

A Note from the Principal...

There has never been a shortage of advice to parents as to how we should go about educating and raising our children. When we wish to explain the difference between right and wrong to our children, we can use various “do’s and don’ts”. Such explanations are important but they fail to touch children on the level where it matters – their imagination.



When a moral principle has the power to move us into action it is often because it is backed up by a picture or image. Over recent times images of natural disasters have led to outpourings of compassionate response and generosity from those who were exposed to them. The educationalist, Thomas Lickona, tells us that: “Stories teach by attracting rather than imposing. They capture the imagination and touch the heart. That’s why storytelling is such a natural way to engage and develop the emotional side of a child’s character.” –

Educating for Character.

Of course, two stories not to be overlooked are the stories of the lives of parents; they are ongoing and evolving right in front of their children. What types of stories are influencing our children’s lives, for life is a process of growing and learning together. We can’t avoid being an example to our children whether good or bad. Being a good example is probably our most important job.



So here’s a quick “examination of conscience:

- Are we ready and willing to adjust as necessary to circumstances that arise in daily life?
- Are we adaptable?
- Do we show kindness and concern for others in distress by offering help? Are we compassionate?
- Are we truthful in all that we do and never take advantage of the trust in others? Are we honest?
- Do we show others that we are dependable when we have a commitment to them? Are we loyal?
- Are we positive in our self-belief our belief in others and in our future? Are we optimistic?
- Do we demonstrate accountability for our actions and follow through on our commitments?
- Are we responsible?



Children are always listening and absorbing the words and actions of their parents – their closest role models. If we want our children to be responsible for their own character crafting, we need to be responsible for the physical and moral environment in which the crafting takes place. We don’t become wiser, more patient, more self-disciplined, more truthful, more courageous, more forgiving persons automatically. We do so by deliberately striving to be that kind of person. Character building is an “inside job”. It’s a personal responsibility that lasts a life time it’s a work in progress. Our children rely on us to teach them to be skilled “builders”. “Spirit of God, Be in our children and in the vision they have for their lives; Be in us and in the advice we give them by word and action. Amen.”



St. Rocco School is always so proud of the quality teaching and educational experiences that are provided for our students.

We also want the community to be aware of the marvelous variety of extracurricular After School Enrichment Programs which are offered. There are activities ranging from LEGO instruction, basketball, art, dance, band and prayer group.



We continually offer challenging and exciting choices for our students in order to bring forth growth academically, spirituality athletically and socially.

Take a look at our website in order to obtain further information regarding these programs. You will be very impressed.

*God Bless,
Mrs. Lorraine Moschella*

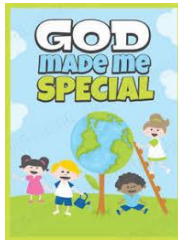


Classroom News

Miss Piccolino

PK-3

It's been wonderful to see the children adjusting to their new school routine. This 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, a ladybug and a heart. We opened it and found a mirror inside.



When each child looked in the mirror, they saw what was so special! We've read many "All About Me" stories, and we even illustrated some of our first journal entries.

Our September Prayer Project was a success. The "Me Bags" has been a great experience for all of us to learn something new about one another and for the children to share among their peers.

This upcoming week, we will have lots of fun exploring apples! We will learn about the life cycle of an apple, paint with apples, and even become scientists to discover whether apples float or sink. Be sure to ask your child to sing some of the apple songs that we will learn in school.



It's the R.O.A.R. Show! "Respect Others Act Responsibly," is an educational, enrichment school assembly program that helps with character building and positive self-esteem. The ROAR assembly program uses storytelling, audience participation and a little bit of magic to captivate students with age appropriate lessons of inclusion, respect, responsibility, safety, bully prevention and accountability for their actions. Our students will enjoy this performance on Friday, September 28th. Be sure to engage your child in conversation and discuss this assembly and the important message it delivers.

MONTHLY PASSES ~ Each month throughout the school year, St. Rocco School will be offering special dress down passes for the month at the cost of \$5.00. You may purchase these passes monthly or for the entire school year. These passes are to be used on **Mondays only**. Please print the **REQUIRED Monthly Dress Down Pass Request Form** on our school website, place the money in a clearly labeled envelope with your child's name, grade, along with the form and your payment. Please note **DEADLINE DATES**. (**Checks ONLY**) Passes will be sent home in the Thursday Packet prior to its use.

STAR Testing ~ Our Fall STAR assessments will begin on September 24th. These assessments are 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 & 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' reports are designed to identify and differentiate classroom instructional strategies for individual study and planning. You will receive a report following the end of our First Trimester.

Suggestions for Good Test Taking:

- Well rested students achieve better scores
- Healthy, nutritious breakfast
- Be on time to school
- Please do not schedule appointments as interruptions to the classroom are not possible during testing.

Flu Clinic – The Flu Clinic to vaccinate students will be held next Wednesday, October 17th. A form will be sent home in your child's October 4th Thursday Packet or you may choose to register online at www.schoolflu.com. This information is necessary so that the health care workers will have sufficient vaccines available for 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.



