

St. Patrick's School
Tuesday Notes
October 5, 2021

COVID Reminder

Please continue to work together to report absences and getting children tested if they are showing one symptom of COVID (if they are presenting differently from their baseline allergies). Please report absences to Mrs. Ali, your child's teacher(s), and me. If you have a specific COVID related concern about your child, please contact me.

A reminder that a child should be tested 3-5 days after potential or known exposure, and should not be in school while awaiting the results. Although a rapid test often brings peace of mind, the PCR test is needed before a return to school. While waiting for PCR test results if your child would like to join classes virtually, we are happy to support in that way, please work with me to ensure that communicating with the appropriate teachers has taken place.

You are asked to get your child tested if any of the following symptoms are present. Symptoms for children are any one of the following: fever of 100.4 or higher, sore throat, cough, runny nose/congestion, difficulty breathing, diarrhea or vomiting, new onset of severe headache (especially with fever), or loss of taste or smell.

Calendar Adjustment

With the loss of the great Halloween tradition of trick-or-treating last year, I anticipate this year being a big deal and on a Sunday evening nonetheless. I think it would be best for our children if we delay the start of our Monday by 2 hours! Please plan on drop-off beginning at 10:15 a.m. on Monday, November 1st. This will allow the daily 9:10 a.m. mass goers to clear out the parking lot before your arrival. The first class will begin at 10:30 a.m.

Protecting God's Children Personal Safety Education

The vigilant work of teachers and staff to safeguard our students by promoting a safe environment is a priority at St. Patrick's School. All children have the right to be safe and protected from harm in school, home, neighborhoods, and communities. Our school is dedicated to promoting and ensuring the protection of all children.

Each school year, we are committed to the continued instruction of the Personal Safety Education Program for our children in grades K-8. These age-appropriate lessons, prepare students to recognize and avoid potentially dangerous situations. The lessons will take place beginning Monday, October 11th.

Thank you for your support and the conversations you will have at home leading up to this training and following to keep the safety of our students as our primary responsibility.

Using ADW resources, we will use class time (historically 2-3 sessions) to be sure our students learn about their personal safety to the greatest extent possible. It is important that you introduce this concept at home so the children (especially those in our lower grades) are more comfortable when the teachers begin to present the material. Teachers of students in lower grades will communicate through their newsletters the language being used in their classrooms so that you can follow up at home as well. The concepts of "Good Touch/Bad Touch" are introduced as is protecting your body, referred to often as the "Bathing Suit Zone".

Archdiocese of Washington Tuition Assistance Program

The Archdiocese of Washington works hard to keep Catholic education as affordable as possible. The Archdiocesan Tuition Assistance Program is available for students in grades PreK-12 who are applying to or currently enrolled in Catholic Schools within the Archdiocese of Washington. All tuition assistance obtained through the archdiocese is based on financial need. Families must apply each year to receive assistance and need must be demonstrated each year to qualify. Each family applying for tuition assistance from the Archdiocese of Washington is required to complete a TADS Financial Aid & Assessment form.

Families applying to archdiocesan tuition assistance only need to complete one form for all children, whether elementary school students or high school students, even if seeking tuition aid for children in multiple schools.

The application is now open and families have until Saturday, December 4, 2021 to apply for tuition assistance for the 2022-2023 school year. PLEASE go on-line and complete the application. In the spring, you will be able to apply for St. Patrick's for direct tuition assistance, but only if you have FIRST completed the TADS Financial Aid and Assessment Form

Follow these steps:

Log into www.adw.org

Click on "Education" (along the top of the webpage)

Click on "Catholic Schools"

Click on "Tuition Assistance"

Click on "TADS- Financial Aide Application"

Save the Date – Annual Sip'n Shop

Please save the date for one of St. Pat's favorite events, the annual Sip'n Shop that is scheduled for Wednesday, November 10th from 7pm to 10pm.

