

St. John's Parish Day School Parent Newsletter

(410) 465-7644

9130 Frederick Road, Ellicott City, MD 21042

www.stjohnspds.org

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Please call or email when your child is absent.

Absentee Phone and Email
(410) 465-6935
absent@stjohnsec.org

All School News

Class Photographs

Blanton Studios had been originally scheduled to be on campus February 9th and 10th. As we were closed those dates, we are rescheduled now for Tuesday, March 9th and Wednesday, March 10th. The schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, March 9

- Illar
- Grosso
- Joerdens
- Junior Garden Club
- Rudnicki (2-day)
- Benzing
- Heath
- Durkee
- Rice
- Bates
- Hiken
- Wagner
- Master Jr. Garden Club

Wednesday, March 10

- Pontier
- Hoffner
- Dickinson
- Rotella
- Rudnicki (3-day)
- Baumann
- Brunner
- Appelbaum
- Schoenhut
- Robinson
- Student Council
- Rovnan
- Dansie
- Joerdens PM
- Illar PM

Spread our Spirit to Haiti!

St. John's, in our spirit of kindness and compassion, is spreading our spirit to Haiti. Students and parents have been voting with change for the spirit wear the Lower School and Early Childhood students will wear. The vote was for either: Free Dress Day, P.J. Day, Crazy Hat Day or Crazy Hair Day. Crazy Hair Day has won!!! All monies will be donated to the American Red Cross Haiti Relief Fund and the Ellicott City Rotary Club's Happy Dollars Hand to Hand for Haiti Program (www.happydollars.org). Parents and students will be invited to attend the hand-holding ceremony around Centennial Lake on February 27th. Spirit Day is tomorrow, Friday, the 19th, so come to school with your Crazy Hair!

WANTED all Gala-goers!

Jilly's in the Enchanted Forest shopping center, a Gala supporter and food station host, has graciously offered to continue the Gala party by extending Happy Hour pricing to Gala guests after the Gala on Saturday, February 20. We hope you will join us and your friends for some extended merriment at Jilly's.

Financial Seminar

As a service to our families, St. John's PDS
Presents a Financial Seminar: "College Planning"
Thursday, March 11, 2010
7:00 p.m.

St. John's Auditorium
Brian Avrunin of Ameriprise Financial Services
Presenter

ALL ARE INVITED

Refreshments will be served

Though the seminar is complimentary, please call
Anne Hanchett at 410 465-7644, ext. 400 to register.

Weather Policy

Please be advised that we will NOT be following Howard County's lead the rest of this school year as far as delayed openings/closings, etc. Please check your email, the school website, school telephone, and schoolsout.com.

Parents are Welcome to Chapel!

Please know that we always welcome our parents at Chapel! Not only on Thursdays, and on their child's birthday, but EVERY day! So please come and celebrate with us whenever you would like - we'll love having you!

Early Childhood

Time With Dads - February 23 & 24

Join your sons and daughters for our Time With Dads. You are invited to visit your child's classroom, after which you will join us for Chapel! This annual event is a favorite for all. It is our hope that each child will have a "guest".

Tuesday, February 23 - 8:30-9:30 AM

2-day 3's

5-day 3's

Full day classes

Wednesday, February 24 - 8:30-9:30 AM

AM 3-day 3's

AM 4's

Wednesday, February 24 - 12:30-1:30 PM

PM 3-day 3's

PM 4's

Aquarium Visit

Thursday, February 4th, we had a visit from the Aquarium. As always, Mr. David and his helpers did a wonderful job engaging the children while sharing information about sharks and sea stars. During the individual class sessions, the children had the opportunity to touch a sea urchin, a horseshoe crab, sea snail and observe a hermit crab!

Lunch and Learn Make-up Days

Please Note: Lunch and Learn Make-up Days

Art (for snow days 2/5 & 12) will be held April 16 & 23

Science (for snow day 2/8) will be held March 29

Science (for snow day 2/10) will be held March 31

Lower School

Welcome back!

I hope everyone had a wonderful week playing and shoveling snow! Thank you for being flexible with us as we dealt with the weather. We are rescheduling events as best as we are able. Please keep checking the newsletter for new dates and times. We are excited to be back and celebrating our 100th day of school on Wednesday, Feb. 24th!

Valentine's Day Parties

Class Valentine's Day parties are this Friday. Please check communication from your classroom teacher for details.

Grade Level Coffees

Our Grade Level Coffees will now be moved to:

Wednesday, Feb. 24th 8:45 - 9:30 Second through Fifth Grade, and

Thursday, Feb. 25th 8:45 - 9:30 Kindergarten and First Grade.

3rd Grade Concert Date Change

Due to the inclement weather, we are postponing the 3rd grade concert to March 16th from 9:30 - 11:00.

Parents' Association

Staff Appreciation

The Staff Appreciation event scheduled for Thursday, February 11 has been rescheduled for Thursday, February 18 and will be provided by our 4th and 5th grades and the PM 4's. Thank you!

Passive Fundraising Reminder

Don't forget to recycle your kids Capri Sun and Honest Kids Juice Bags. Bags do not need to be cleaned or trimmed, just remove the straws and toss in the designated recycle bins.