SRS CAL Basketball / Cheerleading ~ Required forms have been sent home with those students who have expressed interest in joining one of our basketball / cheerleading teams. All completed forms and payments must be submitted on or before the **October 5th DEADLINE**. You may also submit forms and payment tonight at our **Back to School Night**.



A+ School Rewards Program ~ Please remember to sign up on www.stopandshop.com/aplus

STOP/SHOP Cards - Cards may be purchased at the Church Rectory Office from 9:00am until 4:00PM. Remember, you may pre-order large quantities. All money raised through your fundraising efforts will be applied to your account in early February.

Mother / Daughter Brunch Sunday, October 21st ~



Join us for a wonderful afternoon at the Kirkbrae Country Club!
Enjoy Breakfast, Raffles, Pictures, DJ & Dancing!
~All are Welcome! Mothers, Grandmothers, Aunts, Godmothers ~
Forms are available in your Parent Portal.
Locate Sunday, October 21st on the Calendar in your Portal.
Click on Mother/ Daughter Brunch.
Print, complete and submit with a check,
payable to St. Rocco School by the deadline of October 12th.



Fundraising

KIDSTUFF Books –Informational packets are included in your packet. All proceeds from this **sale go directly towards your fundraising obligation**. For every book sold you receive a \$10.00 credit and for every 5 sold, you receive a **FREE BOOK!!!** Please read carefully, remember, if you **DO NOT** wish to participate you **MUST** return the packet and book. Thank you!

Candy Sale ~ All proceeds will go towards: the enhancements to grade level curriculum, in-school programs, etc. The box of candy is a 30 count/\$2.00 per bar. The sale dates are Oct. 1st – Nov. 3rd. If you have not opted out, you will receive notification when the candy will be distributed. **Please submit a check for \$60.00 (your canceled check is your receipt) by Nov. 3rd.** Thank you in advance for your support!






St. Rocco Church Youth Group



Are you 12+ years old and looking for an opportunity to make friends, have fun, and expand your Catholic Faith? Then, the newly formed St. Rocco Youth Group is just for you. Some of the planned activities include Apple Picking, Car Wash, Ultimate Frisbee, visiting LaSalette Shrine, and Community Service Projects, just to name a few. Since we launched this program at our feast, we have been adding new members every week. For more details on how you can join the team, please contact either:

Sue Mooradian
(401-864-7811)
Tyler Weir
(228-326-0436)

After School program

- **One on One Basketball** (K-4) will begin on **Monday**, October 1st. 
- **“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 a integrated creative and “FUN” way. Classes begin **Tuesday**, October 2nd. See enclosed flyer for additional details. Instructor: Mrs. Sweeney 
- **LEGO** (K-3) Classes begin **Tuesday**, September 25th.
- **Dance Program** (K-4), *Denise’s Dance*, will begin on **Wednesday**, October 3rd . Instructor: Miss Denise 
- **LEGO** (4-6) Classes begin **Wednesday**, September 26th.
- **Calligraphy Art Enrichment** ~ ~ Classes begin **Wednesday**, October 3rd. (Grades 5-8)
Your child may sign up for this class and **learn the art of handwriting and decorative lettering**. This will include usage of calligraphy pens - do functional inscriptions - art pieces using lettering design during this six week afterschool enrichment program. Instructor: Ms. Connors
- **Band** ~ Any student in grades 3-8 may sign up for this afterschool program. Classes will begin on **Thursday**, October 4th.
- **Friends of Jesus** (K-8) Classes will begin on **Thursday**, October 4th.

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 21st**. Spaces will be filled on a first come, first serve basis.

For sign-up forms, please click on this link: <https://www.stroccoschool.org/enrichment-programs>



- Friday, September 21st October Dress Down Pass Deadline ~ **NO EXCEPTIONS**
- Thursday, September 27th FANTASTIC 50 Raffle Begins!
- Saturday, September 29th Food Truck / Touch~A~ Truck Event, 4:30-7:30 PM
- Wednesday, October 17th St. Rocco School Flu Clinic ~ Students Only
- Saturday, March 9, 2019 St. Rocco School Annual Winter Gala

St Rocco Food Truck Night ~ 



St Rocco School will host a Food Truck Night on Saturday, September 29th from 4:30-7:30 pm. The event is free and open to the school and parish community. Current families are invited to attend, as well as past and future students, friends and neighbors.



Little B's BBQ, Buddy's Diner, The Village Greek & Sarcastic Sweets are some of the vendors scheduled as well as ice cream and lemonade trucks! St. Rocco School hopes to make this a huge and fun community event. All are invited to come out and enjoy a night of great food. Pack your blankets and chairs and spend a fun night with family and friends! Come meet and mingle with St. Rocco School and St. Rocco Church parish families. For safety reasons, parking will be available **ONLY** in the Church lot located on Atwood Avenue.



As part of event, the school will also host "Touch a Truck" with some of Johnston's finest. Looking forward to seeing you!



September Virtue of the Month

Wisdom

The mouths of the righteous utter wisdom, and their tongues speak what is just.
Psalm 37:30

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