

**Back to School Night
Thursday, September 20th**

Grades Gr. 1-4.....6:00pm-6:30pm

Grades 5-86:45pm-8pm

Mark your calendar! Back to School Night will begin with a brief welcome in Café Rocco followed by a visit to your child’s classroom!

Be sure to sign in in the classrooms and come meet our wonderful teachers and establish lasting bonds with families in your child’s classroom!



On Sunday, September 9th, St. Rocco School students and their families are invited to celebrate their Grandparents / Grand-friends at the 10:00AM Grandparents Day Mass. Following Mass, a reception in their honor will be held in Café Rocco. Students will also have the opportunity to have a photo taken with their grandparents and family and have them visit their classrooms.

A Note from the Principal...

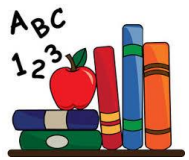
Welcome to a new year of education for your child! “Those who are in charge of schools must never forget that the parents have been appointed by God himself as the first and principal educators of their children” Pope John Paul 11.

A school and its teachers can only build on the teaching a child receives at home. The home should not reinforce the school it should be the other way around.



Education is about valuing and nurturing every young person’s uniqueness and assisting them to fulfil their capabilities as students and later as adults. Parents and schools have a joint interest to ensure that our school provides an environment that is conducive to successful learning and personal achievement. If education is valued in the home and seen as life-enhancing, then children will view their schooling as being positive for them and worth investing their energies in. Parents and teachers working in collaboration can present education as a happy and fulfilling experience for children.

Research, anywhere in the world, confirms that when parents are partners in their children's education, their children improve their achievement levels. So, keep in touch with the school. Don't leave it always to the school to let you know how your child is achieving. Stay aware of what your child is learning, what their assignments are and how they perform in them. Arrange a visit to the school to talk with your child's teacher or schedule a phone call. Good communication between home and school is vital to create and sustain a climate that is conducive to productive learning.



Parents, you are the source of your child's affirmation. Children will believe what the people they love and trust believe, including how they feel about school and their own ability to learn. So, after praise and encouragement, encourage perseverance. A warm, supportive home atmosphere will influence your child's confidence and motivation to become a successful learner.

A couple of years ago, a university study asked a randomly selected number of parents to respond to the question, "What does it mean to be a parent?" Here are extracts from three responses:



"Responsibility for teaching about love and caring for others, responsibility for keeping them safe and secure so their personalities can develop in a healthy way."

"Something very special, close and loving; it means an enormous responsibility, it changes your life-course; once you start being a parent, it's an ongoing thing with worries and anxieties attached."

"It's the most important job you'll ever have to do in your life. The social ramifications of parenting are so important, because the responsibility is yours to bring happy, well-adjusted people into adulthood and the joy and despair are often only seconds apart."



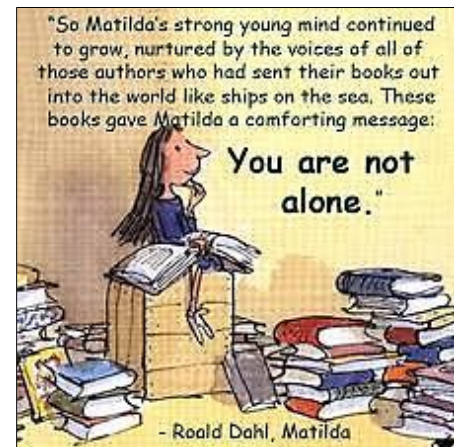
It can be helpful, on occasion, to think about our role as parents, for it is truly a privilege to have given life to a child and have accepted the responsibility, great though it is, of nurturing and providing for that child through those developmental years. Fortunately, you have teachers who are professionals and who will serve to help you succeed. Your child will enter this school, move through its various grades and eventually leave; but your child will still be part of your family and still be your responsibility.

So, welcome to the commencement of another school year when home and school come together to bring success to a new phase of development for your child.

*God Bless,
Mrs. Lorraine Moschella*



*The **Autumn Scholastic Book Fair**
is at St. Rocco School this week:
Sunday, 9/9 through Tuesday, 9/11*



Student Data/Custody Concerns – Please notify the School Office if any information regarding your child has changed since the submission of your child’s application for enrollment. Any custody concerns require immediate notification to the School Office.

