



St. Denis – St. Columba School

A Holy Ground of Loving and Learning

Family Newsletter



February 19 –23, 2024

IMPORTANT! NO BUSING Provided

Due to the School District Conference Days and extended President's Day Vacation on the following days later this week and next week:



- **Wappingers**- Tuesday, February 20th, & Wednesday, February 21st.
- **Arlington** -Tuesday, February 20th.
- **Spackenkill**- Tuesday, February 20th.

If you need Aftercare due to the NO BUSING, please be sure to sign up using the link sent via email.

School Mass – Tuesday, February 20th

The students in Grades 1, 3, 4, and 5 will attend Mass on Tuesday, February 20th at 8:15 a.m. in St. Columba Church. Parents and Guardians are welcome to join! Students in Grades 2, 6-8 will visit our Adoration Chapel this week where they will be able to spend some quiet time praying before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.



Kindergarten Discovery Day –Friday, February 23rd



Members of the SDSC Class of 2033 will join our current Kindergarten class and discover all the great opportunities SDSC offers to our Kindergarten students during Discovery Day this Friday, February 23rd from 9:00-11:00! Welcome to our incoming siblings!

PRIORITY ENROLLMENT for the 2024-25 School Year

There are two steps that families **MUST** complete to re-enroll all returning students.

① Complete the re-enrollment verification through TADS and pay the \$100 priority registration fee for each child. **This amount will increase to \$200 registration fee for each child after priority enrollment ends.**

② Complete and return to school district transportation forms *even if your child never takes the bus*, which will be given to each family. (Students ineligible for public transportation are exempt from this requirement.) **Both steps must be completed no later than Monday, March 18th to receive priority enrollment.**

TADS Re-Enrollment Verification

Families with students eligible to return to SDSC next year will receive an e-mail invitation from TADS on or before Thursday, February 1st inviting you to enroll for the 2024-25 School Year. To guarantee your child's placement for next year, you must complete this process which includes payment of the \$100 enrollment fee. If you do not see the email in your inbox, please check your junk/spam folder. If you still cannot locate the email, contact Mrs. Schifini for assistance at lschifini@stcolumba.net. **Priority enrollment ends Monday, March 18th! Once the priority period for re-enrollment ends, available spaces will be offered to new applicants.**

Transportation Forms

Ms. Schifini emailed public school district transportation forms to all families who are eligible for bus transportation. **These forms must be completed and returned to the office EVEN if your child never takes the bus!** Every student must be assigned to a bus route for emergency purposes. Forms can be returned to the school office with your child, scanned to Ms. Schifini at lschifini@stcolumba.net, or faxed to 845-226-8470 by March 15th.

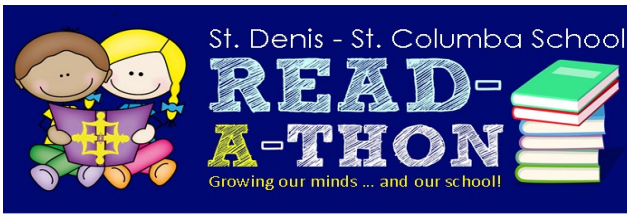
Financial Assistance for the 2024-25 School Year

Families eligible for renewal of financial assistance will be sent an email invitation on or before Thursday, February 1st to **reapply for aid for the 2024-25 School Year**. To be considered for a renewal, you must complete the requalifying application online using the link provided in e-mail, pay the financial aid application fee, and submit all required documents. **Financial aid is awarded on a "first-come, first-served" basis.**

Tuition Rates and Policy 2024-25 School Year

You will notice that there will be an increase in tuition for the upcoming year. Please take a moment to review the new Tuition rates and policy posted on the school website.

UPCOMING SDSC READ-A-THON




What is a Read-a-thon?


SDSC will hold a Read-a-thon to raise money to continue our Orton Gillingham Literacy Intervention Program. This important program provides students who struggle to read with intensive support and resources to help them succeed. All students benefit from the Read-a-thon. They benefit with growth and education that lasts a


lifetime. The Read-a-thon is not just a fundraiser; it's a multi-week adventure at SDSC with fun-filled activities that promote reading! **The SDSC Read-a-thon runs from February 26th through March 15th, 2024.** The benefits will last a lifetime! Thank you for your support!


"If you don't like to read, you haven't found the right book."-J.K. Rowling


SCHOOLWIDE READ-A-THON EVENTS

 **KICKOFF-Scholastic Book Fair (Monday, February 26th-Wednesday February 28th):** Students will have the opportunity to purchase new books from our Scholastic Book Fair. A schedule for book fair visits will be provided by your child's teacher. Money for book purchases should be sent with your child in an envelope marked "book fair". You may also use the Scholastic "eWallet". More details about the eWallet will be forthcoming.


 **Storytelling with Jonathan Kruk (Tuesday, March 6th):** Storyteller, Jonathan Kruk, will visit SDSC to bring stories to life about the Saints and Parables of Jesus.


 **Flashlight Friday (Friday, March 8th):** It's lights out as we embark on a reading adventure in the dark. Students will bring flashlights to school for reading as "daytime turns into nighttime!"


 **Team Up with Buddies Reading (Wednesday, March 13th):** Let's "team up" for reading! Our Upper Hall Students will pair up with Lower Hall Students for fun reading activities. Students can wear their Favorite Team NUT Day and gather with their Class Buddies to read! (NUT Day protocols remain in place)


 **Book Alive! (Culminating Read-a-thon Activity):** Students may dress as an author or favorite character from a book they are reading. All students are required to do a **"Book Alive" Presentation**, (as assigned by their homeroom teacher) which could include a book review, a radio or TV commercial, a song or rap, an interview character, storytelling based on selection in book, memorize or recite an interesting passage, etc. Students will do class presentations and/or projects about a book that they read during the Read-a-thon.

SPONSORS AND READING GOALS

 All students received sponsor sheets from their teachers. Additional sponsor sheets will be emailed.

 Students are to set a goal for the minimum number of minutes that they will endeavor to read over the course of the Read-a-thon. A tracking sheet can be found on the back of the sponsor sheet. Be sure your child records all reading times and the total number of minutes at the end of each day. For our emerging readers, all the time that they are read to or that read with someone counts!

 Students are encouraged to find sponsors who will pledge a flat rate donation to support their Read-a-thon reading goal! Likely, sponsors could include family, friends and neighbors. For health and safety, door to door solicitation is discouraged.

 Sponsors can also make an online donation for their children by visiting: one.bidpal.net/sdscreads24

FUNDRAISERS

- One NUT ("No Uniform Today") award for every \$50 total donation.
- PLUS, for sponsorships of \$200 or greater, a student will be entered in a Grand Prize raffle for a new Amazon Kindle! (One each for Upper Hall and Lower Hall.)
- The student(s) per grade level with the highest total donations will win a reading-themed prize.

STAR READERS

- The Star Readers (most minutes and/or read) in each class will be eligible to win a reading-themed prize

SCHOOL AWARDS

- If we raise \$30,000 as a school, we will designate 5 FREE NUT DAYS - one week of NUT Days for all!