

September 28, 2016

We had a wonderful turn out for our Open House and Picnic last Thursday. Thank you for spending the evening with us. The students looked so proud showing their families around their school!

I hope all of our new families were pleasantly surprised by the Welcome to St. Joseph School sign that was placed in your yard! You may certainly keep the sign up for as long as you like. Whenever you decide to take it down, we'd love to have the sign back so next year we can reuse it to welcome next year's new families. You can drop it off any day at the office.

We've had several arguments, disagreements, tears shed over Pokemon cards at recess times during the past couple weeks. Some of the kids were making trades and others weren't realizing that trades meant you don't get your initial card back even at the end of recess. Some kids would show others their Pokemon cards and then they got mixed in with someone else's pack. It's difficult to know whose cards belong to whom. Each age group has a different perception and understanding. For these reasons, I am not allowing Pokemon cards to be brought out on the playground and am asking that the cards stay at home with each student.

If you are planning to use the After School program anytime during the month of October, please fill out the enclosed October calendar. This calendar is sent home to families who have been using the After School Care Program. If you would like to start using the program, contact the school office and the After School registration papers will be sent home to you. Please see the enclosed note regarding bringing snacks for the After Care program.

Coach Morris Strain has thankfully offered to coach basketball again this year. We are trying to determine if we have enough boys and girls to field teams. If your son or daughter in grades 2-8, is interested in becoming part of a St. Joseph School basketball team, please fill out the basketball interest form in the envelope. This will give us an indication of how many participants we expect and how many teams to register for. If we do not have enough for full teams, we sometimes offer this program to students from outside our school. Once we get this initial information, we will be in touch again with those students and their parents who expressed interest in basketball teams.

We are sending home some general information regarding the prevention and treatment of Pediculosis (head lice). Head lice can come during anytime of the year but once the school year starts, cases seem to be detected more often. Pediculosis (head lice) is considered a nuisance disease only. If a family is kind enough to let us know that their child has been identified with head lice, St. Joseph School will send a general note home with students within the same classroom explaining that someone (no names will be shared) in the class was identified with lice and it would be in your best interest to check your own child. Once the child with lice has been given a treatment with either over the counter or doctor prescribed shampoo, that child may return to class. Generally, a child should miss no more than one day of class due to a case of head lice. The rechecks at home for a child who has lice should continue daily, combing for nit removal, for up to 2 weeks. If a teacher or staff member suspects a student of having lice by excessive itching of the scalp or behind the ears, that child may be sent to the office for a check. If lice/nits are present, parents will be called to pick up their child and begin treatment. Mass screening (checking of each member of any class) is no longer recommended. Keep in mind that anyone can get head lice. We just do what we can to prevent and keep on top of the situation. Thanks for your help with this!

Ambrosius picture proof packets are being sent home today. If you want to purchase pictures please send in payment by next Wednesday. If you are not satisfied with the picture, send the picture packet back to school with the retake box checked and send \$5.00. Retakes will be taken on Thursday, Oct. 15. Even if you don't want to purchase any pictures please select the photo you prefer and send the packet back to school. We will then choose the photo of your choice to place in our annual year book.

Next Thursday, Oct. 6, is designated "Bring Your Bible to School Day". We will be talking about the importance of the Bible in all of our lives during this day. Fortunately, being a Catholic School, allows us the privilege to bring and read and talk about the Bible here at school every day if we choose. Some students in public schools don't have that opportunity. Our students don't really need to bring their Bibles to school and many are too young to read the Bible by themselves. Each classroom will talk within their class about the Bible at their own level on Thursday. This may be a good time to show your family Bible to your children. Share your favorite Bible story with your children, explain when you got it...those family stories told are priceless. Did you get it for your wedding or maybe it was earlier at your First Communion, did it used to belong to your grandmother??? Share those stories with your children and the stories within the Bible too. If you're asking yourself: "Where is our Bible?" It may be time to get searching, blow off the dust and bring it out...I promise the stories are worthwhile! I have a friend who has a little plaque on her desk that says, B I B L E = Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth, for some reason this makes a lot of sense to me.

Mrs. Haen and her 4K students are heading up a Coats For Kids Drive at school. The drop off box is near the entrance way. Let's try to fill this box to the top!!!

Have a great fall weekend!

Sincerely,

Carol Hoard