

# **ST. PHILIP NERI SCHOOL**

*Where Faith and Knowledge Meet*

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**6600 Kawanee Avenue**

**Metairie, LA 70003**

**(504) 887-5600**

**May 28, 2010**

**Dear Parents,**

**As the 2009-2010 school year comes to an end, I would like to thank everyone for the support and cooperation that you have given us. As we reflect on challenges that we faced during this school year, it becomes obvious that our success was a result of the team work between home and school. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the faculty, staff, and parents of St. Philip Neri School for their efforts, encouragement and support during this school year.**

**As we look towards the 2010-11 school year, we are particularly excited about the opening of our “Neri Nursery” for babies 6 weeks through 22 months old. During the summer months, we will be preparing for the August 16<sup>th</sup> opening. Our nursery, which will be licensed by the state and follow the Early Learning Guidelines and Program Standards for the state of LA, will provide year-round infant care in a safe and nurturing environment.**

**As we also begin the process for re-accreditation through the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges (SACS), you can be assured that we will continue our strong commitment to promote a nurturing environment that fosters the academic success and spiritual development of your children.**

**Since this will be our last communication for this school year, we are including some end-of-year information, as well as general information to assist you in preparing for the 2010-2011 school year. Have a safe, happy, and restful summer! See you in August!!!!**

**Sincerely,**

**Carol S. Stack, Ph. D  
Principal**

## **I. 2009-2010 WRAP-UP**

### **Standardized Test Scores**

Enclosed in your child’s final report card envelope will be his/her TerraNova standardized test scores for the 2009-10 school year. If you have any questions or would like further information regarding your child’s performance, please contact the school office and speak to Dr. Stack or Mrs. Harney during the week of May 31<sup>st</sup>-June 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **Duke University Talent Search**

Each year Duke University conducts a search for the best and brightest 7<sup>th</sup> grade students to participate in their student recognition program. Students must have achieved standardized test scores at the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher to be eligible. Students who meet the criteria take the ACT or SAT College Entrance Exams (as 7<sup>th</sup> graders) to evaluate their academic standing. Eligible students who participated in this program were **Jared Abrams, Luke Bernard, Daniel Brignac, Jacqueline Elmer, Meghan Falcon, Anne Hamilton, Catherine Johnson, Jourdan Keen, Jillian Landry, Brody Martin, Lacie McRae, David Murray, Wesley O'Neal, Justin O'Rourke, Garrett Perez, Kayla Pillittere, Jordan Ridgley, Kristin Schof, Brooklyne Smith, Alyssa Storey and Sarah Uzee. The following students scored high enough to be eligible for state recognition: Joseph Arrigo, Katie Bancroft, Hunter DiCarlo, Sarah Dupont, Holly Hampton, Catherine Pellerin, Alyssa Rieder, and Danny Spring.**

### **Scholarship Recipients**

We would like to recognize and congratulate our 7<sup>th</sup> grade students who were awarded scholarships to the high schools they will be attending next year. Our 2010 scholarship recipients are the following:

**Alyssa Reider** – Chapelle High School – Deus Providegbit Scholarship  
**Holly Hampton** – Chapelle High School – IncarnateWord Scholarship  
**Claire Commagere** – Chapelle High School – Incarnate Word Scholarship  
**Joseph Arrigo** – Brother Martin High School – Academic Scholarship  
awarded by the Board of Directors valued at \$10,000 over a five –year period

### **May Fair**

**Our 2009-2010 May Fair was considered another successful event. We want to thank all school parents, parishioners, grandparents, and faculty who sponsored, chaired, and worked in booths, contributing to the May Fair and making it such a profitable event. A very special thank-you goes to Mr. Eddie Crawford and Mr. James Falcon who worked for the entire school year on the May Fair. Their commitment and organizational skills contributed greatly to the success of this community project. Many thanks, Eddie and James!**

### **SPN Ladies' Co-Op and Men's Club**

I would like to extend a very special thank-you to the members of these organizations. The monetary support they give to the school, as well as their time and talent, is extraordinary. It is this support and encouragement that provides so many extra advantages for our students. I would especially like to thank **Barbara Bourgeois**, Co-Op President, and **Bill Healy**, Men's Club President.

### **SPN School Board**

I would also like to thank our **SPN School Board Members** for their service to St. Philip Neri School. As an advisory board, their guidance and direction has been instrumental in shaping ideas and policies to bring our school to the forefront academically. We especially want to thank **Mike Fulham, Lauren Griffith, Bryan LaGarde, Judy Landry, Michelle Liang, Joanne McCabe, Darren Olivio, and Susan Panzavecchia** for their guidance and direction on many challenging issues during this school year.

