



St. Paul of the Cross

Spartan Newsletter

2011-2012 School Year

September 7th, 2011

School-Wide learning Expectations: Academically Prepared; Spiritually Evolving; Active Catholic-Christian; Life-Long Learner

Principally Speaking . . .

Welcome SPOC Families:

We, the Faculty and Staff at St. Paul of the Cross School, warmly welcome you to our 2011-2012 school year. I hope that your summer has been filled with many of God's blessings enjoyed under beautiful, blue skies filled with sunshine. How quickly summer concludes and our thoughts turn to preparing for the commencement of another school year.

This new school year is promising to be packed with new changes and exciting activities. You can be sure that we are dedicated to a Catholic education. We will continue to build our Community of Faith, strengthen our religious education program, integrate our curriculum, and work with you to provide the best academic program for your child.

Our staff members have been very busy this summer. Faculty, staff, and parents, have participated in a recruitment effort to increase our enrollment. The teachers have participated in a staff development workshop for the new math program. All have been in to prepare their rooms and create inviting learning environments for your children.

My goals for this coming school year are that our school continues to hold high academic and behavioral expectations for students and for ourselves. As a school community we will further these goals by working together to establish open communication with students, staff, and parents. Through our efforts, St. Paul of the Cross School will become an even stronger and effective Christian community of learners. I look forward to working with our returning families and welcoming our new families.



Sincerely,
Mrs. Bobbie Castillo, M.Ed
Principal

Classroom Orientations . . .

Our first event of the new school year will be the **CLASSROOM ORIENTATIONS on Monday, September 12th @ 6:00 p.m.** The teachers will conduct classroom orientations for all parents/guardians for 20-minute sessions. During this session the teachers will have the opportunity to share their curriculum goals, expectations, procedures and guidelines for the new school year. Each Grade will conduct three sessions in order to provide the opportunity for parents/guardians who have more than one child to visit all their teachers. **ALL FAMILIES are expected to send at least one parent/guardian to this very important CLASSROOM ORIENTATION.** (Mandatory)

At least one parent/guardian must attend all mandatory meetings. Parents/Guardians will be required to sign-in. **A fee of \$25.00 will be billed for any no-shows.**

Back to School Night . . .

Our first general **PARENT MEETING** will be held **Monday, October 3rd @ 6:00 p.m. in Gannon Hall.** Father Joseph and Mrs. Castillo will be discussing the importance of parent/guardian involvement in the various activities that will take place during the new school year. Parents/guardians will be encouraged to participate in the following area: Morning Traffic Control, Fundraising Activities, Scrip Program, Fiesta, Bingo, and Annual Golf Tournament. **ALL FAMILIES are expected to send at least one parent/guardian to this important General Parent Meeting.** (Mandatory)



Emergency Information . .

Enclosed in your Family Envelope you will find an **EMERGENCY CARD** that need to be completed with the necessary information for the new school year.

The Emergency – Earthquake – Disaster Information Card provides the school personnel with critical information to care for your child in case of a serious accident. It is extremely important that you provide us with the most recent information and persons who can be contacted in case of an emergency! Please notify the school office in writing of any changes that have taken place regarding phone numbers, addresses, and/or alternate persons for picking your children up in the event that you cannot be reached. It is your responsibility to keep the emergency information regarding your child updated in the school office!

**COMPLETED EMERGENCY CARDS are DUE:
Friday, September 9th.**



Traffic Pattern for the Morning Arrival . .

Our children's safety is an important priority for St. Paul of the Cross School. We recognize that some parents/guardians drop off their child/children on their way to work and must do so in a quick, safe, and orderly manner.

Therefore, this school year we will be implementing a new Morning Arrival Program. We would like to have parents/guardians to help Mrs. Castillo/teachers to keep our children safe when they arrive in the morning by directing morning traffic and supervising students in the school yard from 7:30 to 8:00 a.m. Parents/guardians will receive credit for their service hours requirement. We are asking for 2 to 3 volunteers for traffic control and 3 school supervisors.

The Morning Arrival Program will begin on September 12th at 7:30 a.m. To sign-up to keep our children safe please see Ms. Hernandez (a.k.a. Ms. H – Fifth Grade Teacher)

Parents please keep a WATCHFUL EYE for our CHILDREN when driving in our PARKING LOT! For everyone's safety keep YOUR SPEED TO 5 MILES PER HOUR. Thank you for your consideration and cooperation!

Absences . . .

It is your responsibility to phone the school office when your child is absent from school. If we do not receive a phone call, someone from our school office will contact you by 9:30 a.m. to verify your child's absence because we are concerned for the safety of your child.

When your child returns to school after a day(s) of absence you must send a written note to the school stating the specific reason why your child was absent. **STATE LAW REQUIRES THIS WRITTEN NOTE!**

Tardiness Policy . . .

The school day begins at 8:00 a.m. and we ask that you make every effort to have your child here on time. We begin the school day with a morning routine that consist of prayer, unpacking backpacks, announcements, and bell work. Any child who arrives after the second bell (8:05 a.m.) is considered to be **LATE** and must go to the school office for a tardy slip and will be marked **LATE** in the school register. We appreciate your cooperation! **. Please be advised that if your child is late more than 12 times in a trimester, he/she will not be able to receive HONORS and will affect their CONDUCT GRADE.**



School Fundraisers...

We are implementing three new fundraising events that have been proven to be both successful and enjoyable for other schools and non-profit organizations. The school will also be continuing our annual fundraising programs. You will also be given the choice to participate in other optional fundraising events that are fun, tasty, and interesting. The school will be offering you the opportunity to buy out any of the yearly and mandatory fundraising events at the appropriate fees. All families are required to participate, sell tickets, and work service hours.

Mandatory Fundraising Events:

- 2 Dodgers Games
(3 Tickets \$20.00 – Buy out is \$60.00 per game)
- Celebrity Chefs/Silent Auction
(3 Tickets \$20.00 – Buy out is \$60.00)
- The Third Fundraiser TBA - (Buy out is \$60.00)

Yearly/Year Round Fundraising:

- Fiesta (Buy out is \$500 due by September 23rd, 2011)
- Scrip (Buy out is \$400 due by October 1, 2011)
- Bingo (Buy out is \$500 due by September 23rd, 2011)

Care of Our Textbooks...

We are very excited to be getting new Math books! Students' textbooks are very expensive and we ask you to please take some time to talk to your children and emphasize that their books are rented from the school for the year. Therefore, it is very important to take good care of our textbooks. Students are not allowed to write in the hardbound textbooks and they are responsible to keep the books covered at all times. Parents/guardians will be asked to pay for any damaged or lost books. Let's work together to take good care of our textbooks.

School Uniform Policy...

The school uniform is a symbol of a student's pride in his / herself and in the school. Students are expected to adhere to the uniform and grooming code at all times. All students in grades K-8 are required to own a **COMPLETE** uniform including a SPOC vest for girls and either a SPOC pullover, sweater or jacket for all. All uniform items may be purchased from Uniformity. When wearing free dress all clothes must always conform to rules of modesty, good taste and appropriateness. We ask parents' cooperation to see that the school uniform is worn correctly at all times. It is not the responsibility of school personnel to be constantly reminding students about proper uniforms. Non-uniform items may be confiscated. If a child is unable to be in full uniform, a written note of explanation must be presented to the teacher for each day the student is out of uniform. **STUDENTS WHO ARE OUT OF UNIFORM WILL BE GIVEN A UNIFORM INFRACTION NOTICE TO BE TAKEN HOME AND SIGNED.** Uniform infraction notices will affect the student's behavior grade and eligibility to receive honors.

