

St. John's Parish Day School Parent Newsletter

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www.stjohnspds.org

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ST. JOHN'S

PARISH DAY SCHOOL

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Please call or email when your child is absent.

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

Archived copies of the newsletter can be found at www.stjohnspds.org in the For

All School News

Save the Date!

If your child will be attending Kindergarten at St. John's in the fall, your family is invited to attend a special Welcome Reception on Thursday, May 20th at 6:00 PM in All Saints Hall! Meet other families, our kindergarten teachers, and gather information about this exciting next step in your child's education. A separate invitation will be mailed this week.

Talent Show!

Come enjoy the fun!!!! The 4th grade is hosting their annual Talent Show on Friday, May 14th at 6:30 pm (please note the time has changed from 7:00 pm) in All Saints' Hall!

Early Childhood

Butterfly Gardens

Special thanks to our Parents Association for gifts of butterfly gardens! Each class was given live butterfly cultures and the children are able to watch the metamorphosis from caterpillar to butterfly. They are now in the process of releasing the butterflies on the campus!

Field Day 2010 - Friday, May 21st

Please sign up outside your child's classroom if you can help. Mrs. Coolahan will make assignments, sending a note to you with your activity and time. It is a terrific day and we'll hope for beautiful weather because it is an outdoor event. Please dress your children comfortably, particularly if it is a hot day. The children wear tennis shoes only. The Parents Association will provide Popsicles!

Spring Carnival

The Spring Carnival was fabulous!!! Weather perfect (a bit warm), games and prizes great. So much yummy food available. Many had fun trying to put Mr. Harrison in the dunk tank.

Thank you to Tiffany Fowble and Marilyn Faura, and to all who worked so hard; from planning and set-up to parking and clean up. It was a joy walking around watching the happy faces of the children as they asked for "just one more ticket."

Pennies for the EC Playground

Be on the lookout for special bins to collect pennies or other loose change to go towards building a better preschool playground. We are racing the 3 year old classes against the 4 year old and TK classes to win a special popsicle snack. Bins will be in place by Monday and the race will last 2 weeks. Paul and Dori Capodanno have pledged to match up to \$2000 towards the playground. Let's get there by tossing in our change and having the kids help the school raise money. We have a substantial start to the playground fund from the Parent's Association, but we need more to make a wonderful playground a reality! So, take a look around the house and send in the change!

Lower School

Terra Nova Scores

Dear Parents,

I am excited to tell you that the Terra Nova scores have arrived! While the administrative team will continue to thoroughly analyze the scores, we are very pleased with the results. The Terra Nova is a standardized test which measures achievement in both reading and math that our 2nd through 5th graders took this spring. Your child's scores will be sent home Monday, May 17th in backpacks. While this test can be a helpful evaluation tool, keep in

mind that a test is only a snapshot in time of your child's performance. There are optional conferences available for all grades on Friday, May 21st. There will be drop-in childcare available during conference time on Friday. For 2nd through 5th grade parents, these conferences are an opportunity to get more information about the Terra Nova and your child. Kindergarten and 1st grade conferences will cover a child's progress. There will be conference sign-up sheets outside each class room by Monday the 10th.

--Tiffany Rath

Lower School Art Show

This year the artists at St. John's Parish Day School will "wow" you with their inspiring art pieces! Come on in anytime between now and the 14th.

Each child will have at least one art piece on display. Mrs. Ficca's Kindergarten and First grade artists will display in the lobby and close to the art room. Mrs. Rose's Second through Fifth grade artists will display throughout the downstairs and upstairs lobbies, as well as, in the early childhood and lower school hallways. Art is and will be everywhere! Keep your eyes open and take it in!

Parents' Association

Spring Carnival

Thank you to all our volunteers and fabulous Carnival Chairs, Tiffany Fowble and Marla Harrington who put in countless hours making this year's carnival a huge success. We hope everyone had a wonderful time! Thank you to the dedicated Carnival Committee including Marilyn Faura (Logistics), Kristen Conord (Volunteers), Jenn Hurley and Susan Hubbard (Games), Megan McGowan (Signage) and Sharon Boone. Thanks to the parents who volunteered at the Carnival selling Carnival and 50/50 tickets, serving pizza, selling Spirit Wear and supervising inflatables – we could not have done it without you! Many thanks to Jeff Rives and Rick Havrilla who handled traffic and parking for our event.

Thank you to our wonderful Dunk Tank volunteers who added so much fun to our day – Mr. Harrison, Mrs. Green, Mr. Dickson and Mr. Hiken!

A special thanks to the following people who went the extra mile and helped the Committee members with the heavy lifting involved with set-up and clean-up. On Friday; Pam Abrams, Bhagya Gandlaparthi, and Julia and Mark Rineman; on Saturday morning; Jose Faura, Stephanie Havrilla, Tonya Jensen, Jaime Kline, Kristie Lockwood, Amy Paulino, 4s teacher, Mrs. Pam Wagner and Huandong Yan, and finally with the breakdown and clean-up after the event; Jose Faura, Jaime Kline, Amy Paulino and Jennifer Walker. Thank you!

