Saint Denis – Saint Columba School

... A Holy Ground of Loving and Learning

TO: PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

FROM: SR. KATHLEEN MARIE, CR

SUBJECT: WEEKLY HAPPENINGS

DATE: OCTOBER 3-14, 2016



Jesus, I Trust in You Make our Hearts like Yours!

October Virtue: HONESTY

October Saint: SAINT PHILIP NERI

October Reflection: "Truthful lips endure forever, the lying tongue, for only a moment." (Proverbs 12:19) God has made the human heart to recognize truth. How have you experienced freedom by adhering (attaching and uniting yourself) to what is true?

PLEASE NOTE: HALF DAY and NO SCHOOL for Students

Monday, October 3rdProfessional Development Day for the TeachersFriday, October 7thDismissal 12:00 p.m.Monday, October 10thColumbus Day



<u>First Friday Mass</u>

This Friday, October 7th we will be celebrating as a faith community our school liturgy in honor of Our Lady of the Rosary. During the liturgy our 6th Grade students also will be presented with their Bibles. We will gather for mass at **10:00 a.m. in the Church.** All are welcome to join us for this celebration!

PSA Community Meeting – This Wednesday!

All parents/guardians are welcome to attend the SDSC Parent Student Association (PSA) Community Meeting on Wednesday, October 5th at 7:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Meet the PSA Board and PSA Committee Chairs, hear about upcoming events and find out how you can help. It is a great opportunity to meet other parents and see all the SDSC has to offer!

IMPORTANT: Wappinger's Community Forum Regarding School Start Times

Wappingers Central School District is conducting a community forum at Ketcham High School on Wednesday, October 5^{th} from 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. The proposed changes will affect SDSC. WCSD could dictate whether SDSC would as early as 7:45 a.m. or as late as 8:30 a.m., as well as change our bus transportation. If you live in WCSD, YOU have a right as a taxpayer to make your voice heard regarding this issue. We encourage our parents to stand up for your rights and those of your children! See attached flyer!

PLEASE NOTE: NO BUSING

There will be no busing for Wappingers students on Wednesday, October 12th. Please drop off students in front of the "Religious Education" doors using the bus lane. Carpooling is encouraged to minimize traffic and congestion.

Magazine Orders

If you have not done so, please return your magazine orders. Don't forget that your family and friends can support SDSC by renewing their magazines, newspapers and digital media subscriptions though SDSC at <u>any time through the year</u>! It's easy to do. Just go the PSA Tab at <u>www.stcolumba.net</u> for details.

LOOKING AHEAD: Winter Uniforms – Tuesday, October 11th

The last day for summer uniforms will be this Friday, October 7th. All students are to wear their winter uniforms beginning Tuesday, October 11th. Please refer to the Parent-Student Handbook for details. All students should also have the required **school sweater and/or sweater vest** with the school name embroidered on it. This is essential on days when it may be colder than usual or on days when students may have to exit the building for fire or emergencies drills. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

Top Tastes of The Town – Thank You!

Thank you to all who joined us for the 6th Annual Top Tastes of the Town! We are very grateful to the Committee members, who have been diligently planning the event since April: Judy D'Alessandro, Loretta DelliCarpini, Larissa DeVito, Libby Kish, Mary Ann Menuau, Janine Metzger, Ana Murphy, Coleen Murray and Heather Sulca. Special thanks also to Durants Rentals, DJ Ming and to all the restaurants and caterers who so generously donated their time, talents and products to our fundraiser. Thank you also to the PSA Board for their commitment to SDSC!

Lace up your walking shoes. Stretch those legs. It's time for our annual WALK-A-THON!

The WALK-A-THON will take place on Friday, October 21st on our school grounds. This annual event is one of SDSC's largest fundraisers and, importantly, it is the one where our students and families see the immediate results of their generosity and hard work! Last year we raised over \$22,000. These monies were used to purchase and install 65 new computers in our classrooms and computer lab. The year before we raised \$25,000 to help furnish the LabLearner Science Center. This year we hope to raise at least \$19,000 for additional improvements to our school's technology program, which continues to provide our students with a superior academic experience.

