



Saint Denis – Saint Columba School

... A Holy Ground of Loving and Learning

TO: PARENTS AND GUARDIANS
FROM: SR. KATHLEEN MARIE, CR
SUBJECT: WEEKLY HAPPENINGS
DATE: NOVEMBER 7-22, 2016



*Jesus, I Trust in You
Make our Hearts like Yours!*

IN LOVING GRATITUDE for Your GOODNESS

During this month of November – a time of Thanksgiving, I pray with Saint Paul in his letter to the Philippians:

I thank my God every time I think of you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the Gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

What better time than during this season of Thanksgiving to thank you each of you again for your generosity and your commitment to SDSC– for sharing your many gifts and talents, and especially for volunteering your time in service to us. I never cease to be amazed and overwhelmed by your love and support! Words cannot even begin to express my gratitude, and I cannot even begin to list all that each of you has done for us. **Thank you! Thank you!** We are certainly blessed that you are a part of Saint Denis-Saint Columba School! Special thanks to:

- our PSA Executive Board for all of their efforts in planning, organizing, and coordinating events, etc.
- all those who organized our Magazine Drive, Community Day, and our Harvest Fest Carnival and Dance
- all those who planned and coordinated our Uniform Exchange, Walk-a-thon, Doll’s Tea Party,
- our Hot Lunch coordinator and the teams who faithfully work to prepare hot lunch for our students
- our Supervisory parents who each day help to keep our students safe on the playground
- our maintenance staff who work diligently to assist where needed and to keep the school clean
- our generous donors and contributors to SDSC for our technology program, etc.
- our hard working 50th Anniversary planning committee
- all of you who continue to support our SDSC School community in any way!

No School for Teacher Conference Day and Veteran’s Day

This Tuesday, November 8th there will be NO SCHOOL for students. It is a Conference Day for almost 400 teachers in the Dutchess, Rockland, Orange, Putnam, Ulster, and Northern Westchester Regions. **Remember, too, that there will be NO SCHOOL this Friday, November 11th in honor of Veteran’s Day. Enjoy the long weekend!**

Half Days for Students

On Thursday, November 17th and Friday, November 18th the students will be dismissed at 12:00 p.m. because of Parent-Teacher conferences. The After School Program will be available from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on these day.

SDSC Places in Annual Scholastic Olympics!

Each year our Eighth grade students participate in the Scholastic Olympics sponsored by Our Lady of Lourdes High School. This year nine schools in the Dutchess County area participated in the Olympics. St. Denis-St. Columba won **THIRD PLACE OVERALL**, and the following students received individual awards:

Tyler Beresford – 1st Place SCIENCE Senam Apedo – 2nd Place VISUAL ARTS Moira Kennedy – 3rd Place ELA

The team consisted of the above students, and Sedem Apedo and Brianna Susco (Math), Jennifer Bellino (ELA), Poalina Perpepaj and Matthew Ong (Religion), Kyle Silverio (Science), and Seyram Apedo (Visual Arts), whose excellent performance contributed to the overall team score. We congratulate the entire team - for a job well done! We are very proud of all our students and their accomplishments!

November Virtue: MERCY November Saint: SAINT AUGUSTINE

*“Go and learn the meaning of the words, “I desire mercy. I did not come to call the righteous but sinners.” (Matthew 9:13)
How have you experienced Christ’s Mercy?*

TOTAL on School Walk-a-thon

Special THANK YOU once again to all of you for your generous contributions to SDSC and our school walk-a-thon! **We have collected \$16,279** to date, and are very close to our goal of \$19,000. If you haven't sent in your sponsor money yet, please do so ASAP. Remember your contributions are not about the amount as it is about the *participation* of every student. Once again thank you for your very generous support of St. Denis – St. Columba! We are blessed to have you, our dedicated and supportive families! All eligible individual N.U.T. (“No Uniform Today”) Awards (*that is, \$50 or more sponsor contributions*) will be distributed to the students this week

IMPORTANT NOTE: EDUCATE (the old Cornerstone) Parent Component

The Parent Component of EDUCATE is closed until Wednesday, November 16th when it will be reopened for you to view your children's report cards. Remember that you will receive your children's report cards electronically. Hard copies of report cards will not be sent home. Please bring a copy to the meeting with your child's teacher.

Report Cards and Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher Conferences will take place on Thursday, November 17th from **6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.** and on **Friday, November 18th from 12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.** Remember that **all financial requirements** must be met by **November 15th** in order for your children to receive their first quarter report cards or to conference with your children's teachers.

Teacher Conference Soup and Bake Sale

Come support the 8th grade at their Bake Sale during Parent Teacher Conferences next week on Thursday, November 17th and Friday, November 18th. Thank you for your support!



