



SAINT RAPHAEL PRESCHOOL

Weekly Memo: September 7, 2016

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new school year at St. Raphael Preschool! Throughout our weeks of preparation we have been anxiously awaiting the arrival of the children. It was wonderful to see all the smiling faces during orientations last week! We are so excited to get to know all our Preschool families and watch each child grow and learn this year.

In case you were not able to attend the Parent Orientation last week, you may notice many new faces around the Preschool. I taught the Frogs and Pandas for 10 years before transitioning to my new role in the office this summer after the retirement of long-time director, Carrie Griffith. You will also see a few new classroom teachers, teacher assistants, and Extended Day and Lunch Bunch monitors. As a staff we already feel like a family, and we hope you soon feel a part of it as well! Community is very important to us all at St. Raphael Preschool. Our first community building event, the Family Ice Cream Social, takes place next week on Thursday. This opportunity will allow us all to enjoy each other's company and get to know each other better. We hope to see you all there!



Many blessings,

Molly DeAngelo

Family Ice Cream Social

Help us kick off the new school year and meet new friends at the Preschool's Family Ice Cream Social taking place next Thursday, September 15 from 6:30-8 pm. Enjoy some ice cream, get your face painted, and have the chance to win a beautiful quilt made by Ms. Kate. There is no cost, but **you must RSVP through your Evite invitation** no later than 9/13 if you are planning to come. (We don't want to run out of ice cream!)

Early Arrival Service

Early Arrival service is available for students (3 years and up) beginning at 7:45 a.m. in Room 34. The cost is \$3.00/day (or \$45/month). Early Arrival can be used on a daily or as-needed basis. No sign-up is necessary. Please be sure to enter through the door that opens to the courtyard between Room 34 and Raphael Hall.

Children's Absence

Please call the office by 9:15 a.m. if your child is going to be absent from school. You may leave a message on the answering machine. Call (919) 865-5728.

Immunization/Health Assessment Records

Thank you to all who have been so prompt in turning in children's health records. All forms are required in the office now. There is no need to make a doctor's appointment as long as your child has had regular medical exams. If you would like to have your physician fax these records to us, our fax number is (919) 865-5701. Please send to the attention of St Raphael Preschool. All children must have these forms on file to remain enrolled.

Committee Sign-Ups

Your involvement here at the Preschool greatly enriches the program we offer to your children. Please especially consider our new committee options! Thank you to all who have already returned your committee sign-up sheets. We look forward to receiving yours.

Emergency Contact Information

You should have received an email requesting that you provide us with your contact information. The information supplied will allow us to send you regular communications like the weekly memo. It can also be used to rapidly contact all school families in the event of a time-sensitive or emergency situation (e.g., weather-related school closing). If you have changes in your contact information over the course of the year, please notify the office; we want to ensure that we are always able to get in touch with you.

Weekly Memo On-Line

Beginning next week, the weekly memo will be emailed to you. Hard copies will be distributed only to those families who have requested them.

Free Money by Linking Your Harris Teeter VIC Card

If you shop at Harris Teeter, you can help raise funds for the Preschool at no cost to you. When you link your Harris Teeter VIC card to our school's number, the Preschool will receive a percentage of your Harris Teeter Private Label purchases. You must re-link your VIC card each year, but there are several easy ways to do that: Supply your name and VIC card number on the sheet handed out at orientation and we will link your VIC card for you. Or, you can simply give the cashier your VIC Card and our St. Raphael Preschool #3865 the next time you are at a HT checkout. If you would rather just link your card online, you can do so at:

www.harristeeter.com/community/together_in_education/link_to_your_school.aspx.

You may link your VIC card to more than one school.

After School Enrichment Classes

Soccer Shots offers soccer classes for children enrolled in our three-, four- and five-year-old classes. Their goal is to teach soccer skills in a supportive, safe and fun environment. Soccer Shots will begin a new 10 week session here at St Raphael's on September 30. A flyer will go home this week giving you program details and instructions on how to enroll.

You will also receive a flyer about a parent & child class to learn the violin or viola. John Wright, Jr. will play his violin for students next week and then hold an information meeting for interested parents on Thursday, September 15 at 12:15pm. This class is open for children ages 3 and up.

An Invitation from the Mother's In Faith Group

Would you like to meet other Catholic moms? Interested in learning about or deepening your Catholic faith? If yes, join Mothers in Faith at our monthly meetings. We welcome you to our first meeting on Thursday, September 8 at 9:30 am in room 112 to meet other moms and learn about our group. Jeannine Washburn will be discussing St. Catherine of Siena's inspirational quote, "Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire."

Childcare is available in the adjacent nursery for a small fee. Please contact mothersinfaith@yahoo.com or visit our website www.saintraphael.org/parishlife/mothers-in-faith/ for more information.

Faith Enrichment Opportunity

Good News People is coming to St. Raphael this fall! This dynamic program is designed to engage everyone in a journey of mercy; exploring our faith, learning from each other and inspirational witnesses, using sacred scripture and real life experience to deepen our call to merciful love. Information events are Tuesday, September 13 at 7 pm in Raphael Hall, and after Masses on the September 10/11 and 17/18 weekends. Sessions follow a 7 week format, for two series. There will be a wide variety of meeting times and days. Build connections, challenge yourself, and take time to contemplate our call to faithful justice and peace, especially when the world around us appears so divisive.

Volunteers Needed!

Ms. BJ and Ms. Molly are looking for a parent volunteer with a membership to a discount warehouse store (BJs, Sam's Club, CostCo) to do some occasional shopping for the Preschool. We are also looking for a parent willing to help prepare the office aquarium for a new frog. Please stop by the office if you are willing to help!

Important Upcoming Dates

Thursday, 9/15: Family Ice Cream Social

Monday, 9/19: Preschool closed for Diocesan Professional Development Day



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"The child is the beauty of God present in the world, that greatest gift to a family."~Mother Teresa