



November 2, 2011



PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

SAINT DENIS SCHOOL
 MISSION
 STATEMENT

St. Denis School is its people and the Christian values by which it lives, educates and learns. As a community of lifelong learners, the parents, administration and teachers are dedicated to the realization of the full potential of each student in spirit, mind and body by:

- * nurturing our spiritual journey through the sacraments, prayer and service to those in need;*
- * striving for academic excellence while developing skills required for the 21st century;*
- * promoting physical wellness.*

Our Baptism calls us to respond to the presence of Christ in others by living our core values of Faith, Mercy, Integrity, Cooperation and Respect.

Dear Parents,

As you probably know, Mrs. Ventura left St. Denis on Friday. We are very grateful to her for all she has done for the students and we wish her well. She will be in our prayers. Miss Ashley Richards will be the new first grade teacher. She and Mrs. Ventura spent the day on Friday with the class so that the transition would be easier for the children.

Friday's TRUNK OR TREAT was a big success. I'm not sure who had the most fun the children or the parents. How blessed we were to have it before the snow! Thank you to everyone who was able to participate.

Most conferences are completed. Thank you for coming for the meetings. It is always a treat to share what the students are doing and all that they are accomplishing. The First Trimester ends on December 2. Reports will be on December 9.

The eighth grade had their retreat directed by Fr. Marrone last Thursday. What a special day for them. They seemed to enjoy the day.

Mother's meeting for First Sacraments will take place in the Grimes Center at 7:15 tonight.

First Friday Mass will be at 9:30 on Friday November 4.

Our annual Book Fair will take place on Nov. 7, 8, 9. As you know the Ice Cream Social takes place as part of this event.

Reminder: The Visitation for 8th Grade listed on the calendar for November 17 has been postponed. It has been re-scheduled for January 19.

God Bless You!

Sister Gerald Helene, OSF
 Principal

Our One Call Now messaging system is now able to send text messages to your phone. If you would like to receive One Call Text Messages to your phone you must opt in. To opt in send the text message Alert to 22300 which is the SMS identifier for One Call Now.

NOVEMBER

- 2 Mothers Meeting for First Sacraments
- 3 Advisory Board Meeting
- 4 First Friday Mass 9:30 am
- 5 Night at the Races
- 7-9 Book Fair
- 8 Ice Cream Social
- 14 Kin Fall Show 1:30
- 16 Confirmation Commissioning for Service
- 17 Ladies Night Out
- 21 Grade 5 State Fair
- Peer Tutoring
- 22 Picture Re-take day
- Thanksgiving Prayer Service 1:30
- 23 Faculty Retreat No Classes for Students
- 24-25 Thanksgiving Holidays

Included with this newsletter:

- Safe Environment Opt Out Letter
- School Choice Rally Information
- EAS Test Flyer from the FCC
- Healthy Brain and Behavior Study from University of Penn

On our Website:

- Nov. Dept. Store Order due Nov. 8
- Wawa Coupon Order Form
- Pie Sale Order Form

Night at the Races & Casino Night

Saturday November 5, 2011

St. Denis Gym

BOOK FAIR AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL

The annual Book Fair will be held Nov 7, 8, and 9 in the Library. The Ice Cream Social will be held on November 8 from 6:00 to 8:00 in the Cafeteria. The Spirit Store will be open during the Book Fair. Hope to see you there!!

Calendar Update

Our school calendar has been updated with a change in December. The Early Childhood Christmas show will be held on Monday, December 19 at 10AM. "Semi-Annual tuition payments are due November 1, 2011. If you wish to pay by credit card, please call Vickie Walsh at 610.446.0200 x102 or email vwalsh@stdenishavertown.org."

8TH Grade Fundraisers

Pie Sale

Well now that Halloween is finally over, we can start getting ready for Thanksgiving.

Do you need a pie to take to your family's celebration? Are you too busy to make your own pie? Let Linvilla make the pies for you.

