

NEW THIS YEAR!!!

*Aftercare Policy Change for PREK3 & PREK4 ONLY!

Beginning, January 2, 2018 PREK3 & PREK4 Before & Aftercare are **included** in TUITION.

A Note from the Principal... Each week as I sit down to compose my message, I review all the things we have accomplished over the week at St. Rocco School. I consider the academic news, but I also look toward the many ways in which I've seen a strong Catholic identity grow amongst our students.

Always, I keep in mind that our students represent both St. Rocco School and St. Rocco's

Church. We are one community. In educating our children, I am continuously aware that they are the future of our Church. They will become, someday, the very parishioners who pray for, work for and perpetuate our parish.



As I hope you know, education at St. Rocco School is not only about ABC-123 but it is about guaranteeing that our children are also ready to face life's challenges. Passing exams and learning good study habits are certainly cornerstones in our curriculum. However, it is just as important that today's children are taught to embody the Catholic virtues and values that Jesus sought to teach us.

From the smallest pre-kindergarten class to the graduating 8th grade class, our children are not simply preached the Word of God but shown how to live the Word every day by teachers and staff who are examples of faith, patience, and perseverance.

It is only with your help that we at St. Rocco's can carry on in our mission: ensuring that the coming generations will be taught to lead not merely as well-educated children but as well-educated children of God. I thank you for your continuous support of Saint Rocco School.



Advent invites us to prepare for the commemoration of God's coming by taking time to have a closer look inside ourselves away from the busy outside. This looking inside is not about remorse or regret, nor about listing ways life over the past year could have been different; it's not about wishing we were better people. It's about forward movement, getting new bearings, relying more on God for directions. It's about a fresh start, getting closer to the "fire" and the "light" that are God's love and compassion. Advent is a time to "Rejoice, let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is nigh." St. Paul Phil 4:4,5

As well, Advent is a time to: "Accept surprises that upset your plans, shatter your dreams, give a completely different turn to your day and – who knows – to your life. It is not chance. Leave the Father Himself to weave the pattern of your days." Dom Helger Camara. A Thousand Reasons for Living.

Then: "The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." St Paul. Phil. 4:7.

*With Blessings,
Mrs. Lorraine Moschella*

Christmas Pageant ~ Excitement is in the air! Our annual "Sing Out for Christmas" production will be held this coming Wednesday, December 13th. Please invite all your friends and family to this wonderful celebration of this Advent Season. Please refer to the Thursday Packet with details in regard to arrival time, dismissal procedure and detailed dress code per grade.

Special Note: If any parent is available after the production to help move the risers, piano, etc., please contact Mrs. Rodi directly. Thank you in advance!!



Bishop Tobin has begun the annual “Keep the Heat On” program which helps struggling families with heating assistance. St. Rocco students “dressed down” this week and raised \$200.00 for this worthy cause. A check will be donated to this campaign, aiding those who have exhausted all other means to keep their families warm during the winter months.

A Starry Night with Friends (Adults ONLY)- Join us on Saturday, March 10th 2018 for a night filled with laughter, friends and prizes (both silent and live auction). It will be held at the Pawtucket Country Club, and parents, family and friends are invited. A roving photographer will provide complimentary photos for you and your family and friends throughout the night! Many other surprises and information.....stay tuned but save the date!

FANTASTIC 50 ~ KEEP RETURNS COMING IN !!!

Thanks to all the families who have sold their **25 Fantastic 50 tickets** but there is still time to sell a few more! Please send in your returns! REMEMBER: The class who sells the most tickets ...wins a PIZZA PARTY! As always, your help is greatly appreciated and needed for this Major Fundraiser to be a GREAT success!

Drawing will be held at 9:00AM on Dec. 11th!

Our Little Shoppers Christmas Shoppe is just around the corner! Students will have the opportunity to shop for their family members with the aid of a personal shopper (Parent Volunteer). Anyone interested in helping, please contact Mrs. Karin Sabetta at kas1126@cox.net or Tyler Weir at tylerlweir@gmail.com. The shop will be open on Mon., Dec. 11th, Tues., Dec. 12th and Wed. Dec.13th. The items range in price from \$2.00 to \$12.00.

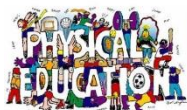


Candy Cane Grams ~ Don't forget to send in your order form for our Annual Candy Cane Gram. All proceeds to benefit the cheerleading program. Candy Canes will be distributed to the students on the week of the 18th. Additional forms are available on line. (Under the Thursday Packet Tab)

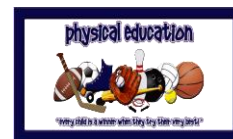


Exciting News...Please refer to the flyer included in your child's Thursday Packet regarding “Christmas Spirit Week”. During the week of the 18th, your child may accessorize their school uniform with some holiday cheer. Please adhere to the guidelines listed.

