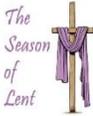


THURSDAY PACKET

Spring Uniform Dress Code- Beginning on Monday, April 2nd, students will be able to begin wearing their spring uniform choice as stated in our uniform policy. Please review.



A Note from the Principal...

Palm Sunday is March 25th this year.



The palms we receive at Mass are blessed. Father blesses them in a prayer that asks for God's grace so that our entire lives and everything we do might acclaim Jesus as Messiah. Consider beginning a new tradition with your family this year: the placing of the palms.

After Mass, reverently carry your blessed palms into your home. Have family members take pieces of blessed palms throughout the house and place them with holy pictures, crucifixes and other sacred items. Before the end of the day responsibly burn the old palms. Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week. The placing of the palms will help your child better understand what we will learn in class during Holy Week.

As we move through Holy Week this year, we are exposed to the radical nature of God's forgiveness in the manner in which Jesus accepts his crucifixion and death. Jesus is a victim of great injustice but instead of nursing feelings of hurt, anger, disgust and contempt, he exhibits a strong sense of compassion toward those responsible for his execution when he says, "Father forgive them for they do not know what they are doing".



Holy Week The events of Holy Week remind us of our calling to be active Christians in the way we lead our own lives. If we are harbouring hurt within us, Jesus' actions can encourage us toward forgiveness and away from grudges and bitterness. We have all experienced hurt through the actions or words of another and this hurt we might have carried for years and deprived ourselves of the opportunity to embrace peace, hope, gratitude and joy by being unforgiving.

Forgiveness is a decision to let go of resentment and thoughts of revenge. In place of anger, confusion, anxiety or even depression being swallowed up by our own bitterness or sense of injustice, we can move away from our role as victim and relieve the power that the offending person or situation has on our life. As we let go of hurt and resentment and don't allow them to define our lives, we open ourselves to find compassion and understanding. Slowly, we embrace forgiveness and begin once more to live a truly Christian life.

Jesus' example to us on Good Friday clearly defined for us the extent of God's forgiveness and the encouragement for us to do likewise in our own limited human way. But Jesus' example has an after effect as well, for on Easter Sunday he rose gloriously to a new life. Embrace forgiveness and reconciliation, instead of punishment and revenge. How about us this Holy Week? Is there unforgiveness we still have to deal with, that overshadows our lives?

Join us for our annual Living Stations on Wednesday, March 28th at 1:15pm. Our Fourth Grade students will be re-enacting each station and four of our Eighth Grade students will carry "Jesus" to the tomb. This presentation is beautiful and moving! Mark your calendar and come experience this incredible demonstration of mercy.

"But Palm Sunday tells us that...it is the cross that is the true tree of life."

~Pope Benedict XVI

God Bless,
Lorraine S. Moschella
Principal

A "thank you" to our many families, friends, and alumni who visited SRS on Sunday at our Open House. To note, there were several families interested in both the Early Childhood and Middle School programs for next year. The "word of mouth" recommendation is truly our best advertisement in order to highlight St. Rocco School's extraordinary academic curriculum and our school's climate. As a testament to this fact; all of our 8th grade students this year overwhelmingly placed in Advanced, Accelerated, and Honors programs in the High School of their choice.

Also, thank you to Mrs. Ciunci and her Grade 4 students who displayed their State Fair projects during our Spring Open House. Their knowledge of each state and presentations were exceptional. A "thank you" to all of their families who visited both on Friday and Sunday; and to Mrs. Rodi's Music Class who displayed Shadow Boxes reflecting "Origins of Musical Expressions". They were outstanding and the creativity went above and beyond the boxes.

Classroom News ~ Mrs. Montecalvo



Students in Middle School have been busy in Science.

Grade 5 has focused on the properties of matter. They have learned about density, mass, buoyancy, and the Periodic Table. The class went into the lab and learned about volume during a water displacement lab.

Grade 6 has been discussing cells. We have reviewed the various organelles found in cells. We have studied the differences between plant and animal cells. Organic and Inorganic compounds were also reviewed. They did a great job on their 3-D cell model. Students used Play Doh, Styrofoam, clay, macaroni, and other common items to create a model of a plant or animal cell.

Students in grade 7 are learning about Environmental Science. Symbiosis, mutualism, predators, prey, and population density have been reviewed. They had a chance to learn about population density in a population lab about turtles. During the second semester seventh graders participated in the *Invention Convention*. The projects were great and someday I expect to hear that one of their inventions is helping the world!!



Eighth graders have discussed and presented projects about organ systems. Each student was assigned an organ system and had to present their findings to the class with a poster. I even learned that if you laid out all the capillaries, arteries, and veins in an adult, they would be long enough to wrap around the Earth two and a half times!!

All the Science classes are making great progress!

Field Trip Grade 6 ~ Permission slips are posted online under the Parent's Page > Field Trip Forms for **Cabaret Production ~ Collaboration of Broadway Musicals; Thursday, April 26, 2018 at St. Mary Academy ~ BayView.**



Music News ~ Choir members performing at Catholic Music Festival on April 2, 2018 at Mount St. Charles need to return the permission form by **Friday, March 23rd.**

Also, March 23rd is a mandatory rehearsal after school until 4! Just a reminder for the performance, students are to wear their full dress uniform. (No shorts) You are all invited to attend this free concert at

6:30PM.