Not only do our students get to see and use the items we are able to purchase from our Walk-a-thon, they take an active part in making it all happen! Our SDSC Walk-a-thon celebrates community and reminds us of our special bonds with each other. What better opportunity to build school spirit, to enjoy one another, and to raise money for our school all at the same time! Since the Walk-a-thon is about community, we encourage <u>all</u> of our families to participate again this year. This is the one fundraiser where our children are able to participate directly in helping their own school! We recognize that our families make personal sacrifices to give their children the gift of Catholic education. *We encourage each family to do whatever they can financially to contribute so that we can achieve 100% participation -- even if it is just a couple of dollars per child.* Remember, all of the monies raised from our Walk-a-thon are used for our students and for the improvement of our school and its technology program. We appreciate your help and generosity.

We welcome all parents, grandparents, siblings and friends to come, have fun and support our school on Friday, October 21st. The students may wear their gym uniforms to school the day of the Walk-a-thon. The schedule for the day will be as follows: the students in Grades K-3 will begin walking at 10:00 a.m. and those in Grades 4-8 will begin walking at about 10:30 a.m. We encourage parents and teachers alike to walk for their school! Sponsor pledge sheets will be sent home with students on Tuesday. Additional sheets will be available online and in the school office.

FALL Updates from the Health Office



Physicals and Immunizations

New York State Law requires that all new students, as well as students entering grades Kindergarten, 2, 4, and 7 receive physicals. You may have your child examined by your private physician or the school physician may perform the exam. All private physician physicals are due to the health office no later than October 1st of each school year. Any student required to have a physical who has not returned a

form by October 1st will be scheduled for a physical with the school physician. Mrs. O'Connor will begin contacting families next week who have not returned their physicals.

<u>Head Lice</u>

With the continual fluctuation of the weather these days it is important that we once again take all the preventative measures necessary regarding lice. Wherever large groups of people are gathered, there is the potential for the spread of head lice. The best way to prevent the spread of head lice, especially among girls, is to **wear their hair tied back in a ponytail or braids.** In addition, hats and scarves, combs and hairpieces should never be shared. Head lice are not the result of poor hygiene. In fact, lice prefer clean hair. Symptoms of head lice include tickling feeling in the hair, frequent itching and difficulty sleeping. Head lice are most active in the dark.

<u>Impetigo</u>

There have been a couple reported cases of impetigo this Fall. Impetigo is a bacterial skin infection. It causes red sores that can break open, ooze fluid and develop a yellow-brown crust. These sores can occur anywhere on the body. It is one of the most common skin infections in children. It is VERY contagious and can be spread through close contact or by sharing towels, sheets, clothing, toys, or other items. Scratching can also spread the sores to other parts of the body. A doctor can easily diagnosis impetigo and treat it with a topical antibiotic or if more advanced, an oral antibiotic. Please advise the Health Office if your child is diagnosed with impetigo.

<u>Fevers</u>

Please do not send your child to school if he/she has a fever, or has had one within 24 hours before the start of school. It may seem harmless enough, but assume any fever is a symptom of a contagious condition. Children sent to school with fevers, even those treated with fever reducing medicines, can easily spread illnesses to other children.

To keep our students healthy and happy, our custodians frequently disinfect student desks and chairs. They even take advantage of days off to complete rounds of disinfection.

REMINDER: Honor Roll, Conduct and Tardiness

As stated in the Parent-Student Handbook, a student must receive an A (excellent) or B (good) in conduct to be eligible for honors. A student who does not receive an A or B in Conduct will not receive First or Second Honors even though grades might warrant it. *Moreover, a student with excessive tardiness or excessive unexcused absences will not receive First or Second Honors*. School begins at 8:00 a.m. with morning prayers, and arrival at any time afterward that is considered tardy. The exception to this policy is when tardiness occurs as a result of bus transportation. If you choose not to use bus transportation, it is imperative that your children arrive before 8:00 a.m. each day to receive any honors recognition.