Spring Carnival Pictures needed for Memory Book

If anyone took pictures at the spring carnival please send them to Karen Tucker via email or by disk dropped off in the office by Friday May 7th at the latest.

Volunteer of the Month

Congratulations to our Volunteer of the month for April, Colley Johnson Ward! Colley is a Grade Level Representative for the 4-year-old half-day classes, as well as a Room Parent for Mrs. Wagner's class. She also helped out with the April Staff Hospitality luncheon. Colley will enjoy the Volunteer of the Month parking space in front of Clark House from May 13th

Dates to remember



Monday, May 3 – Friday, May 14

- LS Art School, Lower Commons

Thursday, May 6

- Gr. 4 & 5 Chorus and String Concert in ASH, 7:00 pm

Friday, May 7

- EC Fairhaven Field Trip
- Time with Moms (K and Gr. 1) in classrooms, 2:00 pm

Wednesday, May 12

- EC Staff Development
 - AM dismissal at 11:15;
 - PM arrival 1:00-1:10;
 - No change to full day or extended day

Friday, May 14

- Lower School Talent Show in ASH, 6:30 pm

Monday, May 17

- EC Irvine Nature Center Field Trip (Mrs. Baumann, Mrs. Illar PM and Mrs. Rudnicki 3-day)

Tuesday, May 18

- EC Irvine Nature Center Field Trip (Mrs. Grosso, Mrs. Illar AM and Mrs. Rudnicki 2-day)

Wednesday, May 19

- Author Visit by Ned Tillman in ASH, 7:00 pm

Thursday, May 20

- Clark's Pond Field Trip (TK)
- Welcome Reception for incoming Kindergarten, 6:00 pm, ASH

Friday, May 21

- EC Field Day, 9:00 – 11:45 am
 - No PM classes, including Extended Day 3's, Full Day 4's & TK
- LS Early Dismissal, 12:00 (child care will be available during conference times).

Friday, May 28

- EC Closing Exercises at 9:30 AM and 1:00 pm in the Church for children and families (including 2-day 3's)

through the end of the school year. The May Volunteer of the Month will receive a gift certificate when the name is drawn in early June.

In Our Community

Youth in Jazz Concert, Sun., May 16, 5:00 – 7:00 pm

Featuring the Douglass High School Jazz Band and the Winston Jazz Band
St. James' Episcopal Church, 1020 W. Lafayette Avenue

St. John's Church has maintained a "covenant relationship" for more than a decade with St. James Episcopal Church – Lafayette Square in west Baltimore City. St. James operates an after school program, "St. James Academy," serving about 50 elementary school age children. The chair of the Academy's board, Dr. Charlene Griffin, also serves on the St. John's Parish Day School Board of Trustees, and members of St. John's support the Academy Board and its finance committee. The Jazz Concert is the annual fundraiser for the Academy. It is not only an opportunity to support the good work of the after school program, but an opportunity to enjoy a "flavor" of entertainment that is uplifting and different.

All proceeds support the St. James' Academy after-school tutorial and cultural enrichment program, for more information, visit www.sja-lafayette.org. For tickets or more information, please contact Tom Brandt at TBrandt@telecomsys.com.

Award Winning Author, Ned Tillman, May 19 at 7pm

St. John's Parish Day School and Church continue the Earth Day celebration in May by bringing award winning author, Ned Tillman, to campus for a talk and book signing Wednesday, May 19, at 7:00pm in All Saints Hall. Local environmentalist, Ned Tillman will discuss environmental sustainability and share anecdotes from his book, *The Chesapeake Watershed: A Sense of Place and a Call to Action*, including stories of St John's Parishioner Senator Jim Clark, the Howard County Conservancy, Manor Lane, and hiking and canoeing along the Patapsco River from Sykesville, and through Ellicott City to Elkridge.

Tillman will also discuss the important role schools and church communities play in the understanding of our relationship with the natural world and how these communities are becoming leaders in our society's transformation from exploiting the earth to becoming its stewards. You will also learn about the important environmental initiatives taking place at St. John's and how you can take action.

This event is free and open to the public. *The Chesapeake Watershed: A Sense of Place and Call to Action* will be available for sale. Ned Tillman will be available to sign books following the presentation. Signing following the talk.

This event is free and open to the public and takes place in All Saints Hall at St. John's Parish Day School.

Cub Scout Pack 305 Open House, May 20 at 7:00 pm

Cub Scout Pack 305 invites Kindergarten through 4th grade boys to our Spring Open House at 7pm, Thursday, May 20 at the St. John's Episcopal Church auditorium.

Come join us to learn about scouting, and to take part in some fun activities - including water rockets! For more information, please contact Cubmaster Kevin Yant (410-750-2689, pack305@gmail.com) or visit us online at www.cubpack305.org