



## Summer Newsletter

August 2, 2016

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year! As I write this letter, textbooks and materials are arriving and teachers are meeting to plan the new year. I am so excited about the future of St. John School.

Last year, during the 2015 School Auction, we raised \$34,850 in one single auction bid item. This auction item was the Annual School Improvement Item. Our goal was to raise money to fix up the students' bathrooms, install new carpeting in several classrooms, and complete various other improvements around the school.

That work is being completed this week. John Callewaert and Dave Schneweis, two wonderful volunteers, removed about 50 coats of paints on the stairwell handrails so that we could start over with a new super coat of finish. Lynn Electric installed new lighting in all the bathrooms. Tom Reznicek, another great volunteer, painted all the restroom walls, and soon new stalls will be installed. Today, the bathrooms are getting new epoxy floors. The remainder of the funds will let us install new carpeting in Ms. Fewins kindergarten room, Senora Olea's Spanish classroom, and Megan Fairchild's room. My hope is that this year's auction will provide funds for more needed carpeting and improvements.

Overseeing all this work is Nicole and Dan Sabatini. They organized the entire project. I am so grateful for their work!

As you can see, we are getting a lot done with \$34,850. In our world, that is a lot of money and makes a big difference in the life of the school. This would not be possible unless parents support the auction. You will soon hear from our auction chairs. I ask that you "jump in" and make the auction on November 5, the biggest yet!

All families need to complete the enrollment process by attending Back to School Open House on August 19, any time from 9am-11am in the gym. The Open House provides you and your child an opportunity to return important forms, update your contact and emergency information, and purchase new uniform items. This is a great opportunity for students to see their classrooms and meet their new teachers. Monday, August 22, is the first full day of school. School hours for K-8th grades are 8:15-3:30pm.

This has been summer full of unexpected tragedies and challenges. Life is hard and I have no doubt that many of you have also experienced hardships. Please join me in praying for all of our school community.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pat Newton".

Mrs. Pat Newton, Principal

## Forms to turn in and complete at Back to School Open House on Friday, August 19

- **Parent/Student Handbook (attached):** Parents should sign and return page 1 of the handbook. Complete and return the Agreement Form when you attend the Back to School Open House or email the signed form to Mrs. Alexander at [alexander@saint-johns.net](mailto:alexander@saint-johns.net).



- **Family Contact Information and Emergency Contact Information:** A copy of each school family's contact and emergency information will be available in the gym during Back to School Open House on August 19. Parents need to update the information and sign the form. Please contact the school office if there are any changes during the school year. **The form also has an option for excluding specific information from the school directory.**
- **School Electronic Payment:** Consider having your school payments automatically withdrawn from either your bank account or charge card. Forms will be available at the Back to School Open House.

## Important Dates

- **Kindergarten Pool Party: Saturday, August 6, 10:00-12:00 am.** Kindergartners and parents are invited to our pool party at the South Park wading pool. This is a great chance for the kids and parents to meet each other and visit with Ms. Fewins and Mrs. Newton. Following the pool party, we will gather in the park for a picnic. (Swimming is limited to kindergarten students). Other siblings are invited to the picnic.
- **Preschool Information Night: Thursday, August 18, 7:00 pm.** Preschool parents are invited to attend (Parents/Guardians only). Other adults who will be picking up/dropping off students are also encouraged to attend. We will meet in the St. Bosco Room on the lower level of the school. Parents will meet Mrs. Shimanek, Preschool Director, and learn about procedures, expectations, and goals. There will be a few forms to complete. Preschool begins August 22. Tuesday/Thursday classes begin August 23. Morning sessions are 8:15-11:05am, afternoon sessions are 12:35-3:25pm.
- **Middle School Locker Party: Thursday, August 18, 5:00-6:00 pm.** Middle School students will receive their locker combination and have a chance to practice their combination locks and decorate the interior of their lockers if they choose to. Decorations are limited to the inside of the locker. **NO TAPE OR ADHESIVES ARE ALLOWED. Magnets are permissible.** Students will also receive their individual middle school schedules, including their electives. Parents are invited. Middle school sweatshirts and t-shirts will be available for purchase that evening.
- **Parent Information Night:** Parents of **kindergarten through fifth grade** students are invited to Parent Information Night on Thursday, September 1, from 7:00-9:00pm. Parents will have the opportunity to visit classrooms and learn about classroom expectations and curriculum.
- **Middle School Parent Information Night:** Parents of middle school students are invited to an Information Night for middle school on Thursday, September 8, from 7:00-9:00pm.
- **September 6, Labor Day: No School**
- **Friday, September 16-Fun Run:** PTO presents a fun evening of food and exercise. Walk or run the route used by our Marathon Club in South Park and then join us for one of Dorothy Malsbury's dinners of chicken sandwiches, corn dogs, chips, and popsicles. (Beer and wine available for adults.) Students may count the Fun Run for Marathon Club miles.