

St. Patrick's School
Tuesday Notes
October 24, 2023

Parent Information Session

The Importance of Effort – Everything you need to know about growth mindset and the value of supporting effort in your home.

TOMORROW **Wednesday, October 25th** in the School cafeteria.

The presentation will begin at 7:00 p.m. but “doors open” at 6:30 p.m. Parents are invited to visit with each other and enjoy friendships and community before the presentation.

Helpful Resources:

Explanation of Fixed and Growth Mindset: <https://christianepinosa.com/blog/fixed-vs-growth-mindset/>

Why praising for effort is important – Dweck's research (summary):

<https://www.progressfocused.com/2020/09/mueller-dweck-1998-classic-study.html>

The Secret to Raising Smart Kids: <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/the-secret-to-raising-smart-kids1/>

2024-2025 Admissions and Open Houses

If you have a little one who is ready to join us in kindergarten or prekindergarten next year, please email Mrs. Ali so that we can determine how many spots are available for new families. If you have not emailed or received confirmation from Mrs. Ali that your child is on our list, please do so now.

Applications for current families with younger siblings will open on November 3rd as well.

Please spread the word about our upcoming open houses, post on list-servs, and invite neighbors and friends to come and see St. Patrick's.

Open House for prospective Kindergarten-grade 8 families: Friday, November 3rd 9:00 a.m.

Open House for prospective Prekindergarten families: Sunday, November 12th 9:00 a.m.

If you are available to lead tours on November 3rd, I would appreciate the help! Please email Mrs. Ali to share your interest and availability. Thank you!

St. Patrick's School is Going Pink

Students are invited to accessorize again with pink this Thursday to support Mrs. Schmidlein's second chemo treatment.

Winter Uniform

Time to dig through the closets and think about winter uniforms. Reminder that boys in grades 5-8 are expected to wear a white button-down shirt and green tie and all girls will change into jumpers or kilts (no more skorts). Girls are allowed to wear blue, white, or green tights or blue leggings with their kilts/jumpers. First day of winter uniform is Wednesday, November 1st.

November 1st Schedule Change

We have a late opening on Wednesday, November 1st for all our trick or treaters to get an extra 2 hours of sleep! Drop-off will begin at 10:15 with the expectation that all students are in their classroom by 10:30. We will attend Mass at 11:30 a.m. as it is All Saints Day and a Holy Day of Obligation.

Picture Make-Up or Redo

Mr. Allan will be back on Monday, November 13th to offer make-up pictures or if a child would like a redo. Your child may come out of uniform in nice picture day clothes. Please let Mrs. Ali know if your child will take advantage of the make-up /redo.

Spring Musical Meeting

Please save the date for the spring musical kick-off meeting on Wednesday, December 6 at 7:00pm in the cafeteria. All students and parents in grades 5-8 are invited to attend to learn more about participation in the spring musical. More information will be available as the date gets closer.

Catholic Standard- Talented Students!

The 3rd grade has been learning about God's creation in religion and the 7th grade has been studying about the earth in social studies so both classes combined that work with the *Junior Saints* prompt for October about "Caring for Creation." Students expressed their ideas through artwork and writing. The link below features some of the pieces that were selected for the month of October. Good job St. Patrick's students!

<https://cathstan.org/news/junior-saints/junior-saints-october-2023-caring-for-creation>

How to Talk to your Children About War & Conflict

Not a topic of conversation anyone wants to have with children and one that I ask that you are mindful of as not every parent has discussed the current situation in Israel with their child(ren). In a school like ours, the age range creates concern that some of our younger students hear more because of older students discussing topics with their friends. In general, our older students have been extraordinarily sensitive to this. Please continue to help by reminding your children that this conversation is not school appropriate and explain to them that some parents choose to handle these conversations differently. Some of our families are very open and honest and may even allow their children to watch the news while others shield their children from the greater issues of our world. I ask for respect for all our parents and children and that we discourage these conversations from taking place at school. Teachers will always redirect children to their parents, please remind your child that you are the one with whom they should always get accurate information from, not necessarily their peers.

I believe this resource to be helpful: <https://www.unicef.org/parenting/how-talk-your-children-about-conflict-and-war>

Halloween

We will celebrate Halloween on Tuesday, October 31st. Our annual parade will begin at 1:30 p.m. Please remember that all Halloween costumes need to be appropriate for children of all ages. Please be mindful that some of our little children may not have the tolerance for scary masks. As some of our big kids scramble to put together a Halloween costume, I ask that you support them in putting together creative and fun costumes, not scary! If a student does not want to dress up for Halloween they do not have to, instead enjoy the dress down day. Remember absolutely no toy weapons are permitted in school. When unsure if it "counts" as a weapon, please just keep it at home. Class parties will begin after the parade.

Parents are invited to come to the parade!

Parent & Teacher Conferences

Teachers of students in PK-grade 5 will invite parents to a 15-minute conference on Thursday, November 9th or Friday, November 10th. The conferences offered on 11/9 will be virtual. Teachers will

share their link in the upcoming weeks to those parents it will apply. The conferences on 11/10 will be in person. Parents who would like Mrs. Wicks/Mrs. Fieni/Ms. Costello to join meetings with homeroom teacher should create a group conference by choosing the same time on all sign-ups and notify teachers.

