

THURSDAY PACKET

Parent Notes

A Note from the Principal...



St. Rocco School has entered into the second trimester of this school year. Our students overall do a superb job of being responsible and serious about their studies. However, at times parents need guidance on how to assist their children to obtain optimal student performance. Being proactive and keeping current on your child's academic performance will prove to provide success for all.



Set Realistic Standards-Use personal observation and teacher input to determine reasonable expectations.

Supervise Homework—Homework is time on task. Assist with memory work. Listen to lessons. Examine written work for thoroughness and accuracy. Have your child make personalized flash cards for review and drill.

Expect Personal Best -Explain to children that God's gift to them is life; how they use their life becomes the gift to God. Their joy is to complete schoolwork to the best of their ability which gives Glory to God.

Establish Goals -Routinely help your child to set a goal, write out a schedule that includes specific behaviors that will be necessary to reach the goal, post the plan in a meaningful place for frequent reference. Avoid procrastination teach your child how to look ahead and to get into the habit of getting a jump start on long range assignments. Make sure that they utilize their organizer. In a nutshell, benefit from the maxim: "Plan your work and work your plan."



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.



Third Sunday of Advent

I hope that the Advent Season finds everyone joyous. Advent is a great time to focus on your home as a holy place, called the "domestic church". The domestic church refers to your home as the primary place where children first hear about and witness the Catholic Faith. In your home, your child will learn to love, to pray and to serve others.

Honor this joyful season in a simple way in your home. Keep the focus on Jesus with prayer. Gather the family at least once a week to pray - how nice it would be if you could do this every day during Advent. It does not need to be more than a five minute moment in the day.

The Third Sunday of Advent Daily Advent Prayer is:

"O Almighty God, gracious provider and giver of life, we anxiously await the celebration of your birth. Like the people of long ago, our ancestors in faith, we, too, are in need of light, in need of direction, in need of your Word, to show us the way. Our busy lives and the consumerism that surrounds us make it difficult to recognize your kingdom and to hear your voice. Help us Lord, to focus on you. We pray that you hear our prayer in the name of Jesus. Amen."

Many Blessing,
Mrs. Lorraine Moschella
Principal

STAR Assessments ~ The STAR Math and Reading Computer-adaptive assessment scores for the first trimester, grades 2 – 8, are included in this week’s Thursday Packet. On the “parent report”, you will be provided scores and an explanation of the scores. The second trimester assessments will be given in January, 2019.

The St. Rocco School *Fantastic 50 Raffle*, one of our first major fundraisers for the year concluded; through everyone’s effort we raised almost \$4000!. As always, the generosity and hard work of our parents is greatly appreciated. Our Fantastic 50 Raffle committee was chaired by Mrs. Lisa Scotti and Mrs. Sue Mooradian. Special thanks for a job well done! The funds raised provide our school the opportunity to purchase educational items, supplies and programs, which benefit our students directly. Many thanks to the area businesses for their generous donations and a special thank you to The Original Italian Bakery for selling the raffle tickets. Most importantly, a heartfelt thank you our St. Rocco School Community who supported this event!



FANTASTIC 50 ~ AND THE WINNERS ARE.....

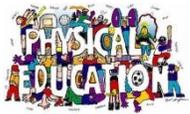
GRADE 4 wins a PIZZA PARTY and

Grades 2 & 3 won a FREE ICE CREAM!

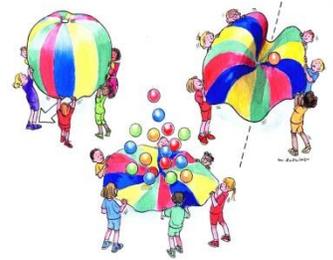


Classroom News..... Ms. Hand ~ Physical Education

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.



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, passed Mr. Pumpkin Head and pulled a tail off a turkey. It certainly has been a creative and positive start to the school year!



Unfortunately for grades 4-8, the weather did not cooperate as well as we would have liked (so much rain!) and many classes were held inside. But, rain and all, we were still able to play flag football, soccer, kickball, Frisbee golf, running bases, capture the cone, pickle, doctor dodge ball 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 really inside, the focus will switch 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. And, just around the corner for the older grades, are floor hockey and basketball!



