



St. Rocco School

Sharing the Love of the Heart of Christ!

Weekly

THURSDAY PACKET

Parent Notes

A Note from the Principal... Many of the difficult times that we as parents experience with raising our children are quite normal, natural and even



appropriate to differing age levels. We need always to keep things in perspective, love our children at each stage of their life and be open-minded to what might lie ahead. It could be said that, "A difficulty can be likened to a pebble. Hold it too close to your eye and it fills the whole world and puts everything out of focus. Hold it at a proper distance and it can be properly examined. Throw it at your feet and it can be seen in its true setting, just one more bump in the pathway of life." –Author Unknown. When we examine a difficulty in its proper perspective, we



might first ask if it is really a problem at all. Most of our children's difficulties, once they have a calm mind applied to them, tend to offer their own solutions and turn out to be less severe than they first seemed to be.

Of course, keeping a sense of humor can be a big help to lessen the "importance" of the difficulty. Another question that we might ask is, "Does it really matter that much? Will the passing of time heal the hurt or rectify a situation? Will the difficulty be flushed away gradually by new experiences, new opportunities, new or improved relationships?" As long as we parents don't give up on our children, we can only do our best and learn from our experiences and perhaps mistakes. Being empathetic to our children will show them that our concern for their situation is genuine. Empathy involves seeing things from our children's perspective so we can understand their emotions. When we show empathy for our children's feelings, we teach them that we value their thoughts. This helps them to learn to trust themselves. Also, it helps them to understand our perspective as parents.



We need to take care that we have taken time to gather all the facts concerning any difficulty before we move into developing firm opinions. As well, we need to recognize that our children have a right to their opinions and not expect that they must live their lives solely to please us. Sometimes, difficulties arise for our children because of the way we lead our lives or the expectations of how we

think our children should lead their lives. Perhaps we have become used to a fast-paced life, whereas, our children need to take things at their own pace, have time to relax and not rush from school to a series of organized activities. It's possible that our children can blame themselves for events over which they have no control. To be told that there is no way they could have influenced things can be a great relief.

Family
❖
Love
❖
Faith

It's also possible that our behavior shows our children how they should behave. If, for example, we don't freak-out when the car won't start or when the toast burns or we run out of milk, we send a message to our children that when things don't work out, we don't fall apart. Our perspective on how our own life's events can be will surely influence the perspectives our children have about their lives.

"If our children are mostly happy and sometimes talkative, then, we're doing alright as parents." – Author Unknown.

"Lord, we ask You to strengthen us in our role as parents. Help us to be positive, encouraging and appreciative of all the persons in our family. Guide us to see things as they truly are. May our attitude and outlook be inspired by You to be faith-filled, hope-filled and courageous. Amen.

St. Rocco School utilizes the STAR testing assessment tool.

STAR assessments will be used regularly for grades 2-8 throughout the year as formative and interim testing to screen for reading and math achievement levels. There will be Fall, Winter and Spring screenings.

The assessments are computer adaptive tests. Depending on the student's previous answers the assessments adjust the difficulty or ease of the student's subject test question. The STAR assessments can be completed in a single class period.

The teachers' report is designed to identify and differentiate classroom instructional strategies for individual study and planning.

You will be informed when we will begin testing.

On a special note: I have hired Kristen Green as a substitute for Mrs. Bowman during her upcoming leave of absence. She will be working a staggered schedule until October 3rd and become full time on the 4th.

*With Blessings,
Mrs. Lorraine Moschella*

Today a special DRESS DOWN was held for NCEA's a "student to student" campaign to provide relief to those affected by the recent hurricanes. Students "Dressed Down" for a \$1.00. Many thanks for your support and continued prayers.

Classroom News...Miss Piccolino ~ Prekindergarten 3



It has been wonderful to see the children adjusting to their new school routine in the Pre-K 3 classroom! This past week our theme was "I am Special." We know that God made each and every one of us special! Earlier in the week we found a gift bag in our classroom and had to guess what the special present was inside. Some guesses were a car and a heart. We opened it up and found a mirror inside. When each child looked in the mirror, they saw what was so special!

