

MAY NEWSLETTER 2010

Dear Parents,

As this newsletter goes to press, only five weeks remain in this school term. With many busy days ahead, the time will pass quickly. But enough time remains to have an impact on the outcome of the year for our students. All of us must work together to keep our focus for the rest of the school year.

I thank our families for their efforts on behalf of St. Stephen School. Your support of our program ensures the success of our school. As we look forward to the summer months, let us pray for God's continued blessings on our school community.

Peace,

FINAL FUNDRAISERS: Spring Meat Raffle/SSS Lottery

There are two fundraising efforts remaining to help the Home/School Association reach this year's goal. Chances are available for the Spring Meat Raffle and the winner will be drawn at the Spring Concert. Lottery tickets are now available for the June and July drawings. Lottery tickets are due May 31. Please return all unsold tickets ASAP in order to have them available for sale. Thank you for whatever you are able to do. I am asking every family to do their fair share regarding these sales.

LOST/FOUND ITEMS

The Lost/Found Box is overflowing with items ranging from winter jackets to headbands. These items are collected each day and announced every morning to our students. Some are items left by adults after games and other activities. The box is located in the back of the cafeteria and will remain there until the last week of school when left-over items will be donated to the St. Elizabeth Center.

SWEATSHIRT ORDERS

Please complete the form in this packet and return by May 28th if you are interested in ordering a school sweatshirt.

Uniforms may be purchased at the following vendors:

1. Flynn & O'Hara – Philadelphia, PA. Orders may be done by direct mail or online.

Please adhere to the uniform code and allow room for growth and proper skirt length (no more than 2 inches above the knee). Boys are to wear navy blue dress socks of mid calf length (not low sports socks) and girls wear navy blue knee socks or tights. Dress shoes (non-tennis shoes/boots) are to be worn except for gym class. For safety reasons, low-heeled shoes (not high heel or clogs) are recommended.

2. The Red Door Uniform Store – 124 W. 9th St., Erie, PA (812-455-2551)

SPRING CONCERT

Our Spring Concert will take place on Thursday, May 20, 2010, at 7:00 PM. Our students, under the direction of Mrs. Hutchinson, have prepared a special night of musical entertainment for our families. More information will follow.

ELECTIONS

Elections will take place at the Spring Concert for School Board and Home and School Association. Please call Kathleen Puleo (School Board) or Misti Kresinski (Home & School) to put your name in nomination.

GRADUATIONS

1. Preschool graduation activities will take place on Wednesday, May 26, 2010.
2. Our 8th grade graduation liturgy will be held on Thursday, May 27 at 7:00 PM at St. Stephen Church. All families are encouraged to attend this special service. A reception will follow in the church social center.

On Friday, May 28, our 8th graders will celebrate their graduation with a special service at 10:00 AM in the school gym. All are welcome to this moving tribute to the class of 2010. A luncheon for graduates and parents/guardians will follow at Cross Creek.

FIELD TRIPS: June 2, 2010

1. Information regarding the eighth grade class trip will be sent home shortly.
2. Grades K-7 will travel to Erie for special activities at the Erie Zoo, a picnic lunch, and fun for all.

Permission forms and specific information about the day will be sent home in a few weeks. The Home/School dues will help cover transportation costs. We are grateful to the families who have paid their dues that enable us to provide this field trip. Preschool families' dues are used for various activities throughout the year.

UNIFORM EXCHANGE

The uniform exchange dates are set for June 7 – from 11:00 AM–1:00 PM and 6:00–8:00 PM. June 8 – from 6:00-8:00 PM.

Come when the sizes and styles are plentiful. You may help yourself to any and all items. You do not need to have items to exchange – just take what you can use!

SUMMER HOURS

The school office will remain open in June on Monday thru Thursday from 8:30 AM-1:30 PM beginning June 7, 2010. The office will close on June 24 and remain closed for business until August 9, 2010.

Family Packet pick-up times will be August 17 from 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM and August 18 from 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM and 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM.

The newsletter will be mailed by August 4 and will include the supply list for each grade. The first day of school for students will be August 30, 2010.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Please keep for reference.

1. May 1 - First Eucharist at St. Stephen Church - 1:00 PM
2. May 2 - First Eucharist at St. Joseph Church – 10:15 AM
3. May 4 - Guest for Lunch Day
4. May 6 - Seventh Grade Play – 1:15 PM & 7:00 PM

5. May 7 - "Donuts with Dads" – 7:45 – 8:30 AM
6. May 10 - **Early Dismissal – 1:30 PM**
7. May 12 - School Board – 7:00 PM
8. May 13 - Ascension Thursday Liturgy – 1:45 PM – school
9. May 20 - Spring Concert – 7:00 PM
10. May 21 - Kindergarten Conferences – no school for kindergarten students. All other grades have school.
11. May 26 - Preschool Graduation Ceremony
12. May 27 - 8th Grade Graduation Liturgy – 7:00 PM – church
13. May 28 - 8th Grade Graduation – 10:00 AM
14. June 2 - Field Trips
15. June 3 - Retreat Day
16. June 4 - Last Day for Students
17. June 7 & 8 - Uniform Exchange Days
18. June 9 - School Board – 7:00 PM

A Family Perspective

This item in St. Stephen Parish bulletin on April 25, 2010, caught my eye. I pass it along for your consideration.

"Inserting the word "sheep" for "children," the gospel reads: "My children hear my voice, I know them and they follow me." Have TV, videos or internet taken over your role as shepherd of your family? What message are they hearing? If we don't act as we believe, we will start to believe as we act... and so will our children."