### **Summer Office Hours**

The school office will be closed after 12:00 on May 28th. The office will re-open on Monday, May 31st through, Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup> from 8:00a.m.-12:00 p.m. The office will be closed from June 14<sup>th</sup> through July 31<sup>st</sup>. We will re-open on Monday, August 2nd at 9:00 a.m. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the office and leave a voice mail which will be checked periodically during the time the office is closed. **Please check our website at [www.stphilipneri.org](http://www.stphilipneri.org) for any important information/reminders/updates.**

### **KidCam**

St. Philip Neri School will once again host **KidCam** summer camp on our campus for students in PK4-7<sup>th</sup> grade. The camp will run from **May 31 through July 24<sup>th</sup>**. If you need any information for registering for this camp, please call **472-5437**.

### **Box Tops / Labels for Education/Winn Dixie Community Pals**

Please remember to save box tops and labels over the summer. The school receives money from participating companies. Items that should be saved include General Mills products' BoxTops for Education, Campbell's Labels for Education, and Community Coffee UPCs. We also encourage your patronage at Winn-Dixie. The return to the school from your purchases has been close to \$1600.

### **Suggested Summer Reading**

A suggested Summer Reading list is enclosed with the letter. This list serves as a resource for suggested reading. **STUDENTS WILL NOT BE TESTED ON SUMMER READING BOOKS, NOR WILL THEY HAVE TO COMPLETE BOOK REPORTS, ETC.** It is important that students learn to read for enjoyment. Students may choose books from the grade they are completing, as well as the grade they are entering, depending on individual tastes and reading levels

### **School Reach Information System**

In an effort to improve communications between school and parents, we will continue to use our telephone broadcast system that enables school personnel to notify all households and parents by phone. This system allows us to communicate general announcements, reminders, or emergency information. The service will call all listed home phone numbers and mother's cell phone (unless otherwise advised). Please be sure to activate the voice mail on your cell phones, as messages will be delivered with a short time delay.

## II. 2010-2011 INFORMATION

### Summer Nursery

For the first time we are offering summer care for our current and incoming PK2 students, and incoming PK3 students who are not yet potty-trained. The hours of the summer nursery will be from 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. This summer program will be staffed by Mrs. Amy Bancroft, Mrs. Barbara Raley, and Mrs. Christine Grote. For older students in grades PK4-7<sup>th</sup> KidCam will once again be housed on our campus. For more information, please call Christine Grote (887-5600).

### “Neri Nursery”

We are in the process of getting our nursery ready to open on August 16<sup>th</sup>. This has been a very exciting project for us, and we are eagerly awaiting its opening. We invite all nursery parents, and any parents interested in viewing the nursery, to an **Open House** on **August 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.** At this time, parents will be given a tour of the facilities and some general information about the policies and procedures that will be governing the nursery.

Prior to the opening date of August 16<sup>th</sup>, nursery teachers and staffers will be setting up individual appointments prior with parents of our registered children to get better acquainted with our babies and their families.

We are very committed to the quality of our Neri Nursery Program. Our activities and curriculum will be developmentally appropriate for the different age groups (6 weeks to 22 months) and the program will meet or exceed the LA Early Learning Guidelines and Standards. As with our PK2 and PK3 Program, the Neri Nursery will be completely compliant with state licensing requirements with respect to staffing, safety, pupil-teacher ratio, and administration.

While we are still in the process of staffing our Neri Nursery, we have already added some highly qualified and greatly experienced personnel to provide quality instruction and care for our newest additions to SPN.

**Mrs. Lori Robinette will be Asst. Director and handle all administrative tasks; Mrs. Linda Mayer, Mrs. Barbara Raley, and Mrs. Stephanie Bienvenu will be assigned to the youngest babies (6 wks to 13 months). Mrs. Kristen Arceneaux and her assistant will be working with our toddlers (14-22 months).**

In an attempt to meet the needs of our parents, and to provide consistency for the babies, our Neri Nursery will provide year-round care, including holiday care for registered children.

### Playground Equipment

As many of you may have observed, our PK4-2<sup>nd</sup> grade playground equipment and yard is in need of an upgrade. This summer we are planning to refurbish the equipment, swings, and surfacing. While this project was originally designed to replace all of the equipment and surfacing, proposals for the project came in around \$100,000, so it was determined that it would be more financially expedient to refurbish the present equipment and focus on fundraising to totally replace the equipment within the next 3 to 5 years.