Grade 8 Volunteer Forms

If you haven't done so already, please complete and return your volunteer form. We are still in need of volunteers to chair/co-chair some of the upcoming 8^{th} grade events and projects. We know that your time is valuable and resources are often limited. Please consider assisting with <u>at least one event</u>, whether it's a few hours of your time or the donation food/drinks. Thank you!

Spoon Full of Sugar Tea Party

All little ladies are invited to a Doll's Tea Party on Saturday, October 22nd from 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. It is a great event for girls in Grades PK-5 and their guest, to enjoy on afternoon luncheon complete with crafts, a red carpet and entertainment. The Doll's Tea Party Committee is looking for donations for raffle prizes such as games, dolls or anything a young lady may enjoy winning. Items can be dropped off in the main office and labeled "Dolls Tea Party."

Tuesday Chip Sales

Chip sales will begin on Tuesday, October 4th and run every Tuesday through May. Our chips are \$.50 per bag and will be sold during lunch. All proceeds support PSA Events, including the reception for our graduating class of 2017!



Box Tops for Education

Box Tops for Education is fun and easy. The school receives \$.10 for every Box Top for Education sent into school. Their website at <u>http://boxtops4education.com</u> has several other ways that you can also help your school. Continue to save your **Box Tops for Education** and send them in to school.

ShopRite for my School Program

Do you shop at ShopRite? Please register your Price Plus Club Card at ShopRiteForMySchool.com. Then purchase participating products at their grocery stores and earnings will be automatically credited to our school account.

Stop & Shop A+ School Rewards Program

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

TOPS in Education Program

Have you started to do any grocery shopping at TOPS? Do you have a TOPS BonusPlus card? If yes, please register your card at <u>www.TopsMarkets.com/Education</u>. 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.

To Everything there is a Season and a Time for Every Purpose under Heaven Let us continue to keep in our prayers the many among us who are sick and suffering.

<u>A TIME TO HEAL</u> Anne Culkin (mother of Cathy Martin and great grandmother of Michael O'Hearn), Janice Prostak (sister of Sr. Kathleen battling cancer), Charlie Gray (son-in-law of a parishioner), Claudine (sister of Miss Lavoie), Paulette Bonk(friend/donor of SDSC)



"The name of Jesus, pronounced with reverence and affection has a kind of power to soften the heart."



St. Denis-St. Columba School After School Enrichment

LEGO Club

This is a fun, hands-on, social club where we encouraged kids to use their imaginations and put their skills to use! Each session will have a theme/free play and some will have games and group challenges, such as Lego marble maze and of course, the famous end of the year car building and races!

This is one of SDSC's most popular clubs. Unfortunately, we are limited to the amount of children we can accept. *Registration is strictly on a first come, first serve basis*.

Dates: October 13, 2016 — June 2017 (End date TBD) Day: Thursday Time: 2:50 – 4:00 Grades: All Grades Cost: \$30



Tae-Kwon-Do

Students will learn discipline, leadership, respect and self-confidence as they practice this Korean martial art. Students will improve their speed and agility as they learn high kicks, jumping and spinning kicks, and fast kicking techniques.

Dates: October 12— December 14 (Eight Classes) Day: Wednesday Time: 2:50 – 4:00 Grades: 2-5 Cost: \$30



Tennis Lessons

Tennis Pros from Taconic Sport and Racquet will teach students the basics of tennis to students right here at SDSC. No need to drive your children to separate tennis facility! In addition, TSR is discounting the cost of from \$30 if held at their facility to approximately \$12 a session here at SDSC. All equipment will be provided. Students should bring athletic shoes to school and are welcome to bring a racquet if they have one.