By recycling these bags they can be used to create pencil cases, lunchboxes, even kites instead of ending up in a landfill. This project not only helps us raise money but it also supports our Maryland green school initiatives. For more information visit: www.terracycle.net

Early Childhood Health Fair

The Early Childhood Health Fair is being held March 11th and 12th. We are very excited to have the Police Officer, Firefighter and other special visitors for this wonderful event. We are always in need of volunteers for this fun event. Please look for the volunteer sign up

Dates to remember



Thursday, February 18

- Staff Appreciation Buffet (4th, 5th gr. And PM 4's)

Friday, February 19

- Spread our Spirit to Haiti "Spirit Day" – Crazy Hair Day!!!
- LS Valentine's Day Parties

Saturday, February 20

- Gala "Blazing West" 6:30 – 11:30 pm

Sunday, February 21

- *The Kinderman* and the Orchestra of St. Johns perform concerts for children at 3:00 & 4:30 pm

Monday, February 22

- Carnival Planning Meeting, 9:00 – 10:00 am

Tuesday, February 23

- EC Time with Dads, 8:30 – 9:30 am
 - 2-day 3's
 - 5-day 3's
 - Full day classes
- EC Memory Book Meetings, 10:00 am and 1:00 pm
- Kenya Connect Committee Meeting, 4:00 pm

Wednesday, February 24

- LS Grade Level Coffee (2nd – 5th Grades), 8:45 am
- EC Time with Dads, 8:30 – 9:30 am
 - AM 3-day 3's
 - AM 4's
- EC Time with Dads, 12:30 – 1:30 pm
 - PM 3-day 3's
 - PM 4's

Thursday, February 25

- LS Grade Level Coffee (K and 1st Grade), 8:45 am
- Mother-Son Event Planning Meeting, 8:45 am
- Dad's Night (K and 1st grade) at 6:30 pm

Saturday, February 27

- Rotary's Holding Hands Ceremony for Hand to Haiti Program

Monday, March 1

- Baltimore Zoo visits Early Childhood classes

Tuesday, March 2

- PA Dining Out at Qdoba, 5:00 – 8:00 pm

Wednesday, March 3

- EC Staff Development Day
 - 11:15 am - Morning students dismissal
 - 1:00 – 1:10 Afternoon students arrival
 - No change to full day or extended day schedules

Tuesday, March 9

- Class Pictures (see schedule in newsletter copy)

Wednesday, March 10

- Class Pictures (see schedule in newsletter copy)

Thursday, March 11

- EC Health Fair sponsored by the Parents' Association
- Financial Seminar, 7:00 pm

Friday, March 12

- EC Health Fair sponsored by the Parents' Association

Tuesday, March 16

- 3rd Grade Concert, 9:30 – 11:00 am

Saturday, March 20

- Father Daughter Dance sponsored by the Parents' Association

Inclement Weather Policy

Please be advised that we will NOT be following Howard County's lead the rest of this school year as far as delayed openings/closings, etc. Please check your email, the school website, school telephone, and schoolsout.com.

Information about school closures will be provided via the following media sources:

- WBAL 1090AM radio
- Our website, www.stjohnspds.org
- www.schoolsout.com
- Information will also be placed on the school's answering machine. You may call 410-465-7644 to listen to our messages.
- Email notification to families

coming soon.

Carnival Planning Meeting

If you are interested in helping with our Spring Carnival, please join us for our next planning meeting on Monday, February 22 from 9:00 – 10:00 am in Clark House. If you not able to make the meeting but would like to help, please contact Tiffany Fowble at deartiff@hotmail.com.

EC Memory Book Meeting

Thank you to Anuradha Gopalan for stepping in as our Early Childhood Memory Book Chair! An informal meeting for EC Memory Book Volunteers will be held on Tuesday, February 23 at 10:00 am for morning class volunteers and 1:00 pm for afternoon class volunteers. Full day class volunteers are scheduled for the 1:00 pm session but are free to attend the morning if that is more convenient. Please contact Anuradha if you are unable to attend or have any questions at anuradhagopalan@hotmail.com.

Mother-Son Event Planning Meeting

Please join us on Thursday, February 25 at 8:45 am in Clark House to help plan an event for Mothers and Sons. Please contact Colleen Rives at colleen_rives@comcast.net if you are interested in helping but are unable to attend.

In Our Community

Trend Survey

Greetings St. John's PDS Families –

As we embark on a new year, our School Trustees and Administration are in the process of articulating short- and long-range planning goals. Here's how you can help. You and all our current families, and families from more than 5,000 other private schools across the country, are being asked to participate in a very brief national research survey being conducted by Independent School Management (ISM), the largest private school consulting firm in the U.S.

The survey data will enable ISM to project trends that will aid us in our planning. ISM has 25 years of experience surveying school constituencies, and absolutely guarantees the anonymity of your responses. The participating schools will be provided with summary data only.

The online survey on ISM's Web site should take you no more than 3 minutes to complete and will be available only until February 22.

When you are ready to begin, simply click this link:

<http://surveys.isminc.com/surveys/ParentReenrollment2010/>

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful participation.

Grace and Peace,
Steve Harrison

Mrs. Green Needs Your Help

Calling Staff, Parents and Students!! The first meeting of the Kenya Connect Committee will be Tuesday, February 23rd at 4:00 pm in Mrs. Green's Classroom. We will be discussing our spring fundraiser as well as Mr. Ngila's visit in April (Head of School for Mbaikini Primary). We hope to see you there. If you can't make the meeting, please let me know that you're interested by e-mailing me at tgreen@stjohnsec.org.