

Saint Philip Neri School

1st Quarter Bulletin
August 2010

Dr. Carol Stack
Principal



Message from the Principal

To All SPN Parents and Students,

Welcome back to another school year!!! We have missed all of you, but hope you have all had a great summer! We are certain that the year will be filled with challenges and adventures, but we will meet them with a spirit of togetherness and cooperation.

In an effort to keep our parents informed about the many events and activities that we have planned, we are sending you the first of our Quarterly Bulletins. Please keep all bulletins and monthly calendars as reference. You will be notified on an at-need basis regarding changes or additional information. Our "School Reach" phone system will be used sparingly and only for the most important reminders and schedule changes.

We ask that you pay special attention to the Arrival/Dismissal Procedures that are outlined in this bulletin and will go into effect on Monday, August 16th. For the safety of all our children, we ask your cooperation in this process so that arrival time will go smoothly, and the day will have a happy start for both parents and children.

Be sure to check the attached calendar for all activities that have been planned. Your support and involvement in the school is a critical component for your child's education. We look forward to seeing our parents here on campus working with us as we undertake the important task of bringing your children educational excellence and spiritual awareness. Let's pray that Almighty God will guide us and bless us as we begin this journey!

Sincerely,

Carol S. Stack, Ph.D.
Principal

Holiday Care

In keeping the needs of our parents as a top priority, we would like to provide holiday care for our students in PK2-7th grade for those parents who need this service. We will be sending a questionnaire asking if holiday care would be a priority for your family and if you would like SPN to provide this service. Please respond so that we will know what your needs will be.

Parishioners' Center/Assembly Hall

If you are interested in reserving the Parishioners' Center or the Assembly Hall, you should contact Jill Rabalais in the school office at 887-5600, ext 30.

Contents

Principal's Message	1
Holiday Care	1
Parish. Center/Assembly Hall	1
Welcome New Faculty/Staff	2
Ladies' Co-Op Club	2
Men's Club	2
Back to School Family Picnic	2
School Mass & Family Mass	2
Open House	2
Entertainment Books	2
Arrival/Dismissal Procedures	3
Lunch Program	3
Neri Nursery	3
Parent Volunteer Program	4
Safe Environment Training	4
Black and Gold Day	4
Substitute Teachers	4
Handbooks	4
Dance Team	4
With Thanks	5
Campus Improvements	5
Mandatory Safe Environment	6
Emergency Instructions	7

Welcome New Faculty and Staff

We would like to welcome all of our new faculty and staff for the 2010-11 school year. With the opening of our Neri Nursery, we have several new additions to our SPN family. Also, some familiar faces will be in new positions for 2010-11. Please join us in welcoming our Neri Nursery Staff: **Linda Mayer, Barbara Raley, Stephanie Bienvenu, Rosary Mouton, Angela Duvernet, Megan Whittle, and Maggie Pruett**; **Lori Robinette** (formerly PK3 Asst.) will be Asst. Director of the Nursery. Returning to SPN is **Holly Allen**, who is taking the PK3C teacher position, and her assistant will be **Debbie Sills**; **Kathy Hart** and **Jeanette Jevic** will be PK4A and PK3A assistants, respectively; and **Laurie Ferrero** and **Adrienne Burns** join us as PK2 assistants. And, last, but not least, **Cynthia Guidry** will be joining our Before and After Care Program, and joining her in the afternoon will be **Christine Grote** and **Danelle Perrin**.

Ladies' Co-Op Club

The SPN Ladies' Co-Op is one of the most active groups in the Parish. These ladies make it possible for our students to participate in many extra-curricular activities, provide support for our teachers, and provide fund raising opportunities which greatly benefit the school. Food, friendship, and fun are just a few reasons you should join Co-Op. This year's Co-Op Presidents are **Judith Nussbaum** and **Janet Perez**.

Men's Club

The SPN Men's Club, a dynamic group made up of men of the Parish, meets on the first Thursday of most months. An interesting guest speaker and a great meal are highlights of the meetings. While primarily a social organization, the members are quite actively involved in major projects around the school campus. Two special functions which the club sponsors are the Annual Golf Tournament and the Lenten Fish Fry. This year's Men's Club President is **Lenny Franz**.

We wish to thank both organizations for their generous donations to the school during the 09-10 school year.

Back to School Family Picnic

Please mark your calendars to join us for our back to school picnic and some good old fashioned family fun from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 11th. There will be music, games, food, space walks....and a good time will be had by all!

