



## Saint Philip Neri School

3015 Chestnut Street, Lafayette Hill, PA 19444

School Phone Number: (610) 828-3082

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[www.saintphilipnerschool.com](http://www.saintphilipnerschool.com)

## School Newsletter

October 7, 2009



### SCHOOL INFORMATION

#### A REMINDER

During the school day, all visitors must report to the Main Office including parents. We will deliver forgotten lunches, books or assignments, cupcakes for birthdays or whatever a student might have forgotten or needs. Parents are not to deliver items directly to the classrooms nor should they be walking the hallways without an appointment. This disrupts the routine of the classes and is not fair to students or teachers. Thank you for respecting this school policy.

#### TAKE A LOOK.

On your next visit to school please notice the beautiful stained glass window in the main entrance. This window of Jesus and the Little Children was a gift from the Class of 2009.

#### EMERGENCY CARDS and EMERGENCY RELEASE FORMS

Important information for your child's safety are the Emergency cards and your child's Emergency Release Form which are to be completed and returned to school with your child **tomorrow**. The information on these forms is most important to the safety and well-being of your child. Please complete the forms carefully and accurately. The EMERGENCY CARD information is kept on file in the office in the event of an emergency and the EMERGENCY RELEASE FORM is retained by the classroom teacher. We must have specific information to reach you in time of need.

- **Keeping Emergency Cards Updated:** It is essential that parents keep their child's emergency card updated at all times. The school must have a home and work number where the parent can be contacted in the event of an emergency. When you change jobs, residence, or your phone number, please call the office or send a note with the new information. Thank you for your cooperation in this important matter.
- **Other Contact People:** Please list friends or relatives on these Emergency Forms who are usually available if you should not be. For your child's safety and protection, *only those people listed on the emergency forms will be able to pick up your child during*

*school hours* unless the office receives written permission. Make sure your friends, relative, or neighbor has agreed to this responsibility.

**SCHOOL COMMUNICATION:** The majority of communication issued by the school is distributed through an email system. Please register your email address on the school website to ensure that you will receive this important information. All communication is sent out to parents on Wednesday primarily through the email distribution but also through a biweekly newsletter or the communication envelope. Newsletter and the information contained in each week's email distribution can be found on the school website under the Communication tab.

**SCRIP** is available at the church office. I strongly encourage all of our families to participate in this program. Scrip is sold after the Sunday masses and in the church office during the week. It is not sold at school. The program is a way to support our school and help with your tuition payments.

**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.

### ***HANDBOOK ADDITIONS***

#### **Transportation:**

##### **Bus:**

Please note that **students who ride a bus from another district may not** ride on a Sague bus. Those children who ride a Sague bus may interchange and ride on another Sague bus. Parents need to send a note to school if their child is riding a different Sague bus or getting off at a different stop on the child's regular bus route. The note will be sent to the office to be stamped, and returned to the child. The child will need to hand the note to the bus driver as he/she gets on the bus.

Please note that when the weather is inclement, the Philadelphia buses follow the schedule for the Philadelphia School District.

##### **Afternoon Pick-up:**

Cars should **enter the school grounds from Ridge Pike only**. Cars will begin forming lines between parking islands facing Chestnut Street. Children will be dismissed from the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> grade hallway. Once cars are loaded, cars will exit the schools grounds by Chestnut Street or Germantown Pike. Walkers and bikers exit school before the car line begins to move.

#### **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.**

**CAR WASH RE-SCHEDULED**

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade car wash was re-scheduled for this coming Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup> from 9am – 1pm in the school parking lot. Come by and support the Class of 2010 and leave with your car nice and clean!

**SAFE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM:** For all school volunteers who regularly interact with children, the following are required: Attend a "Protecting God's Children" Workshop, Complete a State Police Criminal Background check, a Child Abuse Clearance check, and an FBI Fingerprint Card (for those who have moved to PA with the past two years).

For the appropriate forms, please download them from the diocesan website: [www.archdiocese-phl.org](http://www.archdiocese-phl.org). When these forms are returned to you in the mail, please send forms into school. When you attend the "Protecting God's Children" sessions, please submit that form also. A list of workshop dates and locations can be located on the diocesan website.

**THE SPN SURVIVAL GUIDE** for new families can be found on the school website. The Enrollment Committee organized this guide to help school families with the routine day to day questions that families might have regarding school activities.

**SPOTLIGHT ON--**

**Michelle Woodcock** is the Remedial Reading and Mathematics Specialist and is starting her second year at Saint Philip Neri School. Students experiencing difficulty in reading will be referred to the program by classroom teachers or the principal. Testing of students occurs in the fall. If students qualify for services parental permission forms are

disseminated. Then, students who have been identified in the elementary grades as having weaknesses or deficits in reading receive appropriate instruction in decoding, fluency, comprehension, and study skills. Students receive instruction in a small group setting of two to six pupils. Similarly, students experiencing difficulties with mathematics are referred, tested, and receive appropriate instruction in the following areas: basic computation, skill development, problem solving, and application of mathematical skills. Math instruction is also delivered in small groups of two to six students. Mid-year testing is conducted and progress reports are given to parents. Parent conferences are held at the end of the year to discuss student progress.

### **NEW ART PROGRAM OFFERINGS**

SPN has teamed up with *Original Works* – the #1 art based program in the country – to offer a very special program. This program allows you to have your child’s very own artwork reproduced onto a selection of over 20 quality products. These products range from magnets, mugs and mouse pads to t-shirts, tote bags and tiles. The wide selection of professionally produced, full color products offers something for everyone.

Your child will be creating their artwork in school, using the regular art curriculum as the basis for their work of art. You will then have the opportunity to order whatever products you wish with your child’s own artwork featured on each and every product.

We are thrilled to be participating in this unique and innovative program. Look for complete program, product and pricing information coming soon.

Additional product and program information, as well as customer testimonials, can be found at [www.originalworks.com](http://www.originalworks.com). Please contact Cathy Sabia with any additional questions [Cathy@sabiafamily.com](mailto:Cathy@sabiafamily.com).

### **FROM THE HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**

*Fall Festival* is almost here! Join the school community on Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> for this fun-filled event! If you are able to help out with Setting up, Selling tickets, Working in the Kitchen or Cleaning up, please contact Linda Pizzi at [lpizzi@verizon.net](mailto:lpizzi@verizon.net). Thanks!

*Pizza Sale is on!* Check out the flyer in the Communications email for information on a great fundraiser sponsored by Maria’s Pizza. Proceeds benefit the Home and School Association.

*Joe Conklin* will make a return visit SPN on November 14<sup>th</sup>. Plan to join us for a fun-filled night with a great comedian. Tickets available soon. Contact Dee Higgins or Steve Dessner for additional information.

### **FROM THE CYO**

A meeting for the parents of all students who signed up to play CYO Basketball will be held in the cafeteria on Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm.

Player evaluations will be held in the SPN gym on the following dates:

- 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade girls – Monday, November 2 at 6:30pm
- 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade boys – Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm
- 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade girls – Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:45pm
- 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade boys – Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:45pm



### **ON THE CALENDAR**

October 10	Dueling Piano Benefit for the Maureen Minetti Scholarship Fund
October 12	School Holiday
October 23	Fall Festival
November 2 and 3	CYO Player Evaluations
November 14	Joe Conklin Event benefiting Home and School initiatives

### **THE NEXT ISSUE**

Saint Philip School Newsletter is published bi-weekly during the academic year. Our next issue is Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>. Please forward all items for the next issue to Katie Shields at [embrians@comcast.net](mailto:embrians@comcast.net) by October 19<sup>th</sup>.