Classroom News... Ms. Hand~ Physical Education Teacher



The students in grades Pre K3 through eighth grade have had a great first trimester in Physical Education. We have been keeping busy and active with a variety of games, skills, activities and sports. With the cooperation of the weather, grades 4-8 were outside for much of the fall. They played badminton, flag football, soccer, kickball, frisbee golf, running bases, capture the cone and many other games and activities. The middle school students enhanced their fall physical education curriculum by participating in flag football, soccer and beach ball volleyball intramurals during their recess time. Now that we are inside, the focus has switched to working on and identifying the various components of physical fitness. Students in grades three through eight will do this by participating in a variety of fitness circuits and activities. The younger grades have been working hard on their locomotor, non-locomotor, perceptual motor and movement exploration skills. They have had the opportunity to work cooperatively with the parachute and use their imagination in a range of activities on a daily basis. Grades one through three have also been using ropes as part of their warm-up. Imaginative play is a huge part of the curriculum in the early childhood and primary classes and so the students have traveled by balloon to the moon, seen the planets on a rocket ship, encountered a few giants, swam with sharks and minnows, asked a fox what time it is and pulled a tail off a turkey. It certainly has been a creative and positive start to the school year!



Sports News...The basketball season has begun! We would like to wish all of our teams' good luck this season. Please go to the CAL website for a complete schedule of games.



Music News ~ We are very excited to announce that we have purchased a new Roland Electronic Piano Keyboard with matching bench to enhance the beautiful sound of our music curriculum. It will be used in the Christmas Pageant for all to hear. A very special thank you to all the school families for their continued support of school events, activities and fundraising efforts which made this purchase possible.



Special Dress Down Passes - Plan ahead for the month of January! For \$5.00, you may purchase (3) Dress Down Passes for the Month of January to be used on Mondays ONLY, beginning January 9th unless otherwise noted. **Deadline to purchase these passes is Monday, December 19th.** Passes cannot be purchased after this date- NO EXCEPTIONS. Also, students can receive a pass for recycling 5 ink cartridges, bringing in 50 Box Tops or 50 Campbell Soup labels. Clearly label with your child's name and homeroom. Special Note: The Campbell Soup Label program will be ending at the end of the year. (December 2017)

**DRESS
DOWN
DAY**



Outreach Programs... **NJHS/STUCO Coat Drive & Annual Feinsein Food Drive**... Many thanks to all who participated in donating coats and canned foods items to our drives. All coats collected are being distributed to a local shelter. The food items helped to make baskets for Thanksgiving. Additional baskets will be distributed for Christmas.



Mother/Son Dance ~ Our Father/Daughter Dance will take place on Friday, January 19th at the Cranston Country Club. The form is available on the website.

Father/Daughter SWEETHEART Dance ~ Our Father/Daughter Dance will take place on Friday, February 9th at the Cranston Country Club. The form is available on the website.



Friendly Safety Reminder ~ When holidays or special occasions occur, please...NO FOOD ITEMS are allowed to be given to classmates and friends. Only items such as stickers, pencils, bookmarks, etc. are permissible. For safety reasons, there will be no exceptions.

SRS Jewelry ~ In celebrating our 50th anniversary, it was with great excitement St. Rocco School had their very own **ANGELA MOORE Bracelet** made... with Christmas coming, these items would make great gifts and are available through the school office.



- **SRS Burgundy Corded Bracelet (Boy or Girl) ~ \$15.00**
- **SRS Bangle (Alex & Ani LIKE) ~ \$15.00**
- **St. Rocco School Angela Moore Bracelet ~ \$50.00 on SALE for \$30.00.**



Adopt-A-Family – Our annual Advent Adopt-A-Family flyer is included in today's packet. Please take a moment and review your class Adopt-A-Family wishes. We are appreciative of your help for those families who are in need, especially at this time of year.



Special Note: It would be greatly appreciated with all the monies being collected at this time that a separate check be sent into the School Office for Family School Events, Afterschool Programs, lunch money, Dress Down, Adopt-a-Family etc. We understand it might be a little inconvenient, however to ensure that everyone gets credited or a reserved spot is held it makes it much easier to keep track. Your support and cooperation is greatly appreciated!