Thanks to **Steve and Susie Vollenweider**, we are currently on our way to our upgrade. They took the initiative for doing the research on warranties and available parts for our current equipment and did the installation of the replacement parts. The **Vollenweiders** have been joined by **Bryan and Hope LaGarde** in tackling the next phase of the improvement. Our goal is to have everything completed by the opening of the 2010-11 school year!

These improvements are made possible thanks to the donation of **\$21,000** made by **SPN Ladies Co-Op** to the school from their Sally Foster Wrapping Paper and Cookie Dough Fundraiser and from a donation of **\$2700** from the **SPN Grandparent Club**. Other donations and school fundraisers that are making these improvements possible are **SPN Summer Baseball League, Barberito School Pictures, Entertainment Books, Winn-Dixie Community Pals Program, Entergy Volunteer Matching Program, Target, and Ground Pati Nights.**

### **2010-11 Focused Fundraisers**

As stated earlier, our fundraising for the next 3 to 5 years we will be focusing on new playground equipment and surfacing. We have been fortunate to already have been offered help towards those efforts. **Mr. William Hale of Capital Improvements has offered a great incentive to all SPN Families that would benefit the school. Attached to this letter you will find all the details about improving your home and our playground.**

### **First Day of School (Grades PK2-7)**

We will begin the 2010-2011 school year with two half-days---August 12th and 13<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-11:00 a.m. This schedule will allow the students to ease their way back into the routine of school. **THERE WILL BE NO BUS TRANSPORTATION FOR THESE TWO HALF-DAYS! We will have BEFORE SCHOOL CARE starting at 7:00 a.m., but there will be NO AFTER CARE for the first two half-days.**

On the first day of school (August 12th) students in grades 1<sup>st</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> will report to the fenced area. Class lists will be posted outside on the walls of Building 2 for parents and students to find assigned classes. Parents may then escort their children to their assigned classrooms. Teachers and administrators will be available to direct students and parents to the correct classrooms. For students in grades PK2 – Kindergarten, check information below.

Our first full day of school will be Monday, August 16<sup>th</sup>. Students must bring their lunches for the first three weeks of school The lunch program will begin after Labor Day on Tuesday, Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>.

## **School Hours**

Our school time for 2010-2011 will be from **8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.** for a full day. Students are considered tardy after 8:30 a.m.

**Please Note: There is NO supervision before 8:05 a.m. or after 3:45 p.m. If you must bring or pick-up your child(ren) before/after these times, you must register for the Before/After School Care Program. This extended care program begins at 7:00 a.m. for morning care and is in session until 6:00 p.m. for afternoon care. The Before/After Care Program will begin on Monday, August 16<sup>th</sup>.**

## **PK2-PK4 Orientation and 1<sup>st</sup> Day Schedule**

**August 10, 2010** – Parents only are to come for New Parent Orientation. Beginning at 6:30 p.m., parents may purchase totes and smocks from the Viking Shop. Promptly at **7:00 p.m.**, parents will meet the teachers and assistants in **the Assembly Hall** and proceed to the classrooms. Parents should bring all school supplies to Orientation.

**August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010 (9:00-11:00 a.m.)** Parents and students with last names A-K will meet teachers in the classroom. (Please be prompt.) Parents will remain with their children for the first hour and will be asked to leave the classroom for the second hour. We invite parents to join us for coffee from 10:00-11:00 in the Assembly Hall.

**August 13, 2010 (9:00-11:00 a.m.)** Parents and students with last names L-Z will meet teachers in the classrooms. (Please be prompt.) Parents will remain with their children for the first hour, and will be asked to leave the classroom for the second hour. We invite parents to join us for coffee from 10:00-11:00 in the Assembly Hall.

**August 16, 2010** – First regular day for all PK2 – PK4 students. Parents should bring students to the classroom no later than 8:30 a.m. Parents should pick-up students at the designated time (11:45 a.m. for half-day students; 3:20 p.m. for full-day students).

## **Kindergarten Orientation and 1<sup>st</sup> Day Schedule**

**August 12, 2010** – Parents and students whose last names begin with **A-K** should report to the Assembly Hall at 9:00 a.m. The orientation will last approximately one hour to an hour and a half. Parents will remain with the students. Uniforms should be worn, and school supplies should be brought to orientation.

**August 13, 2010** – Parents and students whose last names begin with **L-Z** should report to the Assembly Hall at 9:00 a.m. The orientation will last approximately one hour to an hour and a half. Parents will remain with the students. Uniforms should be worn, and school supplies should be brought to orientation.

