



St. Rocco School

Sharing the Love of the Heart of Christ!

Weekly

THURSDAY PACKET

Parent Notes

St Rocco Food Truck Night ~ *Rain or Shine*



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 filled 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!



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 lives 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 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

Family
❖
Love
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Faith

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.

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 our own life's events 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."

*God Bless,
Mrs. Lorraine Moschella*

Classroom News

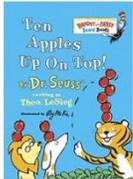
Mrs. Tavares

PK4



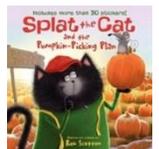
We have had a great start to a new school year! I am very happy to say that Ms. Kristen Green is my Teacher Assistant and I am looking forward to working closely with her this year.

The Pre-School students have successfully transitioned into our daily routine. The children have already begun their Alphabet program. This year we are making characters out of the letter. For letter "Aa", the class made an alien and an apple, then practiced writing the letters all by themselves!



We have had RED day where the students brought in something that was red to share with the class and they finger painted apples red! The children are going to make an individual books based on "Ten Apples Up On Top", where they had to write the numeral and put the corresponding number of apples on the page.

The class has two book bags with friends in them that will be visiting all the children for a night, one is *Bear* and the other is *Splat the Cat and his friend Seymour*. The bag includes a stuffed animal, the book and a notebook so that the children can draw and write about their adventures with our classroom friends.



I am looking forward to a wonderful year with all my new friends and their families. ~ Mrs. Tavares



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 tomorrow Friday, September 28th. Be sure to engage your child in conversation and discuss this assembly and the important message it delivers.

Free & Reduced Lunch ~ Meal benefit applications must be filled out every school year. If you were receiving free or reduced meal benefits last year but failed to fill out a new application before the October 15th deadline, any balance incurred between that time and the time that a new application was filed is still your responsibility to pay. Please note that if your ability to pay or circumstances have changed, please re-submit a new application to be considered for Free & Reduced Benefits.



Each month, Saint Rocco School recognizes a spiritual or moral virtue. Following First Friday Mass, students from grade level classes will present what has been taught in order to understand the Virtue of the Month. The month of September's virtue is *Wisdom*. This virtue reflects the one of the many character traits that will be communicated this year within St. Rocco School, as well as the teachings of Jesus, "The mouths of the righteous utter wisdom, and their tongues speak what is just." Psalm 37:30. All are invited to attend our monthly First Friday Masses. This month's presentation will be by Grade 8.

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 began 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 on Wednesday, October 17th. A form is included in your child's Thursday Packet or you may choose to register online at www.schoolflu.com. Forms are due back by October 3rd.

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 cheerleading or one of our basketball teams. All completed forms and payments must be submitted on or before the **October 5th DEADLINE**. The determination of teams will depend on the number of students participating. More information to follow.



A+ School Rewards Program ~ Please remember to sign up on www.stopandshop.com/aplus. Our School ID# is 06011.

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 form along with a check payable to: St. Rocco School
by the deadline of October 12th.**

Fundraising Programs Ongoing **SAVE AROUND Books ... and more Books!** **Meadow Farms Pie Sale** **Fantastic 50**

Each year a number of fundraising programs are made available to our school families. You may select as many or as few as you wish. Every family is responsible for contributing to Saint Rocco School fundraising efforts. This money is accounted for in the annual budget and all families are required to contribute their "fair share" of \$500.00 per family. This fee is added to your annual tuition plan. Fundraising programs are calculated by calendar year, not by school year. Therefore, all monies raised by you, through specified school sponsored fundraisers, will be applied to your (Facts Tuition Account) for the 2018-2019 school year as a one-time credit in February 2019. If you paid your tuition and fundraising fee in full, a refund check of your fundraising will be mailed to you.

**Any excess monies raised over the \$500.00 will be applied to your tuition.*

SAVE AROUND Books – 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!!!** WHAT A GREAT DEAL!!! Please read carefully, remember, if you **DO NOT** wish to participate you **MUST** return the packet and book undamaged. Otherwise you will be charged \$25.00. Thank you!

Meadow Farms GOURMET PIES Fall Fundraiser – The Meadow Farms fundraising packet are included in your child's Thursday Packet. Don't forget you may also use the *Online Option*. Your school ID#: 1030401. Make all checks payable to "St. Rocco School" and include the seller's name and grade in the memo. Remember...up to 40% of your sales are applied to your mandatory fundraising fee! Please adhere to the deadline date of October 15th to ensure Thanksgiving delivery!



Class of 2019 News...

Class Video - Eighth graders are required to send to school three pictures: one baby, one from elementary school years and a current photo. These photos will be used for their class video to be shown at the Awards Celebration. If you could send in the baby photo now and the other two photos by the November Thanksgiving break, it would be greatly appreciated. Please be sure to LABEL back of your photos, preferably with an Address Label. Writing directly on the back of photo may cause damage to it. All photos will be returned.

Yearbook Baby Photo - Each eighth grade student needs a baby photo for the yearbook. You may use the same baby photo submitted for the video or you may submit a different one. This photo is due by Friday, November 2nd. Your cooperation is needed so that deadline dates can be met. Thank you, Mrs. Okolowicz

Candy Sale ~ All proceeds will go toward: 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. **Please submit a check for \$60.00 (your canceled check is your receipt) by Nov. 3rd.** Thank you in advance for your support!

Fantastic 50 Raffle ~ Included in this packet is the flyer for this year's Fantastic 50 raffle explaining this fundraiser along with 25 tickets per student. Many thanks to Mrs. Scotti who once again coordinated this event and thank you in advance for your continued support!

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 an integrated creative and “FUN” way. Classes begin **Tuesday**, October 2nd. See enclosed flyer for additional details. Instructor: Mrs. Sweeney 
- **Dance Program** (K-4), *Denise’s Dance*, will begin on **Wednesday**, October 3rd. Instructor: Miss Denise
- **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.



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)



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| • Thursday, September 27 th | FANTASTIC 50 Raffle Begins! |
| • Saturday, September 29 th | Food Truck / Touch~A~ Truck Event, 4:30-7:30 PM |
| • Wednesday, October 17 th | St. Rocco School Flu Clinic ~ Students Only |
| • Friday, November 9 th | Middle School Bowling Night |
| • Saturday, March 9, 2019 | St. Rocco School Annual Winter Gala |

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~