



# St. Denis – St. Columba School

A Holy Ground of Loving and Learning

## Family Newsletter



Week of February 22-26, 2021

Shine Like the Stars

### **IMPORTANT SCHEDULE CHANGE – Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup> is a SCHOOL DAY!**

The Archdiocesan inservice day originally scheduled for Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled. Students will now have a full day school with the GOLD COHORT reporting for in-person instruction. The school calendar has updated to reflect the change. **Lunch Menu for Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup> will include South Brooklyn Boys Pizza, Yogurt, Fruit, Milk**

### **PRIORITY ENROLLMENT ENDS THIS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Don't Lose Your Child's Seat in the Class!**

There are two steps that families **MUST** complete to re-enroll all returning students.

- ① Complete the re-enrollment verification through TADS and pay the \$100 priority registration fee for each child.
- ② Complete and return to school district transportation forms *even if your child never takes the bus*.

**Both steps must be completed no later than Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup> in order to receive priority enrollment. Less than one week remains! Once the priority period for re-enrollment ends, available spaces will be offered to new applicants.**

### **Grow and Learn Seed Pods**

Actress Audrey Hepburn is famously quoted for saying *"To grow a garden is to believe in tomorrow."* During these times of uncertainty and strife, it is more important than ever to trust in God's plan for us and give thanks for the blessings we do receive with every new tomorrow. In addition, the Holy Season of Lent is also a time of prayer, sacrifice and charity for the purpose of growing in our relationship with God. To help bring this spiritual lesson to life, the teachers have distributed "Grow and Learn Seed Pods" to our students. Some teachers may have assigned specific lessons for the students using the seed pods, but even if they have not, we encourage all of our families to use the seed pods. You can use them to reflect upon the season of Lent as a family and as an added bonus you might even have a plant or two to place in your garden when Easter ushers in Spring! Many thanks to *Stop and Shop* for donating the seed pods!

### **THANK YOU for Helping the Needy!**

Thank you to all of our SDSC families for helping us LIFT UP the needy in our community! Your generosity was overwhelming. Our school community donated shopping carts full of food and personal care items, as well as monetary donations over \$700. Thank you to Mrs. Sheridan's Grade 8 students for organizing and delivering the donations.



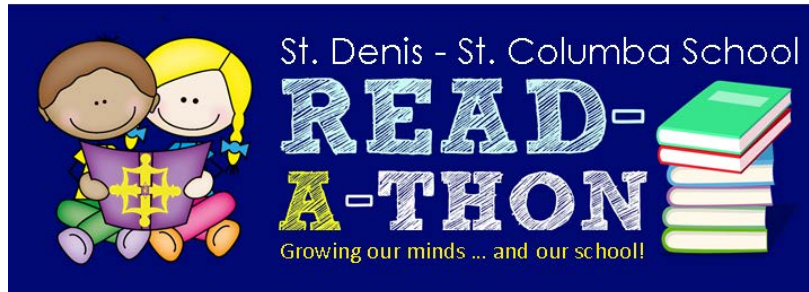
### **IMPORTANT REMINDER regarding REMOTE LEARNING and IN-SCHOOL LEARNING**

If your child is scheduled to be in-school on a particular day, they should be present that day (unless, of course, there is an unexpected emergency). **The classroom teacher should receive an email at least 12-24 hours PRIOR to the student becoming remote on their in-school learning day due to sickness, etc.** Your children's teachers plan their in-school learning activities according to student needs. Unless there is an emergency or an illness, **hybrid students should be in-school on their designated days.** Students cannot just choose the days they want to come to school or stay remote. The remote learning option is not meant to be used whenever a child wants to stay home, sleep in, etc. Students also should be attending Morning Prayers with Sr. Kathleen at 8:10 a.m. each day. The teachers are trying to meet the needs of all their students and often plan their accommodations and activities, according to when students are in-school because of the remote learning challenges at times. **Please have your children remain faithful to their designated in-school days and remote learning days.** If your child is having any difficulty or challenges with coming to school for any reason, please feel free to reach out to me.

## **COOKIE TIME! Support the SDSC Grade 2 Girl Scout Brownies!**



Troop 10282 is St. Denis-St. Columba School's second grade Brownies. Girl Scout cookie sales teach us about the use and value of money in safe and responsible way. Our troop plans to use the money they earn selling cookies to do something adventurous like indoor rock climbing and to help the community! We truly appreciate your support! You can purchase cookies online at: <https://digitalcookie.girlscouts.org/scout/troop10282-155>. (Shipping charges apply, but cookies will arrive in 2-15 business days.) You can also order by email at [girlscouts@stcolumba.net](mailto:girlscouts@stcolumba.net) for free in-person delivery in April or May. Last year our troop sold over 1000 boxes, and the girls are excited to do it again!



## **SDSC's First Read-a-thon!**

SDSC is about to embark on our first ever Read-a-thon! Did you know that just 20 minutes of reading a day can have a lifetime of benefits for your child? It aids in language development, teaches children about empathy, promotes brain development, and so much more! This year, we will hold a Read-a-thon to raise money to support the SDSC programs that support your children each day and provide them with the growth and education that lasts a lifetime. The Read-a-thon is not just a fundraiser; it's a multi-week adventure at SDSC with fun-filled activities that promote reading!

## **Read-a-thon Prize Wish List**

The SDSC Read-a-thon team is assembling reading-themed prize baskets for our students. If you would like to donate a basket or a wish list items, please visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0e44aca929a0ff2-readathon> or sign-up by clicking [HERE](#). Your donations assist with fundraising and get our students excited and motivated about READING! Donations can be sent to school with students or dropped off at the school. If you have any questions or ideas, please contact our Read-a-thon chairperson, Charis Courtemanche at [mrsCourtemanche@yahoo.com](mailto:mrsCourtemanche@yahoo.com).

## **When is the Read-a-thon?**

There are four time components for the Read-a-thon:

- (1) February 22<sup>nd</sup>: Students get their books and receive pledge sheets to collect pledges from family/friends.
- (2) Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup>: Tuesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> School and Home reading activities. Let's see how much we can read!
- (3) Week of March 15<sup>th</sup>: Students collect pledges and return to school office.
- (4) Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>: Prizes awarded and raffles pulled.

## **Reading Goals**

Each classroom will set read-a-thon reading goals. For Kindergarten and Grade 1, reading with an adult also counts!

## **Schoolwide Read-a-thon Events**

**Dr. Seuss Days (Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday March 2<sup>nd</sup>):** The Read-a-thon kicks off with a very seussical celebration of Dr. Seuss's birthday. We celebrate the iconic children's book author and literacy champion, Dr. Seuss. Students can dress up as their favorite character from a Dr. Seuss book, or add some seussical flair to their school uniforms (*think hair accessories, bow ties, hats and other bits of whimsy*)

**A Gathering of Bookworms (Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>):** Two days with time set aside to be bookworms! Students can bring in comfy blanket, stuffed animal, etc. and book to read. Think small because classroom space is limited!

**Book Alive! (Monday, March 15<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>)** Students may dress as an author, character or person from a book. This is not limited to fiction! A student may dress as a historical or current noteworthy figure about whom a book has been written (e.g. Abraham Lincoln, Mia Hamm, etc.). A student may also dress up in a manner related to a nonfiction book (chef, astronaut, carpenter). Students must prepare a Google Slide or index card with facts about the person, character, subject, etc. with 3-5 facts and the title of a book to recommend to class. They will make a short presentation to their class.

*Let us continue to keep in our prayers the many among us who are sick and suffering.*