

St. Patrick's School
Tuesday Notes
September 6, 2022

September Service Project

We will support the Koller Family's annual toy drive. Mrs. Koller, our kindergarten teacher, and her husband have three children, Jordan, AJ, and Hunter. AJ was born in 2004 with Alagille Syndrome, a multi-organ disorder. He had multiple heart surgeries and procedures over the course of his life. In between hospital stays, doctors' appointments and therapy, the Koller Family spent a lot of time together trying to live as normal of a life as possible. As a family, they traveled to amusement parks, the beach and AJ was awarded a Make-A-Wish trip to Disney when he was three years old. AJ was a very good friend and was well loved at his school! Through all of these fun times, AJ's liver and heart disease progressed and he passed away at the age of ten on September 14, 2014. As a family, the Kollers wanted to do something positive on the anniversary of his passing to celebrate the joy he brought into so many lives.

We invite all from the St. Patrick's community to show our love and support and honor AJ's life by participating in the annual toy drive. Toys will be donated to Johns Hopkins Children's Center to the Child Life Department. Please see the flyer for more details.

Summer Work Celebration

Children in grades 1-7 who achieved the Scholarly Shamrock and Brilliant Badger will be rewarded on Friday, September 9th. Those who met the requirements for Scholarly Shamrocks will receive an ice cream treat. Children who achieved the Brilliant Badger level may be out of uniform on Friday, September 9th and will also receive an ice cream treat.

Celebrating the Blessed Virgin Mary

On Thursday, September 8th, we celebrate Our Lady's birthday! In addition to prayers to Mary on her special day, our students are gifted an out of uniform day to wear blue to honor Our Mother. As we always do when there is a birthday, there will be sweet treats too, but they will be sent home for dessert/a snack on the ride home!

Emergency Packs & Drills

Each year we ask parents to send in a "crisis pack" for your child. This is mandated by the Archdiocese of Washington in case our children ever need to "shelter in place". We will store these packs in our classrooms. We recommend two bottles of water and a couple of snack pack size snacks that have a long shelf life (pretzels, cheese and crackers, goldfish etc.). Please put these items in a gallon size Ziploc bag and label your child's name on the outside. It is not necessary to send in stuffed animals, toys, or blankets.

We will practice emergency drills with pre-kindergarten-grade 8 students this Friday, September 9th. I recommend that you talk with your children over the next few days about emergency drills (fire, earthquake, bad weather, and an unsafe person in the building) and reiterate to them that the drills we must do this Friday are best to keep our St. Patrick's Family safe.

Back to School Night

Back to School Night is scheduled for THIS Thursday, September 8th.

There are two classroom sessions scheduled for kindergarten- grade 8 and one session for PK. If you have a child in our PK, please attend the 6:30-7:00 p.m. session in the PK classroom. If you have an older student, you can visit his/her classroom for the first session 7:30-8:00 p.m. All sessions will be held in your child's homeroom and will be 25 minutes.

There will be a general information session from 7:00-7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. I hope all are able to attend. This night is incredibly helpful to you and the teachers as we work together to support the children. Parents only, please.

Teachers will e-mail back to School Night Information to parents on Wednesday, September 7th.

Teachers of special classes (art, music, P.E., library, & technology) will be available in the school library from 6:30-7:00 p.m. Please stop in if time allows and introduce yourself.

If you have a student in Junior High, Mrs. Cockrell (advanced reading), Mrs. Fecko (science and math), Mrs. Scango (advanced math) and Senora Pappa will be available in the science lab throughout the evening.

Rediker Parent Portal

If your family is new to St. Patrick's this year, parents will receive an email by tomorrow (Wednesday) mid-morning with your log in information for the on-line grading portal used by our teachers. This is primarily used in grades 4-8, but all new families will receive an email inviting you to log in.

Colonial Day

Some of our students and families may recall this incredibly authentic Colonial America in school Field Trip. It has been a couple of years, so it is exciting to bring this back! Our students will have the opportunity *to travel back in time* and participate in several hands-on activities.

Some of These will include the following:

- Colonial Games: Have fun playing period games such as: Cup & Ball, Bilbo, Graces, Nine Pins, Pickup Sticks, Dominoes, Hoop Racing, Double Ball, and Tug-of-War.
- Indian Necklace Making: Make an Authentic Style Necklace using: Glass Beads and Hair Pipe Beads made from Buffalo Horn and Buffalo Bones.

There is no charge for this field trip, thanks to the great success of last year's annual fund. Opportunities like this are a wonderful academic experience for our students and one they surely will remember. At this time, no parent volunteers are needed because of the staff from Camp Flintrock and our own faculty and staff, but parents are more than welcome to come, watch, and enjoy! More to come next week, but dig out colonial day clothes for your children, save the date, and start praying for beautiful weather on Tuesday, September 20th

The in-school field trip is for PK-grade 7 students with 8th grade students helping at the various activities.

Picture Day

Individual student pictures will be taken on:

Monday, October 3rd for children in grades 3-8.

Tuesday, October 4th, for children in grades PK-2.