Linvilla is offering eight varieties --**Apple, Dutch Apple, Apple Caramel Walnut, Coconut Custard, Pumpkin, Lemon Meringue, Sweet Potato, and Pecan.**

The cost is \$15 per pie. They are available to order through any 8th grade student or you can send in a copy of the order form found on the school web site.

The deadline for ordering is Wednesday, November 16. Please send your completed order form and check payable to St. Denis 8th Grade to Debbie Donnelly by the 16th.

The orders need to be picked up at the Grimes Center on Tuesday, November 22 at 3:00 pm.

Please email Peggy Kwapinski at golfview@verizon.net if you have any questions

Wawa Hoagie Sale

In what has become an annual tradition here at St. Denis, our 8th graders will be selling Wawa "Shortie" Hoagie Coupons as a fundraiser to offset some graduation expenses. The cost of the "shortie" coupon is \$4. A "shortie" is \$4.45 after-tax at the Havertown Wawa.

These make great stocking stuffers or gifts. They are also great to just have for your own use & you'll be supporting our 8th graders!

To order through school send your request to Megan Allen care of Caroline 8-7.

We thank you, in advance, for your support of this fundraiser again this year, and look for our kids out there this weekend and in the following weeks selling them!

PS and PK Halloween Celebration



Saint Denis Varsity
Football
Vs.
Saint Katherine's
Oct. 29



TRUNK OR TREAT





*Calling All Vendors and Crafters
Sell Your Wares in Time for Christmas at the
Ladies Night Out at St. Denis
Thursday, November 17, 2011
7:00 – 10:00 pm (flyers on our website)*

Haverford Township Recreation Basketball League

The Haverford Township Recreation Department Basketball League is offered for children ages 8-10. We slightly modify the rules of basketball to ensure the children have an opportunity to learn the fundamentals of the game in an age appropriate format. Separate league for Boys and Girls! Requests for being on a team with specific players/coaches will be honored as long we can ensure competitive balance amongst the teams in the league. League runs from 11/12-1/28. Boys Practice on Tuesday, Girls on Wednesday. Boys play Saturday morning between 9-11 and girls from from 11-1. The cost of the league is \$65 dollars. If you have any questions feel free to call the office at 610-446-9397.

[Boys League Registration](#)

[Girls League Registration](#)

SPOTLIGHT on Math

Our 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students are busy in their math classes. The 6th graders are studying ratios. Modeling ratios with Halloween stickers was a favorite activity! The 6th graders practice their logical thinking and math facts by solving KenKen puzzles. They incorporate writing when solving these puzzles by explaining the logic they use to find the solution.

7th graders are computing with integers and solving equations. Using number lines to model problems with negative numbers helps students learn this new concept. Students in 7th grade improve their ability to think logically by playing Mastermind or the Set Game online each night.

Our 8th graders are fortunate to have laptops that are theirs to use for the school year. One program we use is called *Geometer's Sketchpad*. This program helps us model concepts like the Pythagorean theorem and expressions with exponents. They continue to work hard so that they will be well prepared for high school!





**SAFE ENVIRONMENT LESSONS
PARENT/GUARDIAN REQUEST TO EXCUSE STUDENT**

I request that _____ Grade _____,
Name of Student

be excused from participating in the yearly Safe Environment lesson offered at St. Denis School on November 28, 2011. I realize information for parents/guardians can be found at www.catholicschools-phl.org under Safe Environment. The points of interest for parents/guardians include:

- Brochure for Parents;
- Practical Advice for Parents;
- Teaching Touching Safety Guide
- Reporting Suspected Child Abuse.
- Grade level instruction PK through Grade 8

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Background

The first nationwide test of the Emergency Alert System, or EAS, will take place at 2:00 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time) on November 9, 2011. The purpose of the test is to assess the reliability and effectiveness of the system in alerting the public.

What exactly is the EAS?

The Emergency Alert System is a media communications-based alerting system that is designed to transmit emergency alerts and warnings to the American public at the national, Tribal, state and local levels. EAS participants broadcast alerts and warnings regarding weather threats, child abductions and other types of emergencies. EAS alerts are transmitted over television and radio broadcast, satellite television and satellite radio, cable television and wireline video services.