We also shared 5 things about ourselves in our "Me Bags." It has been a great experience for all of us in the class to learn something new about one another and for the children to be able to share amongst their peers.

Our Pre-K 3 class has had so much fun learning with some of our favorite books such as The Kissing Hand, Chicka Chicka Boom Boom, The Night before Class Picture Day, and I Like Myself. We have also been moving and grooving to the beats of One Little Speckled Frog, Down by the Bay, Brush your Teeth, and so many more.

I am happy to tell you that we are having a blast in the Pre-K 3 classroom! So much fun and learning is going on as well as the beginning of friendships that will last a lifetime!

MONTHLY PASSES ~ Each month throughout the school year, St. Rocco School will be offering special dress down passes for the month. You may purchase the monthly passes for OCTOBER ~ **Mondays only** for the cost of \$5.00. Please place the money in a clearly labeled envelope with your child's name, grade, along with your **payment due by tomorrow, September 22nd**. (**Checks ONLY**) Passes will be sent home in the Thursday Packet on September 28th.



Breakfast – Breakfast is available each morning starting at 7:45 and ending at 8:00am.

Students must enter through the Extended Care door and go directly to Cafe Rocco where they will select their breakfast choices. An Aramark employee will be there to assist them. Please plan accordingly, so that your child will be finished with breakfast on time and they will not be late for homeroom. The cost for breakfast is \$2.00.

Lunch Program: St. Rocco School partakes in the Federal Lunch Program. The menu is posted on our school website. Your child may select the hot or cold meal choice. In doing so, your child will receive the required food items of the entree along with additional options of fruit and vegetables that they must choose to complete their meal. Your help in explaining to your child this process, required by the Federal Government, would be greatly appreciated. Thank you!



Application for Free and Reduced Lunch went home last week. Just a reminder, a new application is required each school year. If applying, please make sure the application is filled out completely with all the required information and signed.

Forms are also available online on the school website.

Room Parent & Lunch/Snack Shop Volunteer Form are still being accepted.

Room Parent ~ There are still a few classrooms where a Room Parent Volunteer is needed. If you would like to be the Room Parent, please send a note to the School Office.

Lunch Volunteers ~ We are seeking volunteers to help with Snack Shop. The time is 11:00am-1:00pm. Pick your day!!! If you are able, please contact the School Office.

Fundraising NEW PROGRAM!!!

KIDSTUFF Books – An amazing value at just \$25.00 with \$12.50 from each **sale going directly toward your fundraising obligation**. For every 5 books you sell, you will receive a **FREE BOOK!!!** Books are available in the School Office. Please send in your check, made payable to “St. Rocco School”, with your child’s name and grade in the memo. Great for gifts!!! What a great way to earn credit towards your fundraising fee.

Remember, if you DO NOT wish to participate you MUST return the packet and book. Thank you!



Meadow Farms GOURMET PIES ~ Packets were sent home last week, 40% of your sales will be applied to your fundraising obligation. Please adhere to the deadline date to ensure Thanksgiving delivery.

Sports News ~ **Basketball/Cheerleading** ~ All those students that signed-up in school this week for Boys and Girls Basketball (Grades 3-8) and Cheerleading (Grades 6-8) received Registration form/packets today.



Please complete all required paperwork and return it along with the registration fee on one of the Back to School Nights. Please do not send paper work to school.



Mother-Daughter Brunch

~ St. Rocco School will be hosting its Annual Mother-Daughter Brunch on Sunday, October 29, 2017 at the Kirkbrae Country Club in Lincoln at 10:00am. Mark your calendar. All are Welcome! (Mothers, Grandmothers, Aunts, Godmothers) There will be breakfast, raffles, and pictures. If you are able to help in any way, please contact Nancy Levesque at 523-1419 or nancylevesque@verizon.net. Also, a donation letter is posted on the website for you to use to solicit for raffle prizes. If you are interested in donating any new items (gift certificates, toys, jewelry, accessories and more), please drop off the items, marked Mother-Daughter Brunch, in School Office by October 22nd.



We are looking for a couple of moms that would be willing to put together the gift baskets with the donated items. If interested please call the school. Thank you.

