



F.Y.I. For Your Information

St. Croix Catholic School

Educating the Whole Child — Mind, Body and Spirit

September 15, 2011

From the Principal's Desk by Sister Mary Juliana, O.P.

Dear Parents,

The children seem very excited to be back at school with their friends and are in to the first full week of lessons and first chapters of books. There's a wonderful excitement in the halls!

Normally, the fall marks the beginning of NWEA testing which takes about 4 weeks out of the computer class schedule in order to have students complete the testing on the MAC computers in the computer lab. This year, the MAC server was hit in the lighting strike, which prompted the question of whether Fall testing would even be feasible this year. Thankfully, our teachers utilize Spring testing results when planning the curriculum for the students in the fall, so the planning process has not been held up. Additionally, research shows that spring to spring testing results are more reliable and show more accurate growth than spring to fall testing, which simply shows what the students forgot over the summer. For this reason, the faculty as a whole has decided to continue to use the spring results from this past year to plan curriculum with the exception of the 2nd grade who will test this fall to provide data and to practice for the spring tests.

This will provide essential access to the computer lab this fall and allow more time for instruction in the classroom. If you have any questions about this calendar change, please do not hesitate to contact me directly. God bless you all!

Save the Date for Sarah's Warriors

Monday, September 19th

4:00 — 9:00 pm

at Buffalo Wild Wings

5991 Norwich Ave, Oak Park Heights

Join with other SCCS families and the community to support the Rooker family.

This is a benefit for Sarah who is undergoing treatment for a brain tumor.

It is also the last day of her radiation treatments!

Buffalo Wild Wings will donate 10% of all pre-taxed food sales from any guest who presents a fundraising ticket. You can either print a ticket from the SCCS website or pick one up at school. Tickets will also be available at Buffalo Wild Wings that evening.

Practicing Safety

Safety is an important concern for all schools. We regularly practice fire drills, lock-downs and evacuations. Similarly, all students, whether they ride a bus to and from school or not, are required to receive training in what to do in the event of an emergency on a bus.



On Tuesday, representatives from Minnesota Central Bus Company were at SCCS to explain to students how to handle an emergency when they would be required to leave the bus by an emergency exit.

Three Terrific Teachers to Thank

Three outstanding and incredible teachers from SCCS retired over the summer. These dedicated educators, Mrs. Daniels (41 years), Mrs. Buck (30 years) and Mrs. McDermott (30 years) served our children for a combined 101 years! Wow! A reception is planned in their honor on Sunday, October 2nd following the 11:00 Mass in the social hall. Please join us that day in celebrating these extraordinary, faith-filled women who have tirelessly and selflessly given so much of themselves to our students and the SCCS community!



Sign Up for Virtus Volunteer Training Monday, September 19

Thanks to the potential volunteers who have signed up to complete the upcoming *Virtus, Protecting God's Children* class.

The next class at St. Michael's is on September 19th in the Social Hall from 6:00 - 9:00 pm. There will also be a class at St. Mary's in the Great Hall on October 25 from 6:00 - 9:00 pm.

If you are planning to volunteer at the school or the church any time in the future and have not yet taken this class, please consider signing up. If this location and time doesn't work for you, there are many times and locations where the class will be offered throughout the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

Register for a class or view available times and locations by going to www.virtusonline.org.

You can also print a sheet of instructions for registering online from the SCCS website: www.stcroixcatholic.com > SCCS Parents > Volunteering.

Knights of Columbus BENEFIT BREAKFAST

Everyone is invited to a delicious Benefit Breakfast at the
KC Hall
1910 South Greeley Street
Stillwater

Sunday, September 18th from
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

The proceeds of this breakfast will benefit the St Francis of Assisi Youth Group.

Adults are \$7.00; children 12 and under are \$4.00.

Sponsored by the Solanus Casey Council #1632 of the Stillwater Knights of Columbus.



Annual Solemn Vespers and Eucharistic Procession for the Feast of St. Michael and the Archangels

Sunday, September 25

You and your family are invited to celebrate the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel in a special way on Sunday, September 25th. We will begin at 4 p.m. in the Church of St. Michael with singing, prayer, and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Then we will walk with the Blessed Sacrament to the Church of St. Mary. Once we all reach St. Mary's, we will pray for 15 minutes and receive a special blessing. Bishop Lee Piche' will be with us. Please join us for this special event!

SCRIP - A VERY Good Thing

Where you buy your gas matters. By choosing to buy gas from a retailer who participates in SCRIP you can benefit SCCS. Super America SCRIP is no longer available, so consider moving your gas purchases to a retailer who is. For example, buying SCRIP cards for **Holiday** results in a 2% return to the school, buying **Marathon** results in a 3% return. Even better, if you buy SCRIP cards for **Kwik Trip** at shopwithscrip.com, SCCS sees a 9% return. The online 9% return at Kwik Trip is only good through December 2011; after that it returns to 4%. So make sure to order



Orchestra Opportunities at SCCS

Jim Woodhouse, SCCS Orchestra Director, attended music classes this week to demonstrate the instruments of the orchestra and talk with students about joining the SCCS String Orchestra. Students learned about the history of the violin, parts of the instrument, and how it is played.

Our Orchestra, now in it's sixth year, will begin rehearsals this month. New and experienced string instrument players are encouraged to join in this exciting musical experience!

Beginning Orchestra, open to 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students, will meet on Thursday and Friday mornings from 8:15-8:50 a.m. beginning September 29th. Students will also receive a 20 minute semi/private lesson each week. Tuition for the Beginning Orchestra Program is \$250/semester. (Payable in September and January)

Advanced Orchestra, open to experienced string instrument players, meets on Wednesday and Friday mornings from 8:15-8:50 a.m. Friday is a combined rehearsal with both groups. Please contact Jim for more details if you have a child interested in joining the Advanced Orchestra.



Upcoming Events

Thursday, September 15

Picture Day - *Students are not required to be in uniforms today.*

8:30 am Parents are invited to bring younger preschool siblings to the Social Hall for pictures. Forms will be available that morning to order and pay for sibling pictures.

Band Demos for 4th grade and any new band students

Monday, September 19

6:00 pm Virtus Training for Volunteers

St. Michael's Social Hall

Register at www.virtusonline.org

Wednesday, September 21

9:10 am All School Mass - Family and Friends please join us.

Thursday, September 22

7:30 pm SCCS Orchestra Information Meeting (*see article on page 3*)

SCCS Band Room 101

Friday, September 23

2:30 pm Marathon Kick-off Assembly in the SCCS Gym - Parents are welcome.

NWEA testing for 2nd graders begins

Tuesday, September 27

NO MORNING BUSES. Parents must drive. Afternoon buses run as usual.

Wednesday, September 28

9:10 am All School Mass - Family and Friends please join us.

Thursday, September 29

9:10 am All School Mass - Consecration of St. Michael's

(please note that this is a date change from previous calendars)

First Marathon Collection Day - Send your pledges in your family envelope.

Conference forms to sign up for Fall Conferences are available.

Wednesday, October 5

9:10 am All School Mass - Family and Friends please join us.

Thursday, October 6

Second Marathon Collection Day - Send in your pledges in your family envelope.

Friday, October 7

9:30 am — 3:00 pm 8th Grade Leadership Retreat at St. Mary's

Conference forms should be returned by today.