When is the EAS used and when would a national EAS alert be sent?

The EAS is often used by state and local emergency managers to alert the public about emergencies and weather events. The system provides the ability to send messages regionally or nationally, though it has never been tested at these levels. A major disaster such as an earthquake or tsunami could require the use of the system to send life-saving information to the public.

Why do we need a nationwide test?

Although local and state components of the EAS are tested on a weekly and monthly basis, there has never been an end-to-end nationwide test of the system. We need to know that the system will work as intended should public safety officials ever need to send an alert or warning to a large region of the United States. Only a complete, top-down test of the EAS can provide an appropriate diagnosis of the system's performance.

How will the national EAS test be conducted?

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), along with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), will conduct the nationwide test on November 9, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. eastern standard time. The alert will be transmitted throughout the country and will be monitored by the EAS participants. After the test has been completed, the EAS participants will report back to the FCC on the results of the test.

What will people see and hear during the test?

Although the nationwide EAS test may resemble the periodic monthly EAS tests that most consumers are familiar with, there will be some differences in what consumers may see or hear, which is one reason for conducting a nationwide EAS test. During the test, the public will hear a message indicating "this is a test". The audio message will be the same for everyone, however due to limitations of the EAS, the video test message may not be the same and may not indicate "this is a test". This is due to the use of a "live" national code – the same code that would be used in an actual emergency. Also, the background image that appears on video screens may indicate "this is a test" but in some cases there may be no image at all. FEMA and the FCC plan to reach out to organizations representing people with hearing disabilities to prepare that community for the national test. In addition, FEMA and the FCC will work with EAS participants to explore whether there are solutions to address this limitation.

(More)



How long will the test last?

We anticipate that the test will last approximately 3 minutes.

Why is the national test being conducted at this particular date and time?

In order to minimize disruption and confusion during the EAS test, it is being conducted on November 9 because this date is near the end of hurricane season and before the severe winter weather season begins. The 2 p.m. EST broadcast will minimize disruption during rush hours while ensuring that the test occurs during working hours across the country.

Will the test involve mobile communications devices?

No. The test will involve only those communications service providers – broadcast radio and television, cable television, satellite radio and television and wireline video services – that participate in the EAS.

For More Information

For more information about EAS, visit the FCC's EAS webpage at www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/emergency-alert-system-eas. For more information about AMBER Alerts, see our consumer guide at www.fcc.gov/guides/amber-plan-americas-missing-broadcast-emergency-response. Finally, for information about other telecommunications issues, visit the FCC's Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau website at www.fcc.gov/consumer-governmental-affairs-bureau.

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For this or any other consumer publication in an alternative format (electronic ASCII text, Braille, large print or audio), please write or call us at the address or phone number below, or send an email to FCC504@fcc.gov.

To receive information on this and other FCC consumer topics through the Commission's electronic subscriber service, visit www.fcc.gov/cgb/contacts/.

This fact sheet is for consumer education purposes only and is not intended to affect any proceedings or cases involving this subject matter or related issues.

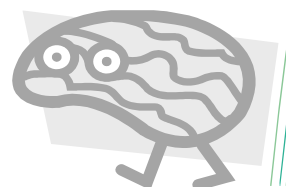


University of Pennsylvania
Healthy Brains & Behavior Study

We are inviting 11 and 12 year-old children and one of their parents to participate in a research study on healthy brains and behavior.

Both parents and children will be paid for their time and effort.

**Call or email us today
to find out more:
215-746-4392
HBBstudy@gmail.com**





FALL... Back into the Swing of Things!

With summer ending and school beginning, it can be hard to get back into the school schedule.

Here are a few tips:



Make a schedule! **Who's going to the doctor? What's for dinner?** Plan your days out AHEAD of time to avoid confusion in the morning or throughout the day.



Prepare for the MORNING! Whatever your morning routine is, prepare for it the night before. This includes laying out clothes/coats, ironing, packing lunches, breakfast ideas and most importantly, setting the alarm!