DRESS CODE: – We take pride in the appearance of our students. The way a student dresses and appears often has an effect on behavior and learning. Uniforms must be worn at all times unless it is a casual “dress down” day. Please refer to the School Handbook available on the School Website.

DRESS DOWN DAY POLICY ~ Dress Down Days will begin in October. Your child will be awarded pre-purchased passes on the last Thursday of the prior month. The designated day for these passes will be Monday. There will also be days designated as a *Dress Down Day* for celebrations, recognitions, etc. Please check the monthly calendars as these days will be noted.

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.



Box Tops – We will again be offering the Box Tops for Education program. Any student who brings in 50 Box Tops will be issued a Dress Down Pass! Ink cartridges are **NO LONGER ACCEPTED!** Please label envelope with child’s name and grade.

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

BCI / Safe Environment Reminder – Just a reminder...All parents, volunteers and coaches interested in both on-site and off-site volunteer opportunities must have completed a BCI & Safe Environment check. Potential volunteers need to watch the Safe Environment Powerpoint presentation under the Parent Association tab on our School Website. After you have viewed the presentation, you will sign a form in the School Office, submit a copy of your license and a payment of \$ 5.00. The school is informed when this process is successfully completed and individual is cleared for volunteering. If you wish to participate or volunteer during the school year at events or activities, please complete the training and submit all necessary paperwork early to insure clearance in time. If you are not sure of your status, you may contact the School Office or Mrs. Okolowicz.

Arrival & Dismissal Procedures –

Remember that, at all times, we have the safety of our students in mind and we rely on our parents’ help in this area. All students (not arriving by bus) are to enter the building each day using the front door upon arrival. At dismissal, children must exit the building using the designated exit doors assigned to their class:

- Pre-Kindergarten 4 ~ Left Side Exit of school.
- Pre-Kindergarten 3 & Kindergarten ~ Right Side Exit of school. (Church Side)
- Grades 1-3 ~ Right Side MIDDLE Exit of school. (Under the overhang connecting to the Church)
- Grades 4-8 ~ Front Doors

Please remember: all students are dismissed to an authorized adult and are not allowed to be “waved” across the avenue, nor is a student allowed to walk home. Bus students will remain in Café Rocco until their bus number is called and will then be accompanied by a faculty member to their bus.

****IMPORTANT****

Any payment send in for your child MUST BE IN AN ENVELOPE, CLEARLY LABELED WITH:

- Student’s Name
- Student’s Homeroom
- Indicate what payment is for

- **Lunch Choices if applicable**

Communication - Once again this year, St. Rocco School is using e-mail for much of their communication. You will receive an email with the Thursday Packet Parents Note along with any pertinent attachments as needed. Please familiarize yourself with the School Website and the GOOGLE CALENDAR on the lower portion of our Home Page.

- **E-MAIL ADDRESSES / Text Notifications** ~ If you are not presently receiving these notifications, please inform the School Office of your address.
- **Thursday Packets** – As stated above the “Thursday Packet Parent Note”, Monthly Calendar and Lunch Menu will only be posted on our website.
- **Text Weather/School Closing Alert** ~ You may go to: turnto10.com and register your phone under the weather tab.

Absence/Tardy – It is the responsibility of parents to see that our students attend school daily and are on time. Students must be in their classroom by 8:15am and are considered late if they enter the building after 8:14. If a student is not in school by 11:25am, he/she will be marked as a half day absence.



The only valid reasons for absence are serious illness of the student, a death in the family, or permission from the Office. Students are responsible for assignments and tests given during their absence. Your child must have a written note explaining why he/she was absent and bring it with them to school upon returning. Students who are absent more than 3 consecutive days due to illness must have a doctor’s note before returning to school. * Also, 3 times TARDY will result in a detention.

Please call to notify the School Office by 9AM if your child will be absent. If your child is going to be late and will be ordering school lunch, please call the School Office no later than 8:30AM so we may plan accordingly.