Dates: October 17— December 5 (Eight Classes) Day: Monday Time: 2:50 – 4:00 Grades: 4-8 Cost: \$100 (~\$12 a class)





St. Denis-St. Columba School After School Enrichment

Registration Form

- All activities are supervised by a teacher or Safer Spaces qualified adults.
- All activities end at 4:00 p.m., unless otherwise notified by activity coordinator.
- Students not picked up at 4:00 p.m. will be dismissed to the After School Program and fees will be charged accordingly.
- Activities are not held when school is dismissed early or not in session. Make-up sessions may be scheduled at the discretion of the activity coordinator.
- Activity fees include necessary supplies and/or equipment.
- We want all of our students to have the opportunity to participate. If financial difficulty prevents participation, please call Sr. Kathleen.

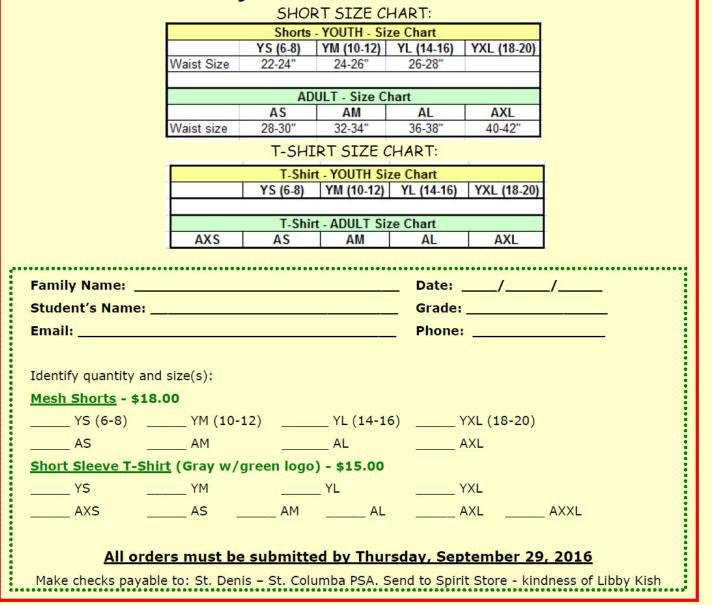
Please complete a separate registration form for each student.
Lego Club (\$30)
🖵 Tae Kwon Do (\$30)
Tennis Lessons (\$100)
Student Name:
Grade: Is the student registered for the After School Program? 🗖 Yes 🗖 No
Please make checks payable to "St. Denis-St. Columba School"
Please return all registration forms to the school office <u>no later than October, 11 2016.</u>



Order Now!

If you are interested in placing an order, please fill out the order form below, make your check payable to 'SDSC PSA' and send the envelope to the main office, marked 'Spirit Store, kindness of Libby Kish.'

We recommend measuring your child to check which short size may fit appropriately according to the size guide below. As these shirts and shorts are 'made to order' they cannot be returned or exchanged.



Get dressed as pretty as ean be

Bring your dolls and drink some tea!



Saturday, October 22, 2016

11:00 - 1:30pm

Please join us for a Tea Party

Bring your mother, grandmother or other special adult and join us for brunch, tea, dessert, entertainment, raffles and fun

Don't forget to bring your favorite doll and fanciest dress for the runway show!

Space is limited

Tickets must be purchased in advance

Cost is \$20 per girl and \$10 per adult Please respond by completing the tear-off below

Name:

of Adults:

Phone #:

of Girls:

Checks can be made out to St. Denis/St. Columba PSA RSVP by October 15th to Dolls Tea Party, Kindness of the main office or to Fiona Murray (feeb74@icould.com) After the 15th Tickets will be available for \$25 per girl and \$15 per adult

WCSD Proposed Change in Start Times

MAKING AN INFORMED DECISION



October 5, 2016 RCK Cafeteria

7-8pm

Elementary Schools

Unify and maximize the instructional day

Middle Schools

No impact on after school clubs, activities or athletics

Allow time necessary to make informed weather-related calls

Private/ Parochial

Approximately 10 minute increase for St. Martin dePorres and Our Lady of Lourdes. No other impact.

High Schools

No impact on after school clubs, activities, or athletics

COMMUNITY FORUM

Email wcsd.commentsawcsdny.org

Go to: https://goo.gl/wLspvo for details Survey at:

https://goo.gl/forms/jACuOMhl8WJeDEL02