School Mass & Family Mass

Please join us for our first school Mass on Friday, August 20th at 9:00 A.M. Our student liturgies are a very special time for our students to develop and strengthen their faith and are an integral part of our community family. Please try to join us for this first celebration and as often as you can on subsequent Fridays. Family Mass is the first Sunday of most months. Please make every effort to attend these Masses. Our first Family Mass will be on October 3rd at 9:30 A.M.

Open House

Dates for Open Houses are as follows: 5th-7th grade Open House will be August 18th beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Assembly Hall. Open House for 1st-4th grades will be August 25th beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Assembly Hall.

Entertainment Book Fundraiser

Entertainment Books went home on Thursday for the students to sell as our school fundraiser. The books are a great way to save money while supporting the school. If you have any questions, please contact Angie Murray in the school office at 887-5600.

Arrival/Dismissal Procedures

The procedure for arrival on campus for students in **Kdg-7th** grade will be as follows:

- Parents who want to “drop off” their children may enter the Olympic St. lot using the far right lane to the double gates; there is no parking in this lot. Once children have been dropped off, parents will proceed to exit the campus through the middle lane of the lot to Olympic St., where they will make a right turn back onto Olympic St. **Please be considerate; if you are dropping children off, please be sure they are ready to exit the car as soon as you pull up. Faculty and staff will be on duty to help children exit the car and keep the line moving as quickly as possible. Take care of all “good-bye” routines before you leave the house!**
- Parents who would prefer to walk their children to the yard will park their cars in the Kawanee St. lot and walk with their children to the double gates. **No child should be walking across the parking lot without an adult!!! This is for the safety of your child.**
- Parents with **PK2, PK3, and PK4** children will park in the Kawanee St. lot, and escort their pre-schoolers to the classrooms through Gate 3. If any pre-school parent has older siblings, the siblings may enter the campus through Gate 3, but they must make an immediate left turn to the line-up area. Older siblings **should not** be accompanying parents and pre-school siblings to the classroom.
- **Neri Nursery** parents will be arriving through the Olympic St. parking lot and parking in the slots closest to the Parishioners’ Center. They will bring the babies into the nursery and then exit the campus through the Olympic St. lot onto Olympic St. and turn right.

For dismissal time, all parents must park their cars in either lot and walk to the yard to pick up their children. Please remember when leaving the Kawanee St. lot everyone must turn right on to Kawanee. There is a “no left turn” sign there in effect from 3:00 - 3:45.

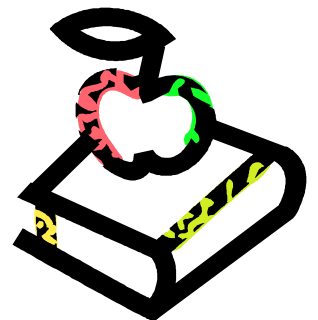
PLEASE NOTE: ANYONE COMING ONTO THE CAMPUS WHILE USING A CELL PHONE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED ENTRANCE. THIS IS A SAFETY CONCERN FOR YOUR CHILDREN. WE HAVE WORKED VERY HARD TO MAKE OUR ARRIVAL PROCEDURES SAFE, BUT EVERYONE MUST REMAIN FOCUSED ON WHAT THEY ARE DOING WHILE IN THE PARKING LOT. WE HAVE 700 STUDENTS ARRIVING ON THIS CAMPUS IN THE MORNING...WE CAN'T BE TOO CAREFUL, AND WE MUST BE ALERT AT ALL TIMES. PLEASE ABIDE BY THIS MOST IMPORTANT RULE: SPN PARKING LOT IS A CELL PHONE FREE ZONE!

Lunch Program

The lunch program will begin on Monday, September 7th. Lunches must be brought to school beginning August 16th through September 3rd. Information and forms for the school lunch program will be sent home soon.

Neri Nursery

We were very proud to launch the opening of our Neri Nursery with a very successful Open House last week. The nursery will care for babies from 6 weeks old to 24 months and will provide year-round care. For information, please contact Mrs. Lori Robinette at 617-5354.



SPN Parent Volunteer Program

Once again this year, we will continue with our Parent Volunteer Program. For every two hours of volunteer service that parents donate, they will be eligible for a chance at \$1000 of free tuition for the next school year. This includes volunteering for set-up for different fund raisers such as Oktoberfest, Fish Fry, Crawfish Cook-Off, May Fair, etc; working in booths, and cleaning-up after these events. These activities and events are to raise funds for the parish and require time and effort to make them successful....we need your help! Four \$1000 free tuition awards will be drawn at the May Fair appreciation dinner in June, 2011.

Eligibility for the award is limited to those who have a child in the school for the 2010-11 school year, or are either related to or know a child in the school whose parents will benefit from the \$1000 tuition award (grandchild, niece/nephew, neighbor, etc.).