Open House



**OPEN HOUSE
Sunday, January 27, 2019**

11:00AM - 1:00PM



We welcome you to come visit us for a tour and see why everyone is impressed with Saint Rocco School!

If you are interested in having your child or know of a family interested in attending St. Rocco School, please have them contact our School Office at 944.2993 to schedule a personal tour.

Christmas Pageant ~ Excitement is in the air! Our annual production will be held on Wednesday, December 19th. This year it's called "It's Christmas Everywhere" Please invite all your friends and family to this wonderful celebration during this Advent Season. Please refer to the Thursday Packet with details in regards 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!!

St. Rocco School Gala/Silent Auction (Adults ONLY)- Join us on Saturday, March 9th 2019 for a night filled with laughter, friends and prizes (both silent and live auction). It will be held at the Cranston Country Club, and parents, family and friends are invited. Stay tune for more information.....but save the date!

**MAKE A
TAX-DEDUCTIBLE
DONATION**

If you would like to consider a tax-deductible donation to help support our event, it would be greatly appreciated. All donations will be included in a bid book and items will be on display in beautifully arranged baskets. This event is attended by approximately 250 people each year. A donation is a great way to generate name recognition for your business and broaden your customer base. Attached is a donation letter for your convenience. Feel free to pass it on! Thank you in advance for your consideration in this matter. Please contact Patricia Bowman at St. Rocco School, 944-2993, for additional information or questions.

Outreach Programs... Adopt-A-Family – Our annual Advent Adopt-A-Family program ends tomorrow... Friday! 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.



Candy Cane Grams ~ Order deadline is tomorrow, Friday, 12/14. The form is posted on the school website. All proceeds to benefit the NJHS program. Candy Canes will be distributed to the students on the week of the 17th.



Our Little Shoppers Christmas Shoppe ~Our Christmas Shoppe was held this week with the help of many parent volunteers. They worked extremely hard to offer the greatest gifts for all of the families on the students' list. I would like to extend a very special thank you to Mrs. Sabetta, Mrs. Weir and Mrs. Healey who chaired this event. Without their untiring efforts this student activity would not have been possible! Their kindness, patience and support of our students was exceptional!



Our National Junior Honor Society and Student Council will hold its' annual Christmas breakfast this coming Tuesday morning in Café Rocco at 7:30am. The students enjoy this opportunity to share fellowship and conversation. We truly appreciate their continuing efforts thought-out the year in all of the community service projects!



Exciting News...Once again, St. Rocco School will be celebrating "Christmas Spirit Week". Please refer to the flyer included in your child's Thursday Packet regarding the schedule and details. During the week of the 17th, your child may accessorize their school uniform with some holiday cheer. Please adhere to the guidelines listed.



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 7th unless otherwise noted. **Deadline to purchase these passes is Friday, December 14th.** Passes cannot be purchased after this date- NO EXCEPTIONS. Also, students can receive a pass for bringing in 50 Box Tops. Clearly label with your child's name and homeroom.

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.

BLIZZARD BAGS ~ Please review the newly REVISED Blizzard Bag Letter being sent home today. Please be sure to replace this notice in your child's Blizzard Bag.

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.**

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 being 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
- **"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

SAVE THE DATE

- **Wednesday, December 19th** **Christmas Pageant**
- **Thursday, December 20th** **No Aftercare**
- **Friday, December 21st** **Choir to sing at Brookdale Nursing Home**
- **No Aftercare**
- **Thursday, January 3rd** **School Resumes**
- **Saturday, January 5th** **Confirmation Retreat ~ Grade 8 students**
- **Monday, January 21st** **No School ~ Martin Luther King Day**
- **Sunday, January 27th** **Family Mass 10:00AM**
- **Catholic Schools Week Begins Open House, 11AM-1PM**



Sat., March 9, 2019 ~ St. Rocco School Annual Winter Gala

December Virtue of the Month ~ Faith

Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding.
Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take. Proverbs 3:5-6

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