



Saint Philip Neri School

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www.saintphilipnerschool.com

School Newsletter

December 16, 2009

Dear Parents,

I have a few reminders today. First, the H1N1 flu vaccine will be distributed on Thursday, December 17th, by Montgomery County Health nurses. Parents who indicated that they wanted to be with their child when the shot is administered, come to the gym by 8:30am. If your child has received the vaccine since the initial sign-up, please notify the school in writing.

December 23rd is a full day of school for students and there is no CARES after school. Classes will resume Monday, January 4th.

From our hearts to yours:

Christmas is Eternal

Christmas is eternal,
A gift from God above,
A season to remember
And celebrate His love.

It's more than decorations
We hang upon a tree
More than jolly Santas
With children on their knees.

Christmas is a spirit
That keeps us young at heart
And turns ordinary
Into a work of art

It's more than giving presents
To loved ones far and near,
More than singing carols
When ice and snow appear.

Christmas is eternal,
A gift from God above,
The birthday of our Savior
And His eternal love.

May each of you have a very Blessed Christmas
And a Healthy and Happy New Year!

Staff, Faculty and Administration of St. Philip Neri School

SCHOOL INFORMATION



HONORS POLICY

To qualify for Honors in 4th through 8th grade, a student must:

- Earn a grade of 85 to attain 2nd Honors
- Earn a grade of 90 to attain 1st Honors
- Earn a **3** on the rubric scale in **all** special subject areas, Personal & Social Growth and Effort and Study Skills.

Honors is a special distinction that includes the education of the whole child, academically and personally

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Beth Crawford, 8th Grade, was awarded an academic scholarship to Mount Saint Joseph High School.

Caitlin Friel, Grade 4, was recognized by Verizon at its Northeast Council's Pioneer Partner in Excellence Award ceremonies in November. Caitlin was the only child to receive this award among the 12 honorees. She was acknowledged for her many hours of community service. Caitlin stuffed hug-a-bears, heart pillows and pillows for breast cancer patients. She also assembled place mats for a Special Needs Party and delivered the various items to many fire companies and police stations...always with a smile! We are very proud of her.

Angela LaCort, Grade 5, got an early Christmas present. The Make-A-Wish Foundation gave Angela and her family a trip to Los Angeles to meet the cast of NCIS, a TV show on CBS.

PLEASE NOTE

In order to facilitate Weekly Communication more efficiently all information must be submitted by 12 noon on Tuesdays. There will be no exceptions so please plan ahead!

Also, the weekly Communication Information and the Newsletter are archived on the school website for your convenience

A REMINDER

Check the lunch duty schedule to see when you are scheduled. Please don't forget your assigned day; we need you and count of you for supervision! If you have a conflict, please find a substitute from the list of people on the website.

DID YOU KNOW...

"Be a Phanatic About Reading"

SPN students are participating in a school-wide Reading program as part of our Middle States review. It's called "*Be a Phanatic About Reading.*" Each student is asked to read for 15 minutes each day, and keep a log of the days he/she does this. We will have posters hanging in the hallway to show each homeroom's progress. The upper and lower grade homerooms who return the most logs will earn a dress down day. This program will run through February 19th. At the end of the program, participating students will complete a paper for the Phillies, and we will return our results to them. If we are one of the most successful schools in completing our goal, we will win a visit from the Philly Phanatic. All students will receive pencils and bookmarks, and participating students will receive a certificate of completion.

TUTORING AVAILABLE

Certified elementary teacher available for your child's educational needs.

- Several years of teaching and tutoring experience
- Flexible hours daytime and evening
- Conveniently located in Lafayette Hill area.

For more information, please contact Kim Condon at 610-825-6236 or kimberlycondon@yahoo.com.

SPN SCHOOL HANDBOOK is found on the school website. This handbook contains our school policies. Certain sections of the handbook have been revised and these revisions will be explained in upcoming newsletters. Please read and familiarize yourself with these policies. It is our hope that a clear understanding of these expectations will allow us, both faculty and parents, to build a cooperative partnership.

Illness:

When to keep your child at home:

Children are not to be sent to school when taking Tylenol (or any other aspirin type product) to reduce a fever. A child needs to **be fever free for 24 hours** before returning to school.