After School program

The Winter Sessions Forms for the Afterschool Program are now posted on the school website. Additional information is listed below. Form and fees must be submitted to enroll your child into any of these programs.

- **One on One Basketball** will begin on **Monday, January 22nd.**
- **Dance Program** ~ *Denise's Dance* will begin on **Wednesday, January 10th.** Instructor: Miss Denise

- **Band** ~ Any student in grades 4-8 interested may sign up for this afterschool program in the School Office. Band meets on **Thursdays** from 2:35-4:00pm.
- **"The Afterschool Club"** – A variety of Seasonal, Holiday Crafts, Art, Skits, Children's Literature and Poetry that explore Religion, Science, Social Studies, Math and Writing in an integrated creative and "FUN" way. Classes begin **Tuesday, January 9th**. Grades 1-3 Instructor: Mrs. Sweeney
- **Chess Club** ~ Any student in grades 4-8 interested may sign up for this afterschool program in the School Office. The Chess Club will begin on **Monday, January 8th**. Instructor: Mr. DiMichele
- **Calligraphy** ~ Any student in grades 6-8 interested may sign up for this afterschool program in the School Office. Classes are held on **Wednesdays** from 2:35-3:45pm and will begin on **January 10th**.
- **LEGO** (K-2) & (3-5) Classes are held on **Tuesdays** and will begin on **January 23rd**.

Dear Friends of Catholic Education in Rhode Island:

Meeting will take place December 12, 2017 from 6-8PM at the Chancery, next to the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul in Providence

Have you heard yet about the new website established by the Rhode Island Catholic School Parent Federation? The website was created by your counterparts, parents of students enrolled in Catholic Schools in Rhode Island. The Federation is a group of parents, family members and other volunteers who come together each month to advocate for the rights of our children and students. Our mission and our goal is simple: to ensure that a Catholic School education is accessible and affordable for anyone who desires to enroll their child in a Catholic School in Rhode Island. Is this your goal as well? Would you be willing to help promote this mission today, and more importantly, for the future?

Please visit our new website at www.catholicsschoolparentsri.org to learn about our initiatives. We would love to have your help. Please see if you can afford 2 hours each month to help advance the agenda for expanded parental choice in education here in Rhode Island. Feel free to speak to your school principal about the work of the Catholic School Parent Federation. Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at the Chancery in downtown Providence. Won't you please consider attending this meeting? If you have any questions, you should speak to your principal or contact the Catholic School Office for additional information at [401-278-4550](tel:401-278-4550). Feel free to extend an invitation to other interested persons.

The Catholic School Parent Federation has joined forces with other non-public school entities in Rhode Island to advocate for parent choice in education. The group of non-public school communities is Rhode Island Families for School Choice, and you can learn more about this group at www.edchoiceri.org. Imagine how great would it be if someday we were able to secure a portable financial instrument to help struggling families enroll in their schools of choice! This could be doable if more people became involved in demanding equal access from our State Senators and Representatives. Won't you consider joining us? Respectfully,

Ed Bastia,
The Rhode Island Catholic School Parent Federation
[401-278-4550](tel:401-278-4550)

Catholic Schools Week begins Sunday, January 28, 2018

OPEN HOUSE/ART EXHIBIT

Open House



On Sunday, January 28, 2018, the Annual St. Rocco School Open House will be held from 11:00am-1:00pm. If you know of a family interested in having their child attend St. Rocco School, please have them contact our school office at 944.2993 to schedule a tour.



ST. ROCCO SCHOOL EVENTS/ACTIVITIES

- Weds., December 13, 2017 Christmas Pageant
- Weds., December 20, 2017 Choir to sing at Brookdale Nursing Home
- Weds., December 20, 2017 Full day of school ~ NO AFTERCARE
- Thurs., December 21, 2017 Early Dismissal 11:30/ NO AFTERCARE
- Tuesday, January 2, 2018 School Resumes
- Monday, January 15, 2018 No School ~ Martin Luther King Day
- Friday, January 19, 2018 Mother /Son Dance
- Sunday, January 28, 2018 Family Mass 10:00AM
Catholic Schools Week Begins Open House, 11AM-1PM
- Friday, February 9, 2018 Father /Daughter Dance
- Saturday, March 10, 2018 Annual Gala/Silent Auction
Pawtucket Country Club

December Virtue of the Month

Generosity

"Whatever you do, in word and in action, do in the name of Jesus. Give thanks to God the Father."
Col.3:17

CHRIST is the reason for this school.
~in our minds, on our lips, and always in our hearts~