Safe Environment Training

The Archdiocese is requiring that all adults who work with children or have regular contact with children to have Safe Environment Training. See attached sheet for more information.

Black and Gold Day

SPN will have its first Black and Gold Day of the 2010-11 school year on Thursday, September 9th, to show our support for the New Orleans Saints as they begin their official season. Students may wear any N.O. Saints tee shirt, or any plain black or gold tee shirts they may have. Regular uniform skirts, pants, shoes, and socks will be worn with the tee shirts. Girls in grades K-3 who wear uniform jumpers instead of skirts may wear their PE shorts instead of their jumpers.

Substitute Teachers

There will be a meeting for anyone interested in working as a substitute teacher for the 2010-2011 school year on Tuesday, September 7th at 2:45 P.M. in the Assembly Hall. At the meeting you will be given an application packet and information regarding the guidelines and responsibilities. For more information, contact the school office.

Handbooks

St. Philip Neri School Student/Parent Handbooks have been sent home. We ask that all parents read the Handbook very carefully so that you will be acquainted with the policies and procedures which govern the school. In the spirit of cooperation, we ask that you review these policies with your children in grades 1st -4th so that they will be aware of the rules. Students in grades 5th-7th have already been instructed on the contents of the handbook.

There is a form for parents and students to sign and return to the school indicating that you have received, read, and understand the contents of the handbook.

Dance Team

We are very excited to announce that Mrs. Yvette Ecuyer will be the SPN Dance Team coach for the upcoming year. She will be revising, reforming, and revamping the team...new costumes, new routines, new opportunities for performing, etc. Mrs. Ecuyer has had many years of experience in teaching and performing and will bring a new look and new life to our dance team. Students in grades 5th -7th are eligible to participate. If interested, please complete the flyer that will be sent home and return to the school office.

With Thanks.....

The summer improvements and expansions that took place this summer would have never been considered or completed on time without the help of some very special people that definitely need to be acknowledged:

- Thanks goes to **Eddie Crawford** who worked long hours (and was very patient with the principal) to coordinate all of the campus projects. This included working with the Archdiocesan Building office to make sure that everything was in compliance with state licensing. He kept all projects running smoothly and made sure they were completed in a timely fashion. Thanks, Eddie!
- Another special thank-you to the Men's Club for helping us uncrate and put together everything in the Neri Nursery from baby beds to walkers, to bookcases and cubbies! These folks gave up their Saturdays and evenings after work to help our nursery staff get ready. Special thanks to **Marcus Heuchan, Allen Stevens, Frank Jevic, Doug Harris, Lenny Franz, Dan Rohli, Pat Paul, Doug Schof, Liz Crawford, and Kendra Newton.**
- Thanks are in order to **Mr. Dan Rohli** for the \$750 donation that was awarded to SPN through a grant from Entergy's Community Connectors volunteer program that provides financial support for employees' volunteer work in their communities. Thanks, Dan for your service to SPN!
- How blessed we are at SPN to not only have parents that are always there to help, but to have such a wonderful custodial staff. **Ms. Patricia Jones**, our plant supervisor, is truly a blessing to all of us at SPN. She works tirelessly and always has a smile on her face and a kind word for everyone. She keeps the campus running, and she keeps it looking beautiful.....along with her co-workers **Mr. Warren Adams** and **Ms. Josefa Cajina**...a special thanks to all of you!
- And very importantly for all of our children, the time and work that our faculty and staff has put in this summer getting ready for the new school year....seminars that were attended, new programs that were researched, certifications that were renewed or extended, curriculum planners that were revised,....the list goes on and on! For those who think that teachers are "off" during the summer, they don't know our SPN faculty and staff! Again, how blessed we are to have this wonderful group of dedicated people working with our children....thanks to all of you!

Campus Improvements

We have had a very busy summer on the SPN campus. In addition to preparing for the Neri Nursery, we have had many renovations on the main campus. A third section of PK3 was added, which required some renovations in the library, and of course, furnishings to go into it; the entire exterior of the school was painted and freshened....including the stairways and balcony railings; new desks, white boards and computers were added or replaced as needed; the carpet was removed in PK3A and PK3B and replaced with laminate flooring.

However, most importantly for the children is the refurbishing that was done on the playground equipment and swings in the PK4 - 2nd grade play yard. A huge thank-you goes to **Steve and Susie Vollenweider**, who graciously gave their time and efforts to this project...researching warranties, replacement parts, painting processes, surfacing options, etc. Thanks to them, the equipment has all been repaired, repainted, and resurfaced, and the swings have been relocated and renovated for the safety of the children.