



# St. Denis – St. Columba School

A Holy Ground of Loving and Learning

## Family Newsletter



Shine Like the Stars

Weeks of November 18-29, 2019

### **NEW PROCEDURE: Notes NEEDED for Changes in Student Dismissal**

If you need to change the ordinary dismissal routine for your child, please either send a written note or call the school. E-mail messages will no longer be accepted because they are easily missed and the faculty and administration are not always at their desks and may be out of the office, in a meeting, etc. If you call, be sure you speak to a person; please don't leave a voicemail message. Written notes should either be on "A Note to School" sheet (Pads are only \$2 and available in the school office) or on a large piece of paper. Students loose post-it notes and notes on small pieces of scratch paper. The Office receives dozens of notes each day. **Notes must include the student's first and last name and always be signed by a parent/guardian.** Thank you for helping us to ensure that your child is dismissed appropriately!

### **FAMILY MISSION**

A Family Mission will be held at St. Columba Church on this week November 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> led by Capuchin Youth and Family Ministries. **This will be a Family Retreat appropriate for all ages!** Each evening will have an optional gathering at 6:30 pm for prayer. The Mission will be from 7:00 – 8:00 pm. Each night there will be a Presentation in church followed by breakout sessions in church and school. Age appropriate presentations will be held for adults, young adults, high schoolers, middle school and elementary school children. All are welcome!

### **TADS Parent Portal will open on evening of November 19<sup>th</sup>**



TADS Parent Portal will open this Tuesday evening, November 19<sup>th</sup> so that you can review your children's report cards. Report cards are only available electronically. **Hard copies of them will not be sent home.** Please note that ALL TUITION and AFTER CARE fees must be current in order to receive your children's report cards. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

### **Student MAP Data Available in Family Reports**

This week you will receive an email with your children's **Fall MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) Diagnostic Assessment** results. As you know, we began taking these assessments during the 2017 -2018 school year in order to help our faculty continue the practice of individualizing instruction for our students. At that time, we were learning about the program and spent a number of professional development sessions gaining further understanding of the normative data, RIT Scores, and projected proficiency. As a team, we feel confident to share this data with you, as you are our partners in education. You will see in this Family Report helpful information about these assessments at the top of the page. As you continue to examine your child's report, you will notice there are three separate sections for each assessment: Mathematics, Reading, and Language Arts (only Mathematics and Reading in Grades K-2). There you will see your student's progress over time (if he or she has only taken it for the first time, you will not see a trend line, but a starting place). It will also show your child's percentile ranking in both Achievement and Growth. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sr. Kathleen or your children's teachers.

### **Thanksgiving Food Drive Ends - November 19<sup>th</sup>**

The SDSC PSA Outreach Committee's annual Thanksgiving Food Drive for our St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry ends on Tuesday. Thanks to all who so generously donated already! In addition to food, please consider donating toiletries and personal care items.



### **Half-Days on November 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>**



Please note that Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup> and Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> are half days due to the scheduled **Parent-Teacher Conferences**. All students will be dismissed after prayers at 11:55 a.m. Bus transportation to and from school will be available as usual. After Care will be available until 6:30 p.m. on both days. **Please be sure your children have a lunch with them if they are staying in After Care.**

### **Family BINGO and Pasta Dinner – Thanks!**

Thank you to Louise DiPalermo, Debbie Laski, Lisa Marie Schulhoff and Yashira Cabral-Schraml for coordinating the Family Bingo and Pasta Night! Thanks also to John Sullivan and his assistant Samantha for calling the games. Thanks to all who helped in any way with food, clean-up, etc. It was an evening of fun and fellowship enjoyed by all!



### **Class of 2020 Bake Sale –Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup> – Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>**



Our Grade 8 Class will hold a Bake Sale on both Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup> and Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> during student dismissal and Parent-Teacher Conferences. Delicious baked good, coffee and hot chocolate will be available for purchase. Proceeds support the Class of 2020 Class Trip. Thank you for supporting our Grade 8 Class!

### **Paint & Sip – Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Join us for a Paint & Sip on Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. The project will be as shown here a 20-inch holiday wood cutout. The cost is \$50 per person. Delicious tapas and all art supplies are included. Participants may bring their beverages. Register by calling 845-744-4400 or at [www.uptiquing.com](http://www.uptiquing.com). 50% of proceeds benefit SDSC! Pre-order your favorite “sip” from our official “Sip Sponsor” Hopewell Wine & Spirits online at <https://hopewellwinespirits.com>. Use Promo code “PandS1122” and receive a 15% discount. Select “Pick-Up at Store” at checkout but your selections will be waiting for you at SDSC!



### **A Message of Gratitude from Sr. Kathleen**

During this season of Thanksgiving I would like to thank each of you for your generosity and your commitment to SDSC! Thank you 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 you have done. Thank you! We are so blessed that you are a part of Saint Denis-Saint Columba School!



Special thanks to our faculty and staff who dedicate themselves so selflessly to our students, our PSA Executive Board for all of their efforts in planning, organizing, and coordinating events, all those who organized and helped with our Magazine Drive, Family Bingo, Trunk or Treat, Harvest Dance, Doll’s Tea Party, Walk-a-thon, Uniform Exchange, Dram Club, etc., our Hot Lunch Coordinator and the teams who faithfully work to prepare hot lunch for our students, our volunteers who help in the cafeteria and on the playground, and **each of you** who continue to support our SDSC School community in any way! May God bless you for your kindness and generosity!



### **Thanksgiving Vacation – Wednesday, November 21 – Sunday, November 25**

Thanksgiving Vacation will begin at our 3:00 p.m. dismissal on Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup>. 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.

### **Breakfast with Santa – Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**

The SDSC Class of 2020 will be hosting our annual Breakfast with Santa on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Stop by for a delicious buffet breakfast and time with Santa Claus! Look for the ticket order form soon!



### **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. Sign-ups will be posted soon if your family would like to share a gift with a child. Thank you for helping give Christmas joy to children in need.

### **Turn Your Black Friday and Cyber Monday Shopping into Big Bucks for SDSC!**

Did you know you can raise money for SDSC every time you shop at Amazon? **Use the Amazon link on the school website or SDSC App every time you shop.** If you are an Amazon Prime Member, all of your Prime benefits still apply! SDSC receives up to 10% of every purchase you make! Please remember to use the SDSC link as you begin your Christmas Shopping. SDSC does not receive your individual purchase data, just bonuses for your purchases.