Special Dress Down Passes ~ Plan ahead for the month of April! For \$5.00, you may purchase (4) Dress Down Passes for the Month of April to be used on Mondays ONLY, beginning April 5th unless otherwise noted. Deadline to purchase these passes is tomorrow, March 23rd. Passes cannot be purchased after this date - NO EXCEPTIONS.



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.

Ordering Lunch/Illness ~ If a student orders a school lunch in the morning and is dismissed for any reason prior to his/her scheduled lunch, a credit cannot be given. If a student pre-orders lunch and is absent, a credit slip will be issued to the student. The credit slip **MUST BE** submitted in order to be redeemed for a lunch credit.



Stations of the Cross

Wednesday, March 28th

Living Stations by Grade 4 Students ~ 1:15PM

All are welcome!

Student Safety – Just a friendly reminder, pets are not allowed on school grounds. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding. Many thanks!



School Hours/Tardiness ~ Our school hours are from 8:15AM -2:35PM. **The front doors open at 8:00AM** with the start of day **bell ringing at 8:15AM** and prayers immediately following. **Students arriving after the bell has rung are considered tardy and will receive a tardy slip.** Your child's tardiness is part of their school record. Please try to encourage them to be on time each day; detention may be a consequence for reoccurring instances.

Parade of Words ~ Included in today's packet is a notice regarding the "**Vocabulary Parade**" that will be held on Tuesday, April 10th for Grades PK3 – 5. Have fun with this activity and **BE CREATIVE!!**

Extended Care "PICK – UP"/DISMISSAL ~ Just a reminder of the procedure in place. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

- As all doors to the school are locked, parents or guardians please **ONLY** use the side door entrance located next to the Music Room. Please ring the bell and someone will admit you. There is a clearly marked sign indicating "Day Care" above the bell.
- Once the child's belongings have been gathered, parents/guardians and other authorized signatures **MUST** enter the time, sign the "sign-out" sheet and kindly leave through the side exit.
- Staff members are employed until 5:30PM. By this time both the children and staff are ready to end their day. Please be mindful of this and respect this closure time. Staff members are not required to provide care after 5:30PM. When a child has not been picked up, and no call from a parent has been received, we will try to contact the parent and then persons listed on the Emergency Form. A \$10.00 fee will be charged for any child picked up after 5:30PM.

Please note~ We do understand that extenuating circumstance arise, however, please make every effort to adhere to the policy in place. Thank you!



Cookie Dough Fundraiser Due Date ~ All orders are due on Friday, April 9, 2018. Please make sure your child's name and homeroom are clearly marked. All orders are prepaid. Just a reminder, 40% of your total sales will be applied to your fundraising.



Sports News... We would like to congratulate the Boys & Girls Basketball Teams for a very successful season! A very special thank you to all the coaches, parent volunteers, as well as Mrs. Levesque, the Cheerleading Coach.

Athletic Celebration ~ St. Rocco School will be having an Athletic Celebration for all our sport teams on Tuesday, May 29th at the Kelly Gazzaro Post on Plainfield Pike. Please Save The Date! More info to follow.



Congratulations to Aaron Lewis for placing 3rd Overall in the Rhode Island State Gymnastics Meet. Aaron competed on the bars, rings, parallel bars, floor, vault and mushroom.



After School program

- **One-on-One Basketball** ~ begins on Monday, April 2nd
- **Dance Program** ~ begins on Wednesday April 4th.
- **“The Afterschool Club”** ~ begins on Tuesday, April 3rd.
- **Lego** ~ begins Tuesday, April 3rd. **SESSION FULL**

Please submit your form and fees if your child wishes to enroll in any of these programs.

ST. ROCCO SCHOOL EVENTS/ACTIVITIES



- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friday, March 23rd • Wednesday, March 28th • Thursday, March 29th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$1.00 Dress Down ~ Rice Bowl Living Stations 1:15 PM NO BUSING for Johnston Students ONLY |
| <p>Due to NO SCHOOL for Johnston Public Schools busing is not available.</p> | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday, March 29th • Friday, March 30th • April 9th – 13th • April 16th -20th • April 23rd – 27th • Thursday, April 26th • Sunday, April 29th • Thursday, May 3rd • Saturday, May 19th • Tuesday, May 22nd • Monday, May 28th • Tuesday, May 29th • Wednesday, May 30th • Thursday, May 31st • Friday, June 1st • Thursday, June 7th • Sunday, June 10th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:30 AM Holy Thursday - Early Dismissal ~ No Aftercare Good Friday - NO SCHOOL Reading Week Spring Recess Week of the Young Child \$1.00 Dress Down ~ EARTH DAY (Wear Green) Grade 2 First Communion 12:00Mass Gr. 4 6:30PM Transition Meeting for Parents & Students Spring Production / Showcase of Talent May Crowning 9:00AM Memorial Day NO SCHOOL Athletic Celebration~ Kelly Gazzerro Post at 5:30PM NJHS/STUCO Induction Ceremony 9:00Am Grades 6, 7 & 8 Field Trips Spring Dance 6:30-8:30PM Café Rocco Grade 8 Awards Night ~ 6:00PM Café Rocco Grade 8 Graduation Mass 12:00 Followed by Commencement Ceremony |

March Virtue of the Month ~ Forgiveness

"Lord, when my brother or sister wrongs me, how often must I forgive? Seven times?
"No," Jesus replied, "not seven times, I say seventy times seven times." Matthew 18:21

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