



SAINT RAPHAEL PRESCHOOL

Weekly Memo: October 12, 2016

Dear Parents,

Almost 11 years ago I visited St. Raphael Preschool for the first time. Pushing a double stroller with my 6 month old twin boys, I came in to ask how I might make the switch from elementary school teacher to preschool teacher. It seemed like a good career fit, balancing time with my own children with time in the classroom. From the moment of meeting Ms. Carrie and Ms. Nancy, visiting the Blue Tie Teddies to watch Ms. McAuliffe and Ms. Kate in action, and seeing the smiles on both the children's and the parents' faces, I knew this school was special. Little did I know what a huge part of my life St. Raphael would become! Over the last ten years the Preschool has been my home. During that time I have been privileged to teach over 300 children, work with numerous families, and call many amazing ladies my colleagues and friends. My sons had the best early education and faith development thanks to St. Raphael. These are just a few reasons why I contribute to the Ignatius Fund each year, pledging my support to the community that has touched my life so deeply.

Last week we sent home information to all families about the Preschool's only fundraising effort, the Ignatius Fund. By making a contribution, you are directly impacting the lives of St. Raphael Catholic School and Preschool students and faculty while pledging your support to Catholic education. Although tuition covers the majority of our operating budget, the IF donations we receive help to keep our tuition rates affordable, upgrade our classroom resources, and maintain and enhance our Preschool facility. Our colorful tile floor, no touch bathroom faucets, playground equipment and outdoor musical instruments are all examples of what past years' donations have helped fund. This year we are especially excited to offer you the opportunity to choose exactly what your donation will fund. This fund-a-need sheet, which was included in your Ignatius Fund packet, gives you the option of putting your contribution toward specific resources and improvements that will enrich a child's experience at the Preschool. For example, your donation could help purchase a water table for the playground or install new cabinetry with a child size sink in a classroom.

Please join me in ensuring that our schools will continue to provide a quality education for children in the coming years. Thank you for all the ways you support St. Raphael Preschool!



Many blessings,

Molly DeAngelo

Scholastic Book Fair

Our halls are filled with BOOKS! Our book fair is open each day this week from 8:45-9:30am and 11:45-1:15pm. If you would like to buy books as a gift, the online fair is another option for you! The online fair is open until **October 22nd**- you can access it here: <http://www.scholastic.com/bf/straphaelpreschool>

Building Better Brains through Movement

Did you know that the brain's and body's movement systems are interdependent and interactive? A physically active student has an educational advantage over a physically inactive one, as exercise allows more blood and oxygen to reach the brain, helping it work more efficiently. Next Monday and Tuesday, 10/17-18, Ms. Sadler will set up some outdoor activities to get our Preschooler's bodies moving and brains ready to learn. Be sure to arrive at school a few minutes early so that your child has time to participate!

Saint Raphael Catholic School Kindergarten Sampler Series

RISING KINDERGARTEN PARENTS: It's not too soon to start planning for kindergarten and it's not too late to sign-up for kindergarten samplers at Saint Raphael Catholic School! This month's sampler is **THIS THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13 from 5pm-6pm**. P.E. with Mr. Tapia is guaranteed to be a good time for your child as s/he gets to know how we do P.E. at the big school! RSVP to Mary Morgan at mmorgan@saintraphael.org or [919-865-5754](tel:919-865-5754). Space is limited.

Preschool Prayer Partners- Date/Time change!

So that more parents can attend, the first gathering of Preschool Prayer Partners has been rescheduled for next Friday, October 21st. They will meet in the nursery at 9:15am. This is a change from the invitation sent out last week. Please contact Michelle Windsor(mcerbo82@gmail.com) with questions. Hope you can join us!

St. Raphael Preschool T-shirts, Sweatshirts, and Tote Bags

St. Raphael Preschool t-shirts (\$12), sweatshirts (\$15), tote bags (\$8), and academic calendars (\$5) are still available for sale. Come to the office to see available children's sizes and colors. We have had some parent interest in adult shirts, and are happy to say that we found out that we are able to order adult sizes. Adult t-shirts will be \$14. All interested adults should see Ms. BJ to choose the t-shirt color and size.

Saint Raphael Catholic School Open House

Preschool parents are invited to attend an Open house at the SRCS on Thursday, October 20th, 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 or [919-865-5754](tel:919-865-5754).

Safe Environment Training

There will be a Safe Environment Training held in the Lewis Room at 6pm on Wednesday, October 19th. This is a free class offered in the Diocese for those who volunteer and work with children. Your certification will last for 5 years and is necessary to be a substitute teacher at the Preschool and to substitute or volunteer at SRCS (field trips, etc.). You can access the full Diocesan SET calendar here: <http://dioceseofraleigh.org/offices/child-and-youth-protection/calendar>

Important Upcoming Dates

Monday, 10/17 and Tuesday, 10/18: Outdoor activities set up by the Preschool entrance
Wednesday, 10/19: Preschool closed for Teacher Work Day
Wednesday, 10/19: Diocesan Safe Environment Training at 6pm in the Lewis Room
Friday, 10/21: Prayer Partners gathering at 9:15am in the nursery

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“We are all children of God, all of us. And God loves all of us.”~ Pope Francis