EXTENDED CARE NEWS ~ Just a reminder, any student attending the Extended Care Program must have all necessary paperwork on file. **A NEW, UPDATED FORM IS REQUIRED AT THE START OF EVERY SCHOOL YEAR.** Forms are available through the School Office and/or on-line. The extension for daycare is #114. The policy regarding the receipt of payment: Please place your payment (CHECK ONLY) in a clearly labeled envelope with your child’s name on front and place in the LOCK BOX located in Café Rocco near the sign in/out book. Extended Care begins at **7:15am** and ends at **5:30pm**. Also, when dropping off and picking up from our Extended Care Program, you must park in the rear lot and use the side door with the burgundy awning noted: *St. Rocco School ~ Sharing the Love of the Heart of Christ!* (located at the top of the ramp). There is a door bell located to the right of the door. Your child’s and your safety is a top priority. As always, your cooperation is greatly appreciated.



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

Please Note: We are a PEANUT, TREE NUT, SODA, SMOKE and GUM FREE ENVIRONMENT. Also, NO GLASS CONTAINERS are to be used for a student’s lunch or beverage.

Morning Snacks ~Students must bring snacks from home. Snacks are not available to purchase at that time.



Lunch Program: St. Rocco School partakes in the Federal Lunch Program. The menu is posted on our School Web-site. 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 this process to your child, required by the Federal Government, would be greatly appreciated.

Ordering Lunch ~ Lunch is \$3.00. Please place the money in an envelope clearly labeled: LUNCH MONEY, your child's name/HR and lunch choice. You may also choose to prepay for the week. We **cannot** guarantee their lunch choice after 8:45AM. If your child will be late, please call the office to let us know if he/she is purchasing lunch. Thank you!

Snack Shop – Snacks are available for purchase daily. ie chips, pudding, ice cream, milk and water. All range from .50 to \$1.00.

Also, the **application for Free and Reduced Lunch** is now available. **Forms are also available online on the School Website.** If applying, **please make sure the application is filled out completely with all the required information and signed.**



Lifetouch Picture Day – Lifetouch will be here on September 13th to photograph all faculty, staff and students. All students must wear their school dress uniform (including a sweater/vest), as these are the yearbook pictures. **If ordering online -the job # needed is PC038232Q0.**

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!

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.

Candy Sale ~ **FORM IS DUE BY TOMORROW, 9/7!** A letter was included in your child's Thursday Packet last week for an option to opt out! **If you DO NOT RETURN THIS FORM by due date,** you will be responsible for the sale of the box of candy. 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. **Please write out a check for \$60.00 (your canceled check is your receipt) by Nov. 3rd.** Thank you in advance for your support!

SRS Spirit Wear/Jewelry ~ Saint Rocco School has a variety of items to promote our school. Students may wear our spirit wear clothing to school as part of their uniform with the exception of the HOODIE which may be only worn to and from school and during recess. We also sell a sports bag, head bands and knit winter caps.



We are excited to say, we have three jewelry items:

- St. Rocco School Angela Moore Bracelet ~ \$50.00
- SRS Burgundy Corded Bracelet (Boy or Girl) ~ \$15.00
- SRS Bangle (Alex & Ani LIKE) ~ \$15.00

All orders must be pre-paid. Order early for Christmas! Students are allowed to wear school jewelry. Please see handbook for a more detailed explanation of school policy.

Student Busing

Johnston Residents: please be sure you have submitted the required form to the School Office.






Johnston residents only use First Student. Any questions please call – 401-944-5880.

Statewide Busing: for students who reside in Region 3

<http://www.ride.ri.gov/StudentsFamilies/AdditionalResources/StudentTransportation.aspx>

Barrington Lincoln Bristol North Providence Smithfield
Central Falls Pawtucket Cranston Providence East Providence Warren

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.



- Friday, September 7th First Friday Mass ~ 8:45AM
- Sunday, September 9th Family Mass-St. Rocco Church, Grandparent’s Day Celebration 10:00am
“Coffee and” following along with complimentary photos!
Visit the classrooms!
Check out our Fall Book Fair in Café Rocco!
- Thursday, September 13th Lifetouch Picture Day -Order form were sent home in last week’s packet.
- Thursday, September 20th Back to School Night 6:00pm-6:30pm, Grades Gr. 1-4
Back to School Night 6:45pm-8pm, Grades 5-8
- 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, & 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.



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

Community Partnership



St. Rocco School Food Drive ~Once again, St. Rocco School will join the Feinstein Foundation in helping families in our community. We will be having a Food Drive beginning on our Back to School Night on Thursday, September 20th. Each family is asked to bring in a food item (non-perishable) and place them in the basket located in the school foyer. **Thank you in advance for helping us live out our mission.**



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