



St. Denis – St. Columba School

A Holy Ground of Loving and Learning

Family Newsletter



September 12-16, 2022

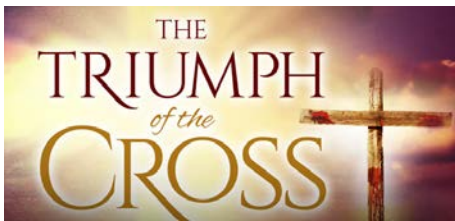
AFTER CARE Reservations - Week of September 12th



The SDSC After Care Program begins this Monday, September 12th. In order to use the Program, you must complete the registration form and submit a \$20 per child registration fee. The form can be found under the “For Parents” tab on the school website or by [CLICKING HERE](#). To help us gauge staffing needs, we are asking families to make advanced reservations for next week. [Click HERE to make a reservation for the week of September 12th](#). You may also make a reservation or set up a regular After Care schedule for your child(ren) by contacting Ms. Schifini

at lschifini@stcolumba.net or at 845-227-7777. **Please remember to send a snack and water in with your child!**

Opening of School Mass – Wednesday, September 14th



All are welcome to attend our Opening of School Mass on Wednesday, September 14th at 8:15 a.m. We ask that our guests allow us to seat the students before finding a seat for themselves. Wednesday is the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross. Although the cross was an instrument of torture and a means of execution which caused suffering, we honor the Holy Cross by which Jesus redeemed the world. Jesus’ love shown in the Paschal Mystery is the sign of triumph and victory, the sign of God, who is love itself.

SDSC School Band Demonstration – Friday, September 16th

Paul Effman Music Service will be providing a band demonstration to students this Friday, September 16th. Students have the opportunity to participate in the SDSC school band program. Your children will receive a registration form this week for the Program. If they are interested in participating, please return the registration form by next Friday, September 23rd. Band lessons are held after school on Tuesdays.



ACTION REQUIRED: Parent-Student Handbook Agreements due Friday, September 16th



On Tuesday, each family received an e-mail with two important documents: the Parent-Student Handbook and the Parent-Student Handbook Agreement form. Be sure to read and familiarize yourself with the important policies and procedures contained in the handbook. It is presumed that all parents/guardians have read the handbook and understand the policies contained within. It is the policy of the Superintendent of the Schools of the Archdiocese that all

Parents/Guardians and SDSC Students **must sign** the Parent-Student Handbook Agreement as a condition of their enrollment at SDSC. **Please sign and return the agreement no later than this Friday, September 16, 2022.**

New SDSC At-Home Chromebook Loan Program

We are pleased to announce that SDSC is launching an At-Home Chromebook Loan Program! We have a limited number of Chromebooks available to loan to SDSC students for educational use at home. Preference will be given to students who do not have any access to an electronic device at home or to those families who have more students enrolled at SDSC than available home devices. If your child is in need of a Chromebook to use at home, please contact Ms. Schifini at 845-227-7777 or lschifin@stcolumba.net for a loan agreement form.



Back to School BBQ – THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who were able to attend our Back to School BBQ last Friday night! What a great way to begin our new school year! It was an enjoyable evening of food, fun and fellowship with friends and family. Special thanks to our PSA Board and to all those who helped in any way to make the barbeque a positive, community-building event!



CHANGE in LUNCH MENU for Thursday, September 15th.

HOT LUNCH on Thursday this week will be HOT DOGS and not PENNE Pasta. Please check menu on our school website.

Volunteers Needed Immediately!

We are in **immediate need** of volunteers to help us with the following important daily activities:

Hot Lunch Program

SDSC Hot Lunch Program is staffed 100% by volunteers. Our volunteers make it possible to be able to offer lunch five days a week. Kitchen Volunteers prep and serve the food and wash the lunch trays. This is a once or twice a month commitment for the school year from 10:00 am-1:00 pm

Cafeteria Aides

Lunchroom aides distribute milk, help wipe up spills, clean tables and assist younger students with opening packages and carrying lunches. Lunchroom aides volunteer from 11:20 am -12:45(1:00) pm

If you are interested or someone you know is able to assist with any of these important daily tasks, please contact Ms. Schifini at 845-227-7777 or lschifini@stcolumba.net or [complete the electronic volunteer interest form HERE](#).

Mandatory Dress Code Reminders: Shoes, Nail Polish and Jewelry

Return to “normal” school this year also means a return to mandatory “normal” dress code compliance. Girls are **not** permitted to wear nail polish. Girls may **only** wear post earrings. Hoops or dangling earrings pose a significant risk of harm in school. Supportive brown or black dress shoes (e.g. oxford or “MaryJane”) are required every day except on scheduled physical education days. Sperry “boat shoes,” sneakers and converse shoes are **NOT** approved dress shoes.



Safe Environment Lessons – Thursday, September 15th



Our Catholic tradition has always affirmed the dignity of the human person as created to the image and likeness of God. Every person with whom we come in contact deserves to be seen by us with the eyes of God. We know that ministry with children and youth, in particular, is a sacred trust. We, at St. Denis-St. Columba School, are committed to preserve, at all times and in all places, this sacred trust which is rooted in our faith in Jesus Christ.

In 2002, the United States Bishops approved “The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People” in an effort to protect children and youth from sexual abuse at all levels of church life and to restore trust in a Church scarred by the scandal of clergy sexual abuse. Article 12 of the charter directs all dioceses to create programs and processes to teach children and youth about sexual abuse and its prevention. In the Archdiocese of New York, this training is integrated into the religious education program each year in all schools and parishes.

On Thursday, September 15th our students will be engaged in Safe Environment lessons with their homeroom teachers. In Grades K-3 the objectives taught include helping our students distinguish the difference between good and bad touch and affirming their right to say no to an adult who makes them feel uncomfortable. In Grades 4-6 the objectives include helping our students recognize the lures used by those who sexually victimize children and giving them strategies to keep them from being tricked into uncomfortable and dangerous situations. In Grades 7-8 the objectives include helping our students recognize lures used by those who sexually victimize others via the anonymity of the Internet and giving them skills to avoid being victimized by Internet sexual predators.

We thank you for your support and interest as we partner to give our children the safest possible environment to grow in faith, in our parish, school and in our homes.

Important Schedule Change for Last Week of September

Please be advised that there has been a change in the school calendar. There is no school for students on Tuesday, September 27th. Friday, September 30th is now a full day of school for students. The electronic school calendar has been adjusted to reflect the change. We are sorry for any inconvenience that this may cause.

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 HEAL: Aliya Strauss (*daughter of Mrs. Strauss*) and for the many who are sick and suffering in mind, body or spirit in this year.