first thing in the morning. Remember students must dress respectfully when using a NUT award.

URGENT: Hot Lunch Volunteers Still Needed

SDSC Hot Lunch Program is completely run by volunteers. In order to keep the Hot Lunch Program running every school day, additional Kitchen Volunteers are needed. The Kitchen Volunteers prepare and serve the food to the students (10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.) This is a once or twice a month commitment for the school year. Even just helping a couple of times during the school year makes a difference. We have an immediate need to fill the following openings in September.

09/20 Wednesday
09/21 Thursday
09/25 Monday
09/28 Thursday



If you're available for one of these September openings, one day monthly during the school year, and/or have any questions, please contact Judy Boulton via text at 914-474-3035 or by e-mail at lunchprogram@stcolumba.net. Thank you for your support.



PLEASE NOTE: Schedule Reminders

There is **NO SCHOOL** for students on Tuesday, September 19.

There will be **NO BUSING** for students on Thursday, September 21. Please use the bus lane and pull forward to the Religious Education entrance to drop off students. Carpooling is encouraged to reduce traffic congestion.

NY State Police Visits

If you stop by the school during the day, you may see NY State Police Officers in the school or on the grounds. **Don't be alarmed!** In fact, you should take comfort in seeing the police presence. The officers stop by the school on a random, but frequent basis. Their goal is to establish a presence on school grounds for the safety of our students. In addition, we want the students to feel comfortable with police officers and to know that they are here to help them!



REMINDER: Student-Parent Handbooks

Our Student-Parent Handbook is posted [HERE](#) and on our website under the Parent Tab. Please take some time to read through the handbook. After reviewing its contents, please [COMPLETE THE ONLINE FORMS](#) for the school handbook agreement and textbook form. These forms can be found [HERE](#), on the school website under the Parent Tab, and on the School App. Please complete them ASAP. They are not optional. Legally, we are required to keep all of these agreements on file. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



Paul Effman Music Program

Students again have the opportunity to participate in our school band program provided by Paul Effman Music Service. Your children will receive a registration form this week for the Program. If they are interested in participating, please return the registration form by this Friday, September 22nd. Band lessons are held after school on Tuesdays. The first lesson will be on Tuesday, October 3.

Back to School BBQ - Thank You Volunteers!



Thank you to all who made our 4th Annual Back to School BBQ a great evening of family and fellowship. We greatly appreciate the efforts of Lisa Marie Schulhoff and Debbie Laski for prep and set up; Heather Sulca for kitchen help, food prep and staffing the Welcome Table; Denis Graves, Don Murray and David DeVito for grilling; Judy D'Alessandro for food prep and serving; Fiona Murray for clean-up and kitchen help . . . and the many hands that made clean up and breaking down of the tables a much easier task and just in time before the rain hit! Special thank you to Gary Bartilucci for food pick up, event set up and clean up. We truly could not have done this without him! Last, but not least, thank you to Paul, Steve and Robert for all of the hard work and labor before, during, and after the event!

QSP Magazine Drive Has Begun!

Last year our Magazine Drive was a great success, raising over \$2,000 for the school. We will host our magazine drive this year from September 15th -29th. Any family who sells 4 or more magazines will receive an Ice Cream Party, and families who sell 10 or more will receive a NUT award for each child in the family. Plus, don't forget to complete and return the "Reach Out Booklet" to receive a prize. Remember that electronic publications are available too! This is the ONLY product drive that we do at SDSC. We do not sell chocolate, wrapping paper or candles through the school. Thank you for supporting your PSA!



Top Tastes of the Town – Tuesday, September 26



Grab a knife, fork and spoon and bring your appetite to the 7th Annual Top Tastes of the Town on Tuesday, September 27th from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.! This "All You Care to Sample" features a mouth-watering array of savory food brought to you by our area's best eateries. Of course, you will want to pair your tastings with a carefully selected and curated selection of wines from Hopewell Junction's own MDJ Wine & Liquor. Tickets are limited! Only \$40 per person. Order forms and Sponsorship Opportunities are available [HERE](#) and on the school website.

Thank You - PSA Committee Chairpersons

Thank you to all those who volunteered to chair a PSA Committee! All 26 PSA Committees now have one or more chairpersons! The spirit of fellowship and community is so strong at SDSC that we, unlike other schools, do **not** need a "mandatory volunteer program." We are so proud that our families are so committed to SDSC. **THANK YOU to all!**

SAVE the DATE! Our Annual Walk-a-thon will take place on **Friday afternoon**, October 13th
Event details and time will be forthcoming!

Raise Money for SDSC While You Shop!

Box Tops for Education



Don't forget to clip those Box Tops! You can find box tops on everything from cereal, to school supplies, socks packaging to snack boxes! Each year we earn a significant amount from the Box Tops Program to help support our school! Clip those little squares and send them into the school with your child. Keep a look out for new incentives and contests!

Amazon Associates

Did you know you can raise money for SDSC every time you shop at www.Amazon.com? Simply use the Amazon link on the school website or SDSC App every time you shop. All of the Prime Membership benefits apply!



Stop & Shop A+ School Rewards Program

SDSC can earn cash through the Stop & Shop A+ School Rewards Program! Please take a moment to register your Stop & Shop card at www.stopandshop.com/aplus or call the A+ Hotline at 1-877-275-2758. Our school's five-digit ID code is 08994.



TOPS in Education Program



Do you have a TOPS Bonus Plus card? If yes, please register your card at www.TopsMarkets.com/Education. Our school's Group ID number is 500053483. A percentage of all purchases made at TOPS will be given back to our school!

Hannaford Helps Schools Program



Do you shop at the Hannaford grocery stores in our area? You can help earn money for our school when you purchase from more than 1,600 participating products. When you check out you will receive 3 school dollars for every 4 participating products you purchase. Submit/deposit your school dollars in our school's collection tower in the store. Visit www.hannaford.com/helpsschools to learn more.

2017-2018 Room Parent Volunteers



SDSC is proud to have a vibrant and supportive school community. Please consider volunteering as a room parent for the 2017-2018 school year. Two volunteers per class are needed. The room parents help coordinate the parties for the class, special activities, the year-end picnic and with anything else the teacher and/or PSA might need assistance. If you are interested in being a room parent, please complete the Room Parent form available on our website under the "PSA" tab and return to: Lauren Schifini, Kindness of the Main Office. *If more than two parents volunteer for a classroom, room parents are selected by random.*

LAST CALL for FREE Tickets: Danone Nations Cup World Soccer Final – Sunday, September 24

The Danone Nations Cup is largest GLOBAL soccer tournament for kids ages 10-12. This year, the Danone Nation Cup is hosting the World Final at Red Bull Arena in Harrison, NJ. The World Final on September 24th has something for fans of all ages: cheer on the soccer matches as the teams from 33 countries compete for the championship, swing by the Family Activity Village with games for all ages, win prizes like a chance to meet our USA Ambassador Abby Wambach and more. The day will end with a live concert by the band DNCE with front man Joe Jonas!

Mrs. Peggy Krebs and our PSA have teamed up to provide **FREE TICKETS** to SDSC families and friends! Tickets can be reserved through the "Nations Cup" link on the School APP, under the PSA tab on the school website or by clicking [HERE](#)! See the attached sheet for event details.