**August 16, 2010** – **First full day for all Kindergarten students.**

## **Uniforms**

St. Philip Neri School uniforms for girls and boys PK2-7<sup>th</sup> grade may be purchased at **Schiro's Uniforms**. Boys may also purchase uniforms at **Perret's Army & Outdoor Stores**. Required uniform shoes for students PK2-7<sup>th</sup> grade may be purchased either at **Schiro's or Ponsetti's**. **Uniform socks must be purchased at the SPN Viking Shop.**

### **Viking Shop Hours**

PE Uniforms, SPN uniform socks, book sox, PK totes, smocks, sleep mats, and various other school supplies are sold through the Viking Shop. For your convenience, the SPN Viking Shop hours for the beginning of the school year will be as follows:

August 5 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup>	9:00-1:00
August 10 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 (PK2-PK4 Parents Only)
August 12 <sup>th</sup> and 13 <sup>th</sup>	8:00-9:00 a.m.

**Please Note:** Pre-Ordered PE Uniforms will be available for pick-up at the Viking Shop during the times listed above. Only students in grades PK3-4<sup>th</sup> grade must have PE uniform shirts. Students in grades 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> will wear their regular uniform shirts/blouses for PE. Also, please be aware that ALL students will wear the regular uniform shoes on PE days. Regular hours for Viking Shop are 8:00-8:30 every Tuesday and Thursday during the school year

### **Bus Transportation**

Bus transportation is provided to students residing in St. Philip Neri Church Parish district who live a mile or more from school. **PK2, PK3 and PK4 students are NOT eligible for bus transportation.** Individual bus drivers will contact their riders regarding location and time of stops. Any questions regarding transportation should be directed to the Jefferson Parish Department of Transportation at 349-7721.

### **Before and After Care**

St. Philip Neri School will continue to have our Before/After School Care Program for the 2010-11 school year. Parents will be invoiced for before/after care on the first of the month for services provided during the previous month. One invoice per family will be sent home indicating each child's usage of the program. A late fee of \$2 per day will be charged if payment is not received by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month. Should payments become two months delinquent, loss of privileges to the programs will result.

**Please Note:** Any car riders remaining after 3:45 p.m. will be sent to After-School Care and will be invoiced. For the safety of the children, when picking-up from After-School Care, all students must be signed-out by an adult who can provide all required information. Parents will be charged \$10/minute for students picked-up after 6:00 p.m. If late pick-up becomes chronic, parents will be asked to remove their children from the after-care program.

### **Holiday Care**

SPN will be providing holiday care for any SPN family requiring this service. More information regarding rates will be sent home in August. These dates will coincide with holiday care for the nursery.

**Thanksgiving Holiday care: November 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Christmas Holiday Care: December 20<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> and December 27<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Mardi Gras Holiday Care: March 9<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Easter Holiday Care: April 25<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>**

## **Required Immunizations**

***Kindergarten/First Time Enterers:*** Two doses of varicella will be required in LA schools for entry into PK and Kindergarten. In addition, prior to school entry, these students must have documented proof of immunizations for: two (2) doses of MMR; three (3) HBV; two (2) Varicella; and booster doses of DtP and Polio vaccines administered on or after their 4<sup>th</sup> birthday *and* prior to school entry. If a child is not complete (up-to-date for age), he/she must present a record indicating the child is in progress of receiving vaccines.

***Middle School Requirements:*** Middle school students shall provide satisfactory evidence of current immunization against meningococcal disease and any other age appropriate vaccine as a condition of entry into the sixth grade. Further, any student who has attained the age of eleven years or who is entering a grade other than grade six shall provide satisfactory evidence of current immunizations.

## **Used Uniform Sale**

SPN Ladies' Co-Op will be having a used uniform sale on Saturday July, 17, 2010 in the Parishioners' Center from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. This will be a cash only sale.

To sell your uniform pieces, please pin the following information on each item: (Items without pinned tags will NOT be accepted)

1. Your Name
2. Phone Number (Home or cell)
3. Item Type and Price
4. Item Size
5. Specify either a "Donate" or "Pick-UP"

For more information, please contact **Jennifer Bianco** at 454-2990 or 352-7684 or you can e-mail questions to [jennbeer@cox.net](mailto:jennbeer@cox.net)

## **SPN at the Antarctic**

Our SPN Grandparent Club has purchased an SPN flag to fly over a laboratory facility at the Antarctic to identify St. Philip Neri School students as participants in the experiments being conducted by a team of scientists led by Dr. Sam Bowser. He and his team go to the Antarctic in October for 4-5 months. After penetrating through the ice, divers go 25 feet down into the water to search and mark one-cell organisms and return the following year to chart their growth in the frigid eco-system. SPN students will be able to track the progress of the project on their computers.