St. Denis-St. Columba's Young Drama Club Production of "Annie"

Our SDSC Young Drama Club will be doing two performances of the musical production of **"Annie"** next **Friday, November 18th**. The first performance will take place at 6:00 p.m. and the second at 7:00 p.m. in the "Theater at St. Denis-St. Columba School" (aka the school gym). The students under the direction of Miss Victoria have been working very hard and are excited to perform for us. **Tickets are on sale now.** The cost is \$9.00 per person. For more information, click on [ORDER ANNIE TICKETS](#) or go to our school website http://www.stcolumba.net/staff_directory/drama_club and click on Buy Tickets to order your tickets now. For more information, please call the school office at 845-227-7777.

Saint Columba Confirmation Meetings

There will be a Confirmation Parent meeting on Saturday, November 19th at 9:15 a.m. and on Wednesday, November 16th at 7:30 p.m. in the school gym for parents of children making their Confirmation this year. Parents need to attend only one of these meetings.

WE THANK YOU and WISH YOU GOD'S BLESSINGS

At this time I would like to inform you that Raymond Storms, one of our maintenance men, will be leaving SDSC this week after 12 years of service to our school community. We thank him for all that he has done in helping to maintain our school building and wish him God's many blessings in his new endeavor.

SDSC Outreach Advent Gift-Giving Project:

Each year our SDSC students share in the joy of giving when they join together to choose, donate, and wrap Christmas gifts for less fortunate children in our area. This Advent we hope to share some Christmas cheer with the children at **The Center for Prevention of Child Abuse, His Table Ministries, and Astor Home**. These children live in difficult, heartbreaking situations. For many, Christmas gifts are beyond their means. If your family would like to share a gift with a child, wish lists will be available on SignUpGenius in the coming days. Wrapping Day will be Tuesday, December 13th. More information will be forthcoming!

SDSC Outreach Harvest Coin Drive: Thank you!!

Through their project "Every Child Deserves a Bed," our Parish's St. Joseph's Men's Group has been building bunk beds for families and children without a bed to call their own. Since the Harvest Carnival and Dance, a Scarecrow had been "trick-or-treating" for coins in the School Lobby. THANK YOU to all the students who generously filled his Jack O' Lantern with bills and loose change! All money collected will help offset the cost of building materials and mattresses. For more ways to help, please contact Eric Winogradoff at stjosephsmen@gmail.com. Thank you!!

Box Tops for Education

Box Tops for Education is fun and easy. The school receives \$.10 for every Box Top for Education sent into school. Their website at <http://www.boxtops4education.com/> has several other ways that you can also help your school. Continue to save your **Box Tops for Education** and send them in to school.

INK Cartridge Recycling

If you have ink or toner cartridges that need to be recycled, please send them into school. We do recycle and receive Staples cash rewards for them that help to cover costs for school ink, toner and paper supplies.

Stop & Shop A+ School Rewards Program

Our school has the opportunity to earn cash through the Stop & Shop A+ School Rewards Program. Please take a minute to register your Stop & Shop card at stopandshop.com/aplus or call the A+ Hotline at [1-877-275-2758](tel:1-877-275-2758) or by visiting the Customer Service Desk of your local Stop & Shop store. Our school's five-digit ID code is **08994**.

Don't forget to use the AMAZON LINK on our School Website to earn money for our school. Now that the holidays are approaching, be sure to use the Amazon link on the SDSC website at www.stcolumba.net when shopping Amazon. Bookmark the link in your favorites to make accessing the site easier!

Thanksgiving Liturgy

On Tuesday, November 22nd we will be celebrating as a faith community our Thanksgiving school liturgy. We will gather for mass at **10:00 a.m. in the Church**. All are welcome to join us for this celebration of love and gratitude!

Thanksgiving Vacation from Wednesday, November 23rd to Sunday, November 27th

Thanksgiving Vacation will begin at the 3:00 p.m. dismissal on Tuesday, November 22nd. Enjoy your Thanksgiving Celebrations with your families! You can be assured of my thoughts and prayers for each of you and your families during this season of gratitude. I thank God for you each day and ask Him to give you the many graces and blessing you need. I am grateful to God that I am a part of St. Denis-St. Columba School. I truly have been blessed because of each of you! Thank you for your love, support and commitment to Catholic Education. Together we provide our children with the Catholic Education they deserve.

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To Everything there is a Season and a Time for Every Purpose under Heaven
Let us continue to keep in our prayers the many among us who are sick and suffering.

A TIME TO HEAL

Anne Culkin (*mother of Cathy Martin and great grandmother of Michael O’Hearn*), Janice Prostack (*sister of Sr. Kathleen battling colon cancer*), Nicholas D’Alessandro (*father of Olivia and Nick D’Alessandro*), and Charlie Gray (*son-in-law of a parishioner*), Michael Ferretti (*friend of Mrs. Senno*), Loretta DelliCarpini, Louis Pissani and the many who are sick and suffering in mind, body or spirit at this time