For those who are new to St. Pat's, the Sip'n Shop hosts various local vendors in our gym for a fun evening of sipping wine and shopping til you drop! It has grown as a cherished event that kicks off the holiday season and gets everyone in the giving mood!

Vendor registration is now officially open (<https://one.bidpal.net/sipshop2021>) and we are working to get a wide variety so that you can have the best holiday shopping experience! If you are interested in helping out with the event or have any vendors who you think would like to attend, please email Karen Boone (karen.waskewich@gmail.com) or Christina Grantham (cgrantham9@yahoo.com).

We look forward to seeing you there!

CYO Basketball

Our Parish Winter Basketball Season is right around the corner and registration is now open. We will be participating in both the CYO and City of Rockville leagues. The CYO will field teams of both boys and girls in the following age divisions: 10U, 12U, 14U, 16U and 18U. The Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade boys and girls will each field teams in the City of Rockville League.

Coaches and assistants are needed for all age groups. That said, we have an immediate need for a volunteer to coordinate the K-2 City of Rockville league. The number of players we can accommodate in either league is based on the number of coaches, so this is an excellent opportunity to give back to the kids and our Parish. Our program is not possible without the parents and volunteers, so please reach out if you are interested or have any questions.

The CYO is an age-based league, so ensuring that your child's date of birth is correct in Sports Pilot is very important. The age cutoffs are as follows.

- 10U: 12/01/2010 – 11/30/2013
- 12U: 12/1/2008 – 11/30/2010
- 14U: 12/1/2006 – 11/30/2008

- 16U: 12/1/2004 – 11/30/2006
- 18U: 12/1/2002 – 11/30/2004

All City of Rockville teams are grade based.

Please sign up today! Online registration is available at the following link:

<https://isis.sportspilot.com/register/family/default.asp?asoid=106212>

St. Patrick's Track & Field Head Coaching Opportunity

St. Patrick's is looking for a parent volunteer to assume the role of Head Track & Field Coach! Just before the pandemic cancelled the 2020 season, St. Patrick's had joined the Columbus League. The Columbus League includes 10 local parish schools. The Columbus League is committed to running efficient (less than 3 hour) meets on Sundays (opposed to the notoriously lengthy CYO Saturday meets). If you are interested in the head coach position, please reach out to Dave Rizzo drizz145@gmail.com. Without a head coach, we will not be able to have a track and field season this Spring. Please consider grabbing some other parents and coaching a fun group of kids!

Toiletry drive for Haiti

Life Connection Mission is near and dear to the hearts of the St. Patrick's school and parish communities and therefore, the HSA is hosting a drive for important supplies for Haiti throughout the month of October. We would very much appreciate toiletries right now. In our efforts to help with earthquake relief, this still remains the area of greatest need. Toiletries include: bar soap, mouthwash, shampoo, hand sanitizer, diapers, sanitary napkins, deodorant, and liquid children's Tylenol. Bookbags are always appreciated and could be an added bonus, but the above items are of greater importance right now. We also will take any tarps (new or used with no holes) or tents. Please send your items into school throughout the month of October and we will ship supplies to Haiti. Any questions? Please email Kristy Swarthout kristyswarthout@gmail.com THANK YOU!

Charleston Wrap

The Home and School Association's Annual Wrapping Paper Fundraiser is in full swing! If you'd like to participate, you can register online or fill out the packets that were sent home earlier this week. Feel free to share the link with friends & family! Thank you and Happy Shopping!

The Upcoming Weeks:

Wednesday, October 6th	Class Picture Day- POSTPONED
Thursday, October 7th	HSA Hosted Coffee with Miss Short for grades 3-5 at 8:30 a.m.
Wednesday, October 13	Class Picture Day
Friday, October 22nd	Halloween Event Hosted by HSA and grade 4 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, October 28th	Noon Dismissal PK-grade 8; Aftercare available until 6:00 p.m. End of 1 st quarter
Friday, October 29th	No School PK-grade 8; PDD required by the ADW