



St. Denis – St. Columba School

A Holy Ground of Loving and Learning

Family Newsletter

Week of October 22-26, 2018



NEWS & NOTES

Message from Dr. McNiff: "Catholic School Students Test Scores on the Rise"

With great enthusiasm and appreciation, I write to share news of yet another system-wide increase in performance on the New York State exams for grades three through eight. Thanks to the hard work of our principals, faculties and staff, along with your leadership as your child(ren)'s primary educator, our schools saw a significant increase in scores for the fourth consecutive year. Relative to 2017, performance in math rose 7.1 points and 6.3 points in English Language Arts. These numbers outpace New York State and New York City public schools, demonstrating the educational value our schools are so proud to offer students. Perhaps most encouragingly, every region in the archdiocese saw growth among their students, showing the benefits Catholic education can provide to every single child in New York. Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of New York have made undeniable strides in recent years in a number of areas, perhaps most significantly in the quality of instruction. From a commitment to data-driven instruction and practical benchmarks like the MAP interim assessment, to targeted professional development and coaching for principals and teachers, these results are a credit to every member of our school communities. While your school will be releasing individual student performance reports as they become available, I hope you will share in our excitement regarding the universal growth achieved by our students. I continue to feel blessed and grateful for your partnership in Catholic education and look forward to continuing our legacy of success together.

PLEASE NOTE: Saint Denis-Saint Columba School was the **top grower** in Dutchess County on the NYS ELA Tests this past Spring! Congratulations!

EDUCATE Parent Portal

There are only three weeks remaining in the first marking period. All parents and guardians in Grades 1-8 have access to the EDUCATE Parent Portal. Please take some time to review your child's homework, project, conduct, and test grades. The portal gives you nearly "real time" view into your child's academic performance at school. The portal can be accessed from the School App or under the "For Parents" Tab on the school website. Questions? Contact Mrs. Marrero at 845-227-7777 or bmarrero@stcolumba.net. Remember that all financial requirements must be met by November 15th in order for your children in Grades K-8 to conference with your children's teachers or to receive their first quarter report cards.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on Thursday, November 15th and Friday November 16th. Parents/Guardians will need to schedule appointments electronically using the links below. The sign-up links can also be found on the school website under **For Parents/PT Conferences**. **For students in Grades 5-8, please schedule an appointment with your child's homeroom teacher.**

Kindergarten	Grade 3	Grade 6
Grade 1	Grade 4	Grade 7
Grade 2	Grade 5	Grade 8

No School for Students – Friday, October 26th

There will be no school for students of Friday, October 26th. Teachers will be attending a Professional Development conference. The School Office will be open that day.

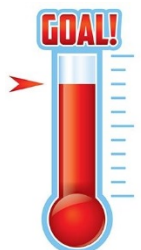
SDSC Annual Walk-a-thon – THANK YOU!



We have raised \$8,015 so far through the SDSC Annual Walk-a-thon! Thank you!

We have reach 76% of our goal of \$10,500! Remember if we reach our school-wide goal of \$10,500, the entire school will receive a week's worth of NUT

Awards. Plus, each class that has 100% participation will participate in the legendary SDSC Summer Ice Cream



Party! ***No donation is too little.*** If you have not contributed all ready, can you chip in a little to help us reach our goal? If we collect an average of \$12 per student right now, we will reach our target. THANK YOU!

Trunk or Treat – THANK YOU!

Thank you to Mrs. Alexandra Sullivan and Mrs. Heather Sulca for coordinating the first ever SDSC “Trunk or Treat”! We are also grateful to the parents, grandparents, friends and teachers who decorated their “trunks,” donated candy, baked sweet treats or helped out in one of the many other ways that contributed to the event’s success.



Fall Harvest Dance – THANK YOU!

Thank you to Mrs. Louise DiPalermo and Mrs. Debbie Laski for coordinating the 2018 Fall Harvest Dance for the students in Grades 5-8! Thanks to Mrs. Lisa Schulhoff and Mrs. Yashira Cabral for their assistance decorating. Thanks also to the many parents who donated water, snacks, baked goods and candy for the dance, and to those who volunteered their time to chaperone.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feast of All Saints - Wednesday, November 1st

We will celebrate the Feast of All Saints as a School community with a special Mass at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 1st. Remember this is a holy day of obligation. All are welcome! Thank you Mrs. Sheridan and the seventh grade class for coordinating the Liturgy.



Altar Rosary Society Craft Fair – Saturday, November 3rd



The Altar Rosary Society’s 45th annual HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR will be held at SDSC on Saturday, November 3rd from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. There will be over 50 tables of handcrafted items. Also there will be numerous raffles, a baked goods table, a treasure chest table, and much more! The Altar Rosary Society generously supports SDSC every year, so please consider attending the craft fair.



West Point Football Group Outing – November 17th, 2018

Tickets are now on sale for the SDSC PSA Army West Point Football outing! Join your SDSC friends as we watch Army take on Colgate on Saturday, November 17th at 12 noon. Tickets are \$29 each. Click [HERE](#) for order form.

SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL WHILE YOU SHOP!



Did you know you can raise money for SDSC every time you shop at www.Amazon.com? Simply use the Amazon link on the school website or SDSC App every time you shop. If you are an Amazon Prime Member, all of your Prime benefits still apply! SDSC receives up to 10% of every purchase you make!

Stop & Shop A+ School Rewards Program

Our school has the opportunity to earn cash from the Stop & Shop A+ School Rewards Program. This year's Program runs from September 7, 2018 through March 16, 2019. Please take a moment to register your Stop & Shop card at www.stopandshop.com/aplus or call Customer Care at 1-877-366-2668 OPTION #1. Our school's five-digit ID code is 08994.



ShopRite For My School Program

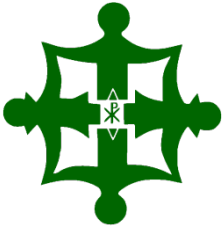


Please register your ShopRite Price Plus Club Card at www.shopriteformyschool.com. Then purchase participating products at ShopRite and earnings will be automatically credited to our school account. All General Mills products are now included.

Hannaford Helps Schools Program

Do you shop at the Hannaford grocery store in our area? You can help earn money for our school when you purchase from more than 1,500 participating products. When you check out you will receive 3 school dollars for every 4 participating products you purchase. Submit/deposit your school dollars in our school's collection tower in the Hannaford store at 1490 Route 9, Wappingers Falls. Hannaford Helps Schools Program runs through December 1, 2018. Visit www.hannaford.com/helpschools to learn more.





St. Denis-St. Columba School Group Outing

2018 ARMY WEST POINT FOOTBALL

Saturday November 17, 2018
Game Time 12 noon



Army vs Colgate

Name: _____

Student's Grade/room: _____

Phone/email _____

Number of tickets @ \$29 each _____ Total enclosed: _____

Checks made payable to St. Denis/St. Columba PSA

Form must be returned no later than Oct 12



GoArmyWestPoint.com