



# SAINT RAPHAEL PRESCHOOL

Weekly Memo: September 14, 2016

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Dear Parents,

What a difference a week makes! During our first days of school there were some tears shed at drop off, as many children were nervous separating from family members as they came to school for the first time. After only a few days most children now enter the classrooms with a smile as they rush to join in play with classmates, often giving the teachers a quick hug on their way. It is amazing to see their excitement and confidence growing so early in the year.

This is shaping up to be an exciting week at the Preschool! On Monday and Tuesday all the classes were treated to a musical demonstration by John Wright, Jr. of The Wright Studio. He played his violin and viola for the children, showing them how he could make the instrument sound both happy and sad. The children sang along as he played familiar melodies like *Twinkle Twinkle Little Star*. The highlight of the visit was the children getting the chance to make their own music with a tiny child-size violin and bow. The surprised and proud looks on their faces when they heard the sound was priceless! We are also all looking forward to our Ice Cream Social this Thursday evening. Hope to see you there!



Many blessings,

Molly DeAngelo

## **Family Ice Cream Social**

We are excited that so many families have RSVPed that they will attend our Family Ice Cream Social on Thursday evening! We are looking forward to this night of food, fellowship, and fun!

## **Strings Class Interest Meeting**

John Wright, Jr, violin and viola instructor from The Wright Studio, will hold an interest meeting for families this Thursday at 12:15pm. All who want to know more about these after school music lessons are invited to attend. Please meet by the Preschool office at 12:15pm on Thursday, 9/15.

## **Speech Screenings**

Speech screening permission forms for 3, 4, and 5-year-olds are being sent home this week. They are due back next Thursday, Sept. 22. These free screenings are fun and non-stressful for the children, and the developmental information gathered is generally very helpful for parents and teachers. Unless there are special concerns, two-year-old children will have an opportunity to be screened in the Spring.

## **Saint Raphael Catholic School Open House**

Preschool parents are invited to attend an Open house at the SRCS this Thursday, September 15 from 9am-11am! Come see the gift of a Jesuit education first-hand, the artwork, the Mac Lab, broadcast studio, library, classrooms, and more! For more information, contact Mary Morgan at [mmorgan@saintraphael.org](mailto:mmorgan@saintraphael.org) or 919-865-5754.

### **Substitute Teacher Orientation**

Are you interested in being a substitute at the Preschool? Substitute orientation will be offered on September 26 and 27 at 9:15am- you need only attend one of these sessions. They will last about an hour and introduce you to important center and classroom rules, routines, and procedures. In addition to this orientation the Diocese of Raleigh requires that substitute teachers attend a no cost Safe Environment training, which is offered all over the Diocese every week. Please email Ms. Molly if you are interested in being a substitute and indicate which of the two orientation days you will attend.

### **Grandparents Day**

We are busily planning our schedule for Grandparents Day and will send out invitations in the next week. Last year we had only one day for grandparents to visit both the Preschool and SRCS, which made for a hectic schedule for some families while leaving others left out whose classes were not in session. This year there will be three possible days for grandparents to visit. We will let you know which day your child's class will welcome grandparents to visit, but please mark your calendars for October 12-14 in the meantime. Many of you already gave us your child's grandparents' contact information, but it's not too late if you haven't! Please e-mail Ms. BJ or Ms. Molly or stop by the office so we can be sure all grandparents get an invitation. We hope this visit will be a wonderful opportunity for grandparents to discover how special our school is and to experience just how wonderful we think they are!

### **Linking Grocery Cards**

When you link your Harris Teeter VIC card to our school's number, the preschool will receive a percentage of your purchases. Please remember you must re-link your grocery cards each year. To do so, simply give the cashier your VIC Card and our Preschool # 3865 the next time you are at the checkout. You can also link your card online at [www.harristeeter.com/community/together\\_in\\_education/link\\_to\\_your\\_school.aspx](http://www.harristeeter.com/community/together_in_education/link_to_your_school.aspx)

### **Parish Faith Enrichment Opportunity- Good News People**

Do you sometimes feel disconnected to others both here at the parish as well as in other settings? Do you long for an opportunity to build understanding, genuine relationships of love and mercy with others? Perhaps the Good News People gatherings which start this fall will bring you a step closer to filling that hole in your heart. Here's a chance to learn, be inspired, share, laugh and care with others as we learn about our call to merciful love. Over the course of two seven week series we'll gather to explore peace, justice and our responsibility to respond with corporal and spiritual acts of mercy. In parishes across the country this program has received great acclaim as a powerful life changing experience. Try it out! Information events are Tuesday September 13 at 7 pm in Raphael Hall, and after Masses on the September 10/11 and 17/18 weekends.

### **Important Upcoming Dates**

Thursday, 9/15: Parent interest meeting for violin/viola lessons 12:15pm

Thursday, 9/15: Family Ice Cream Social 6:30-8pm

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

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“Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.” - Aristotle