Teachers of students in grades 6-8 will invite parents to 10-minute conferences. At this level, a group conference with your child's teachers is encouraged should you feel your child is making steady progress. If you have concerns specific to your child's performance in a subject, an individual conference is most certainly justified. Conferences for parents of JH students will be virtual on Thursday, November 9th and in-person on Friday, November 10th. Homeroom teachers will "host" the group conference; however, we ask parents to e-mail all the JH teachers you have asked to attend a group conference.

Link to sign-up: https://www.ptcfast.com/schools/St_Patrick_s_School

Annual Fund Update

We have now raised 95 percent of our Annual Fund goal and have contributions from 85 percent of school families. I'd like to thank everyone that has donated thus far. If you have not made a contribution, please consider doing so during the month of October. Gifts of every amount are important and appreciated. Make your gift to the Annual Fund today by visiting the campaign's website (<https://onecau.se/spsbadgers>).

Diaper Collection for Catholic Charities

The 7th grade class is hosting our community service project for the month of October. We will collect diapers for the Catholic Charities Family Center in Silver Spring. Our very own Deacon Jim Nalls works for Catholic Charities and he will speak to the school on Friday. Catholic Charities can use diapers of all sizes, but in particular sizes 5 and 6 are really needed. We will also accept donations of wipes. There will be bins placed around the school for our collection. Thank you for your generosity!

7th Grade Student's Commitment to Breast Cancer Awareness

During Breast Cancer Awareness month, hockey goalies across North America gather pledges for each save they make during October. Please join Hieu Albright in his October Saves Goalie Challenge. As a goalie, he is joining the fight against breast cancer in honor of our own Crystal Schmidlein. You can join the fight by sponsoring him with the link below and donating money for every save Hieu makes this month. All saves, including games and practices count towards his goal of raising \$5000. He anticipates making 100 saves this month.

<https://charity.pledgeit.org/f/PDrGDFuxrM>

Trunk or Treat Halloween Party

The 4th grade families invite the St. Patrick's School Community to join us on Friday, October 27, from 6:30-8:30 on Kane Lane. Our night will be full of games, crafts, a DJ, and Trunk-or-Treat.

Please use the link below to RSVP (so we have a head count for enough treats!) and order Paisano's Pizza if you choose (link in evite).

We ask that the community do our best to keep this a safe event by being cautious and keeping children out of the parking lot, parish center (except for quick bathroom trips!) and off the playground.

Join us for a spooktacular good time!

<http://evite.me/pmwJEgNKF1>

St. Patrick's Annual Sip and Shop

Thursday, November 9th

Start your holiday shopping early at St. Pat's Annual Sip and Shop which takes place on **Thursday, November 9th from 7pm to 10pm!**

We have a wide variety of 50+ vendors selling jewelry, personalized items, clothing, hostess gifts, artwork, holiday decorations and much more to make your shopping experience super easy – this is an event you won't want to miss!

While admission is free, we still **encourage pre-registering** ahead of time to let us know that you're coming and allow for swift check-in (credit cards are highly encouraged!) Plus, you will be automatically entered to win a **door giveaway prize!**

We will have food trucks, specialty spirits from local vendors, a silent auction of wonderfully donated vendor gift packages, and much more!

To register for this event, go to: <https://onecau.se/sipshop23>

Also, don't forget to enter the **Bling Raffle** to win a **18kt White Gold, Emerald, and Diamond Drop Pendant Necklace**. Purchase your raffle tickets here: [Bling Raffle](#)

If you are interested in helping with the event or have any questions, please email Karen Boone (karen.waskewich@gmail.com) or Christina Grantham (cgrantham9@yahoo.com).

We look forward to seeing you there!

Trivia Night-Save the Date!

Please save the date and join us on Saturday, November 11 at 7:00 p.m. for an evening of food, drinks, friends, and an opportunity to share your love of useless knowledge! Gather your teams of 8 now! Don't have a team of 8? No problem, we can pair you with other parents. Look for info on purchasing tickets next week! Such a fun night for us adults!!

The Upcoming Weeks:

Wednesday, October 25	Parent Information Session on Student Effort
Friday, October 27 th	HSA Sponsored Halloween Party
Monday, October 30 th	Field Trip Grade 4
Tuesday, October 31 st	Halloween; Afternoon Parade & Class Party End of 1 st Quarter for Grades 1-8.
Wednesday, November 1 st	Late Opening Drop-off begins at 10:15 a.m. All Saint's Day Mass at 11:30 a.m.
Friday, November 3 rd	Open House for Prospective Families Grades K-8 at 9:00 a.m. Noon Dismissal; Aftercare available until 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, November 7 th	Report Card Distribution Grades 1-8
Thursday, November 9 th	Noon Dismissal; Aftercare Available until 6:00 p.m. Parent & Teacher Conferences (virtual only) Annual Sip & Shop 7:00-10:00 p.m.
Friday, November 10 th	No School; Parent & Teacher Conferences (in-person)
Saturday, November 11 th	Trivia Night- Save the Date! 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 12 th	PK Open House for Prospective Families 9:00-10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, November 14 th	Grade 3 Field Trip
Monday, November 20 th	8 th Grade Deadline: HSPT Registration and Authorization to Release Documents Form
Tuesday, November 21 st	Noon Dismissal; Aftercare Available until 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, November 22 nd -Friday, November 24 th	Thanksgiving Holiday; No School
Monday, November 27 th	Classes Resume
Wednesday, November 29 th	Grade 8 HSPT Exam