

St. Denis – St. Columba School

A Holy Ground of Loving and Learning

Family Newsletter



January 23-27, 2023

AFTER CARE Reservations - Week of January 23rd

[Click HERE to make a reservation for the week of January 23rd](#). Reservations can also be made by notifying Ms. Schifini at lschifini@stcolumba.net or 845-227-7777.

NO Tuition Increase for 2023-2024!

We are happy to inform our families that there will be **NO** increase to the base tuition for the 2023-2024 School Year! There is a minimal \$25 increase to the technology fee which helps us to maintain the student Chromebooks and associated software, service provider fees, etc. The lack of a tuition increase in spite of the rising costs of educating our children is a result of the generous commitment of the Archdiocese of New York and His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan to Catholic education. Also, we are grateful to our SDSC Community for generously helping us exceed the fundraising goals for each of our events so far this year!



EDUCATE Parent Portal – Closing Wednesday, January 25th

The second marking period ends Friday, January 27th. All parents and guardians of students in Grades 1-8 have access to the EDUCATE Parent Portal. Please take some time to review your child's homework, project and test grades. The portal gives you nearly "real time" view into your child's academic performance at school. The portal can be accessed under the "For Parents" Tab on the school website. Please note that the EDUCATE Parent Portal will close this on Thursday, January 26th so teachers can begin preparing report cards.

REPORT CARDS COMING SOON: Please be sure your Tuition and Lunch fees are up to date!

As we anticipate the second quarter report cards, we would like to remind you that all financial requirements, including tuition payments, lunch IOUs, school fees and After Care accounts must be made current before you receive your child's report cards. Ms. Schifini will be reaching out to you directly if there are outstanding IOUs or fees. Thank you!

Catholic Schools Week Preview: Sunday, January 29th – Friday, February 3rd

Catholic Schools Week: Celebrating What Makes Us Best! Catholic Schools Week is an annual celebration of Catholic education all across the United States. Our network of Catholic Schools across the nation exalts who we ARE as a Catholic community. Beginning Sunday, January 29th SDSC will celebrate three things that make us the BEST school: faith, educational excellence and service to others.

Sunday, January 29th OPEN HOUSE

It's the kick-off of our Catholic Schools Week celebration at SDSC! Come see how our students shine like stars. Open House is from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Both current and prospective families are welcome. Do you know a family who would be a good fit for our School Community? Bring them along. If they enroll, you can earn a \$500 tuition credit for the 2023-24 School Year!



Monday, January 30th – (Just Another...) MANIC MONDAY!

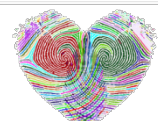


Any student who brings in a personal care item, toiletry or a monetary donation for our St. Vincent DePaul Pantry will earn a NUT ("No Uniform Today") Award for the day! Collection bins will be in the school lobby for students to leave their donations upon arrival. Let's turn our busy Monday into a "Fun Day" while helping our St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry. Please respect the NUT guidelines for appropriate dress.

Tuesday, January 31st – TOGETHER TUESDAY

Today we celebrate our school community and renew our commitment to togetherness during these challenging times of required distancing. **Buddies are Back!** The SDSC faculty will create activities for our grade level buddies. SDSC has a longstanding tradition of "buddying" our Grade 4-6 students with our Grade K-3 students, which builds community and helps students feel accepted as individuals.

Together Tuesday



Wednesday, February 1st – WACKY WEDNESDAY



What's up with Wacky Wednesday?! Students can add wacky or whimsy accessories to their school uniforms such as fun socks, ties, hairpieces, scarves, buttons, hats etc. **How Sweet It Is!** We celebrate how "sweet it is" to be able to grow and learn as a Catholic School Community with a school-wide ice cream sundae party. Thank you to Stewart's Shops for donating the ice cream, toppings and supplies for our ice cream sundaes!

Thursday, February 2nd – THANKFUL THOUGHTFUL THURSDAY

We look outward and celebrate how thankful we are for the many blessings in our lives. We share the love and joy of our school family with those in our local community.



Thankful for Faculty and Staff Luncheon: The SDSC PSA gives thanks for the dedication of the faculty and staff, who devote themselves to SDSC's mission with a special luncheon.

"Thoughtful Thoughts": Each class will make cards for a different group of people in our community who might benefit from thoughtful words of encouragement, hope, or well wishes. These groups might include homebound seniors, veterans and women/children in shelters.

Catholic Schools Week Liturgy: United in virtues and Faith, our students in Grades K-8 will gather to celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord during our Catholic School Week Liturgy.

Friday, February 3rd – FROZEN FRENZY FRIDAY! 11:25 a.m. DISMISSAL

Any student who brings in a non-perishable item or a monetary donation for our St. Vincent DePaul Pantry will earn a NUT ("No Uniform Today") Award for the day! In keeping with our theme, students should wear "wintry" clothes – winter colors, snowy accessories, snowflakes, fun scarves, etc. Be creative but remember to observe NUT Day guidelines. There will be a half day of school today. Dismissal will begin after prayers at 11:25 a.m. Busing will be available as usual. After Care is available until 6:00 p.m.

SDSC Family BINGO Night! – Friday, February 3rd

We will end our CSW celebration with a Family BINGO Night on Friday, February 3rd from 7:00–8:30 p.m. Cost is \$8 per adult and \$5 per child. Admission includes 5 BINGO cards and a snack/refreshment. Additional details will be forthcoming.



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To Everything there is a Season and a Time for Every Purpose under Heaven

Let us continue to keep in our prayers the many among us who are sick and suffering.

A TIME TO BE BORN: Hunter Maribel Fabian (*sister of Carter, Gr. 4*)

A TIME TO HEAL: Peter Cassidy (*an SDSC Grandparent*); Francine D'Aleo (*grandmother of Owen, Gr. 4 and Nate, Gr. 2*); Annie Hennessey (*mother of Connor, Gr.8*); Deron Jump (*friend of the Krebs Family*); Willie Landaira (*husband of Mrs. Landaira*); Aliya Strauss (*daughter of Mrs. Strauss*)

A TIME TO DIE: Otto J. Miranda III (*grandfather of Violet, Gr. K*)

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Student Tour Guides Needed - Sunday, January 29th 10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

We are looking for students in Grades 4-8 who are available to help at our Open House from 10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Our prospective families are always impressed with the confidence, leadership, kindness and knowledge of our student tour guides! Please e-mail Sr. Kathleen at sr.kathleenmarie@gmail.com or complete the attached form if your child would like to assist. All student helpers must be neatly dressed in their full winter uniforms. Thank You!

I give my child(ren) permission to be a tour guide at the SDSC Open House.

Student(s) Name _____

Grade(s) _____

Parent Signature _____

Date: _____