Be wise...WINTERIZE! Get your house ready for the cold weather ahead of time! Raking leaves, cleaning out the garage, pulling out those winter clothes—whatever it may be. Make a list, set the time and get the kids involved with clean up.

Organize paperwork! Set aside time to look over bills, mail, school forms, invitations, old newspapers and magazines etc. Go through them weekly, to avoid "the stack."

Remember to recycle!



For more information on how you can FALL into the new school year, visit www.organizedhome.com

Tips on Bullying

- ◆ 9 out of 10 kids in grades 4-8 are victims of bullying each year.
- ◆ Bullying can be physical (hitting, pushing, intimidating) or emotional (teasing, excluding from peer groups, gossiping and spreading rumors or name calling).
- ◆ Signs of bullying include anxiety before or after school, failing grades, refusing to go to school, bedwetting, bruises/scratches and behavioral changes.
- ◆ If you think your child is being bullied at school, contact the school principal or guidance counselor. To learn more, visit: www.bullyingstatistics.org



Philadelphia Bullying Hotline: (215) 229-7323

Healthy Hands, Healthy Heart!

Fall is here, and with the cool breeze comes the unfortunate cold and flu! What to do?



ALWAYS remember to wash your hands! Studies have proven that hand washing (next to the flu shot) is the best way to avoid colds and the flu. A healthy diet and SLEEP also keep your immune system going, so be sure to get plenty of rest!

It's almost impossible to avoid a cold, but you can avoid the flu! Talk to your doctor today about scheduling a flu shot. Neighborhood clinics, CVS Pharmacy, Rite Aid and Walgreens provide the flu shot as well.

For more information, visit: www.righthealth.com



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: Anton Moore, founding President UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY



Unity in the Community is a non-profit organization formed in 2009. The original mission of UITC was to bring South Philadelphia community members together while providing free services to those less fortunate in the area, combating two of South Philadelphia's biggest issues: poverty and violence. Though UITC originated in South Philly, they plan to expand by 2013.

Anton Moore is the founding President of Unity in the Community. Anton began his professional career with Power 99FM as a street personality, moving up to Promotion Assistant; in addition to UITC, Anton also works with BET as Associate Music Specialist. Anton has seen the effects of neglected communities, having lost friends and family to gun violence in recent years. Throughout his career he has been driven to make a change, and was given a chance with UITC. Through events held in the Community, Anton strives for change, making a difference with each event.

Operation Holiday Help is an event UITC host for Christmas, choosing five Philadelphia families who are less fortunate and cannot afford gifts during the holidays. UITC rents a U-Haul truck and delivers gifts to each family chosen, bringing Christmas joy to those in need. In addition to Operation Holiday Help, UITC also hosts The Ultimate Prom Experience. With this event, they help teens who cannot afford Prom attire by paying for gowns/suits, and anything else needed to make their Prom experience memorable.

The Unity in the Community Block Party is an event hosted in South Philadelphia; offering free food, live performances from both commercial and local artists and entertainment for the community children, the Block Party is one of UITC's biggest events. People from around the city come out to enjoy the festivities, while UITC achieves its ultimate goal: bringing the community together, peacefully.

UITC has made a positive impact in many communities around the city. If you would like to learn more or get involved, or bring UITC to your community, call Anton Moore at (215) 292-5081 or Demetrius Moore, (215) 779-7593.

Inspiring Fall Books

Curl up under a blanket, and stay warm with one (or two!) of the following children's books:



Morning Star, by Judith Plaxton

A runaway slave escapes to freedom via the underground railroad.

Burnout, by Adrienne Maria Vrettos

A girl awakens on a train, not knowing how she got there.

The Future of Us, by Jay Asher

In 1996, two teens go online, finding themselves on Facebook 2011.

Participants Needed for Research Study on Healthy Brains & Behavior

We are inviting 11 and 12 year-old children and one of their parents to participate in a research study on healthy brains and behavior.

Both children and parents will be paid for their time and effort.

Call or email us today to
find out more:

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HBBStudy@gmail.com

