



SAINT RAPHAEL PRESCHOOL

Weekly Memo: September 21, 2016

Dear Parents,

During the first weeks of school I visited a few classrooms during circle time, joining the children in their morning prayer. Although the prayers vary, many teachers have added a special phrase at the end- *I love you, Jesus. Live in my heart.* This reinforces that each child has a personal relationship with Jesus, a concept that many times children understand better than adults. One child asked me, "Is Jesus your friend?" When I told him yes, he answered. "Jesus is my friend, too!"

Somewhere along the way we as adults can lose that feeling that Jesus is our friend, traveling along with us through life. We sometimes feel that our relationship with Jesus exists mostly during group prayer and song at Mass. Once our childhood faith formation is complete, it can seem that we've "graduated" from learning about and deepening our faith. This summer the parish staff had a week long retreat that focused on becoming intentional disciples. Our facilitator, Deacon Keith Strohm, stressed that intentional disciples are on lifelong faith journeys, always looking for ways to grow, learn, and improve their relationship with Christ. For them the sacrament of Confirmation is a new beginning, rather than the end of their faith formation. In many ways an intentional disciple's habits mirror a preschooler's- talking to Jesus as a friend, helping others, and learning about the Catholic faith.

As St. Raphael celebrates its 50th year as a parish there are many opportunities to enrich your faith life. Small groups will form soon for the program Good News People. You can find more information about this program on the parish website. If a group of Preschool parents would like to form a group to meeting during the school day, we are happy to help find a meeting space for you. On October 1st the parish will kick off a Faith in Action initiative with a day of service. Helping others together as a family is a wonderful way to deepen your faith. We hope you and your family take advantage of these upcoming faith enrichment opportunities!

Many blessings,



Molly DeAngelo

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

Grandparents Day is right around the corner on October 12 and 13th! Each class has a specific day that they will celebrate (see below). Invitations went out this week to all the grandparents whose families gave us contact information. Grandparents Day activities will last from 9:15 until 11am.

Wednesday, October 12: Yellow Puppies, Turtles, Cubs, Blue Ties, Eagles, Pandas

Thursday, October 13: Red Puppies, Frogs, Bunnies, Red Ties, Otters

Friday, October 14: Spotted Puppies

The day begins at the Preschool with a light coffee reception in the Lewis Room just after morning drop off. Grandparents will also be given a tour of our preschool. At 9:40 am, grandparents will be invited to spend time with their grandchildren in their classrooms and at music class. This will be an opportunity for our preschoolers to share what they do at school. All activities will be over at 11am. You can decide whether your child will remain at school the rest of the day or if your child will leave at 11am with his/her grandparents. Just be sure you have signed a permission form for your child to leave with his/her grandparents if you yourself will not be here at dismissal time.

Please be sure to encourage grandparents to RSVP as soon as possible to ensure we have plenty of room and refreshments. We hope this morning will be a wonderful opportunity for grandparents to discover how special our school is and to experience just how wonderful we think they are!

Picture Day is Coming!

Individual student photos will be taken on October 5-7. Please note that photo orders must be **pre-paid**. Envelopes for ordering are attached with an on-line ordering option as well. Though prepayment is required, satisfaction is guaranteed. If you are unhappy with your child's picture, retakes will be scheduled for November or your money refunded.

Oct. 5: Yellow Puppies, Turtles, Cubs, Pandas, Blue Ties, Eagles

Oct. 6: Red Puppies, Frogs, Bunnies, Otters, Red Ties

Oct. 7: Spotted Puppies

Catholic Parish Outreach Donations Needed

Catholic Parish Outreach (CPO) is in great need of children's clothing donations and diapers for its many clients. Please donate your gently used children's clothing (sizes 2-6) and diapers (any size) September 20-30 outside the St. Raphael Preschool Office. Tax receipts are available.

Kroger Plus Card

If you shop at Kroger you can earn great educational materials for the Preschool. Our school will receive award points every time you shop. You can link your Kroger Plus Card by going to www.krogercommunityrewards.com and selecting St. Raphael Preschool (NPO #87151). Thanks for your support!

Can Tab Collection to Support FIAT

The Faith in Action Team at SRCS collects can tabs to benefit the Ronald McDonald House. You can find these tabs and pop tops on soda cans and other canned goods like vegetables and soup. The Preschool will have a large collection can in the office. We would love to support FIAT's effort and encourage you to save tabs at your house to add to our collection!

Gentle Reminders

Parking: Please try to park on the sidewalk side of the parking lot if you are escorting more than one child to and from the Preschool. We request you use the street side of the lot if you are only responsible for monitoring one child. All children will be kept safe if they are reminded to stay close to their caretaker when entering or leaving their vehicles.

Remember to drive cautiously in the parking lot and that travel is one-way only. Finally, in consideration of others, please try to park carefully so you only take up one space.

Sign-In/Sign-Out: Please remember to sign your child in when arriving at school and sign him/her out when you are leaving for the day.

Extended Day: Please remember to check your family's folder each day at pick up time for any teacher communications, center forms, or student work.

Heath and Immunization Forms: Heath and immunization forms are past due! *These forms MUST be on file for your child to continue attending our school.* Please have your doctor fill out this important paperwork as soon as possible and return them to the office.

Parent Committees

Thank you to all who returned parent committee volunteer forms! We are currently compiling the contact data and distributing it to the committee chairpersons. We appreciate your support!

Parish Faith Enrichment Opportunity- Good News People

If you are interested in joining a small group for the Good News People program, please sign up by using the following link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084dabab2ca31-good>

Violin/Viola Lessons

If you are interested in signing your child up for violin or viola lessons with John Wright, Jr. of the Wright Studio, please do so this week! He is in the process of finalizing the lesson schedule. You can contact him directly at 252-414-5620 and suzukiviola@gmail.com.

An Invitation from Mothers in Faith

Wellness workshop for moms- Mothers in Faith would like to invite you to the first of our 3 part wellness workshops that will help us find a good balance in our crazy lives as moms and wives. We will learn about the SPICE model of balance: Spiritual, Physical, Intellectual, Creative and Emotional. Our first workshop will be hosted by Amy Gregor and Marisa Winfield, who will talk about the physical component of SPICE (with an optional participatory Length and Strength workout), importance of sleep, hydration and more. Bring exercise clothes and a towel. Please join us on Thursday, September 29 at 9:00 am in room 112. For more information and to RSVP if you need childcare, please contact Jeannine or Amy at mothersinfaith@yahoo.com.

Important Upcoming Dates

Wednesday, 10/5 – Friday, 10/7: Individual Student Photos

Monday, 10/10-Friday, 10/14: Book Fair

Wednesday, 10/12 & Thursday, 10/13: Grandparents Day

Wednesday, 10/19: Preschool closed for Teacher Work Day



“The fullness of joy is to behold God in everything.” ~Julian of Norwich