Umbrella Sale ~ Now available for purchase are SRS umbrellas. Cost: \$15.00 each. They are maroon and white with our logo imprinted on them. Umbrellas are available in the School Office.



Coal Fire Pizza GIVE BACK EVENT Fundraiser ~ Following our October 15th 10:00am Family Mass at St. Rocco Church; St. Rocco School will be having a fundraiser at Anthony’s Coal Fire Pizza Restaurant in Garden City ~ Cranston. A portion of all meals purchased on Sunday by members of the St. Rocco School Community will be given to our school. Please pass the word to your family members and friends; what a great way to support our school while dining out and enjoying great food!



EXTENDED CARE BILLING NOTICE ~ Billing will continue to be “hard copy” until January. Please keep your invoices for tax purposes. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

After School program

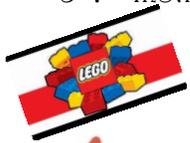
St. Rocco School is always so proud of the quality teaching and educational experiences that are provided for our students. Listed below are the many opportunities for the students to partake in.

- One on One Basketball (K-4) will begin on **Monday**, October 2nd.



- Chess Club (5-8) will begin on **Monday**, October 2nd. Your child will be introduced to the strategic game of chess in this ten week after school club! Chess play has two fundamental aspects; analysis and strategy, always great life skills for your child! Participants will be taught the objectives of the game, movement of game pieces and other skills used in the game of chess, such as: Visualization, Evaluation, Calculation, Planning.

- "The Afterschool Club" (1-3) – 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**, October 3rd. Instructor: Mrs. Swenny



- LEGO (K-2) & (3-5) Classes begin **Tuesday**, October 3rd. **(LIMITED SPACE LEFT)**



- Dance Program (K-4), *Denise's Dance*, will begin on **Wednesday**, October 4th
Instructor: Miss Denise

- Band ~ Any student in grades 4-8 may sign up for this afterschool program. Classes will begin on **Thursday**, Oct. 5th.



- Friends of Jesus (K-8) Classes will begin on **Thursday**, October 5th.



- Fall Art Enrichment Club ~ Classes begin **Thursday**, October 5th. (Grades 5-7) Your child may sign up for this class and create & design their very own masterpiece during this six week afterschool enrichment program. Instructor: Ms. Connors

Please submit your form and fees; checks only payable to St. Rocco School if your child wishes to enroll in any of these programs **by FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22nd**. Spaces will be filled on a first come, first serve basis.

MISSION STATEMENT

Sharing the Love of the Heart of Christ is the foundation of the St. Rocco School community.

We are dedicated to creating an environment that instills

Catholic values and nourishes the development of the whole person.

We are committed to excellence in academic standards

that prepare students to reach their full potential and meet the global challenges of the future.



Back To School Night Procedures for both nights:

- At 6:00pm all parents are asked to be seated in Café Rocco for a short meet & greet.
- Special note: This is not an evening for parent conferences, although you may set up an appointment if you wish.
- Parents will then visit the classrooms
- All parents are asked to sign in.
- At 7:00pm all parents whose children will be playing Basketball/Cheerleading will return to Cafe Rocco for a short mandatory meeting. (Please bring all necessary paperwork/fees with you.)

- Wednesday, September 27th Back to School Night 6:00pm-8:00pm, Grades Gr. 1-4
(Includes Basketball Sign Ups ~ Grades 3 & 4)
- Thursday, September 28th Back to School Night 6:00pm-8pm, Grades 5-8
(Includes Sign Ups~Basketball Grades 5-8 & Cheerleading Grades 6- 8)
- Friday, October 6th First Friday Mass 8:45AM
- Monday, October 9th NO SCHOOL Columbus Day
- Sunday, October 15th Family Mass 10:00AM
COAL FIRE PIZZA GIVE BACK EVENT ~ 20% of tracked dine-in and carry out sales will be donated to our school.



- Saturday, March 11, 2018 Annual Winter Gala sponsored by St. Rocco School Parent Assoc.

September Virtue of the Month ~ *Friendliness*



"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.
Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends."
John 15:12-15

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