The school reserves the right to send a child home who exhibits any of these symptoms during the school day. If the parents cannot be reached, the emergency contacts will be tried.

Communicable Diseases:

Any students suspected of having any form of communicable diseases must remain out of school for the indicated time, and must return to school with a parent's or a physician's note indicating the type of treatment. Since these diseases are contagious, school authorities (the main office and the classroom teacher) must be notified. It will be the job of the school to notify the classroom and school community.

Cell Phones:

Cell phones may be carried in a book bag for emergency use. **Cells phones must be "off" during school hours and may not be used in school or on the school grounds without the permission of a teacher or staff member. Text messaging is prohibited in school. Cell phones will be confiscated if they are used during the day without permission.**

[FROM THE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION](#)

SECRET SANTA WORKSHOP RETURNS!

The annual ***Secret Santa Workshop*** for students in grades pre-K to 6 will be held during this Friday, December 18th. Students will have the opportunity to purchase gifts for Mom, Dad, Sisters, Brothers and extended family members. Nothing priced over \$5.

Christmas Elf's are needed to help our "little shoppers". If you are able to help for a few hours, please contact Katie Shields at kshields@sju.edu. All help is greatly appreciated!

SPN HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION presents TRIVIA NIGHT 7

Join us on Friday, January 29, 2010 at The Irish Center, 6815 Emlen Street, Philadelphia, PA 19119 for this great parish event!

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; Trivia begins promptly at 7:45 p.m.

Tickets: Early bird special only until January 8th - \$40 per ticket; After January 8th, \$50 per ticket

(price includes: Dinner, open bar (from 7-11pm) & dessert table)

Send requests to: Jennifer McMenamin (610.828.2102 or jsm0282@yahoo.com)

Only payments received will hold your spot at the table.

SPN Trivia Night continues to be powered by McM Entertainment (www.McMEnt.net)

THANK YOU..

Special thanks to everyone who generously gave of their time to help with the **Children's Advent Celebration** on December 7th. Especially Cathy Zonies, Jeanette Paul, Jean Martin, Jim Mullen, Deanna Marrone, Beth DiLello, Maria Conway, Robin Solecki, Erin McMahon, Terri McHugh, Stephanie Carney, Linda Pizzi, Katie Shields, Megan Swider, Stephanie Taglianetti, Kathy Biddle, Ursula Ann LaBrusciano-Rottloff, Patricia Cassidy-Stolarski, Karen Kessler and Peggy McBride. Many parish families attended this event and contributed

holiday gifts to less fortunate children in our area. We would also like to thank and recognize the businesses who donated items for the social after Mass – Turkey Hill Ice Cream, Genuardi's, Giant Plymouth Meeting, Giant Conshohocken and BJ's Wholesale Club. Your support was greatly appreciated!

FROM THE CYO

The Area CYO Cross Country Championship races were held at Gwynedd-Mercy High School on November 8th. Congratulations to the SPN runners for a great season!

Sub-Novice girls - Megan Schanes - 29th
Cadet boys - PJ Connolly - 22nd
Minor boys - Matthew Conway - 12th
 Stephen Schanes - 25th
 Christopher Cifoelli - 32nd

PHOTOS NEEDED!

Please forward photos of any and all sporting events to Kendra Feeney at mjfeeney17@verizon.net for inclusion in the yearbook.

FROM THE WILLIAM JEANES LIBRARY

Children in grades 1-6 are encouraged to participate in the library's annual book writing contest. Entries are due by February 12th. The "book" is actually a fictional short story which can, but does not need, to be illustrated. Winners receive a bookstore gift card. First and second place winners have their stories included in a volume that becomes part of the library's book collection and also get a copy of their story bound in a beautiful hardback edition. Specific instructions can be picked up at the library. The instructions can also be downloaded from the library's website, www.jeaneslibrary.org.



ON THE CALENDAR

December 18	Secret Santa Workshop
	SPN Dance
December 24	Begin Christmas Holidays
January 4	Classes Resume
January 18	School Holiday

THE NEXT ISSUE

Saint Philip School Newsletter is published bi-weekly during the academic year. Our next issue is Wednesday, January 6th. Please forward all items for the next issue to Katie Shields at embrians@comcast.net by January 4th.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!