Students may be out of uniform on these days but should be dressed nicely.

Class pictures will be held on Wednesday, October 5th for all grades. Students should wear their uniforms (even if it is a birthday-IOU out of uniform). **Boys should wear long khaki pants and girls should wear their jumpers/kilts (not skorts).**

High School Information Meeting

Parents with students in grades 6-8 who are interested in learning about the high school process and acceptance into area Catholic high schools are welcome to join me for an information session on Thursday, September 29th at 8:15 a.m. This session will walk you through the application process and help answer any questions you may have as you prepare your son/daughter for high school. We will meet in the parish center first floor meeting room. The code to enter is 12121#.

Draft of School Directories

The draft of the school directory will be available at back-to-school night, please check your information and initial that it is correct before we distribute the final copies to our families.

HSA Dues and Forms

Please make sure you submit your HSA dues, handbook acknowledgment forms, medicals forms, and early release forms. School directories will go home in the next few weeks to families who have all paperwork submitted.

Annual Fund, Golf Tournament Registration and Signage

The St. Patrick's School annual Golf Tournament, the Badger Open, will take place on Monday, September 26th at Manor Country Club. This event fills up fast! Find your foursome or the organizers will pair you up. For event information and to purchase your tickets, please click on the following link <https://one.bidpal.net/spsgolf2022/welcome>

For those who don't want to golf but want to participate in the Badger Open, we need volunteers throughout the day to make this a successful event. If you would like to volunteer to help with the golf tournament, please email Maria Harr (mjharr@hotmail.com).

To assist with childcare needs the afternoon of September 26th, Miss Short and Mrs. Mitchell have kindly agreed to waive the aftercare fee for anyone who is playing or volunteering at the golf tournament. If you would like to enroll your child/children in aftercare that day, please email Mrs. Mitchell directly (nora.mitchell@stpatrickadw.org).

The Golf Tournament will recognize contributions to the Annual Fund. Gifts of \$250 or more will receive a family sign that will be posted on Kane Lane and then transferred to Manor for the event. Please make your Annual Fund gift by Wednesday at 10:00am to see your family's sign the following week. THANK YOU to all the families who have already supported this year's Annual Fund campaign. Our goal is 100% participation. Please visit the campaign's website (<https://donate.onecause.com/stpatsfund>) to make your gift today.

Back to School Picnic

Thank you to all who attended our annual Back to School Picnic last week! We had perfect weather, great food, and lively entertainment! Fun was had by all! Thank you to Mr. Wahl, Mrs. Thorin, Mrs. Stringer, Mrs. Ballengee, and Mrs. Keown for their helping make this event a success!

Let's Get Social!

Have you liked us on social media yet? Lots of photos and reminders will be posted on both Facebook and Instagram throughout the school year!

Facebook- St. Patrick's Catholic School, Rockville, MD

Instagram- stpatrickscatholicschool

Photos

We would love to have you share your photos throughout the year with us! We will include them on social media as well as our yearbook. Please be sensitive and aware of other children's feelings if you send pictures of events that take place out of school. Thanks to everyone who has posted so far. Keep posting those great pics! Upload them to our shared picture drive using the link below. Thank you!

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1outEspPbRz4niGUQn6HohUW67LPcdfjY?usp=sharing>

Spirit Wear

A huge thank you to Mrs. Ngo and Mrs. Beecher for helping with our Spirit Wear sale last week! We have lots of new items to check out and more to come! If you missed the Spirit Wear sale, no problem! Click the link below to check out our available items. You can use this link throughout the year to purchase all your St. Patrick's Swag! You can also access the Spirit Wear store from our school website.

<https://one.bidpal.net/stpatswear/welcome>

Walking with Purpose Women's Bible Study

Do you need to refuel and refresh? Would you like to make authentic connections with other women? We are beginning the fourth year of WWP at St. Patrick's. This fall we are offering Ordering Your Priorities: Building a Life Well Lived a new eight-lesson Bible study. This immensely practical study will help you discover and prioritize what matters most in life. Ordering Your Priorities provides step-by-step instructions for building a life well lived, giving structure to your day, and settling your heart. Beginning on October 5th we will meet weekly on Wednesdays. Many of the women who attend are school moms! We offer a morning session from 10:15-11:45am, both virtually and in-person (childcare provided.) The evening session meets virtually from 7:30-9:00pm. For more information please contact Stephanie Schneider and Gina Swanda at: stpatrickwwp@gmail.com.

Chess Club

Last call to sign-up. We need three more students by Thursday to be certain we are able to offer Chess Club this fall. Please see attached.

The Upcoming Weeks:

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| Thursday, September 8th | Back to School Night 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. |
| Friday, September 9th | Summer Work Reward Day Band Demonstration Emergency Drills |
| Friday, September 23rd | Noon Dismissal PK-Grade 8; aftercare available until 6:00 p.m. |
| Monday, September 26th | Golf Tournament at Manor Country Club |
| Thursday, September 29th | High School Information Meeting 8:15 a.m. |