

Newsletter

Sept. 28, 2018

Dates to remember

- Oct. 3 NO SCHOOL Teachers' Professional Development Day
- Sept. 28 Apple Harvest Festival begins
- Sept. 30 Apple Harvest Parade
- Oct. 4 First Friday Mass 12:10
- Oct. 8 No school Columbus Day
- Oct. 16 Half Day Parent/Teacher conferences during the afternoon for Kindergarten through grade 8.

School Photos

Information regarding school photos will be going home. On Thursday, October 11, 2018 Art Rich will take individual school photos and on Friday, October 12, 2018 they will take class photos.

Apple Harvest Parade

Students in grades 3 through 8 who volunteered to participate in the Apple Harvest Parade must wear their uniforms. If warm outer wear is necessary due to the weather, please wear an article of the Southington Catholic School uniform as the outer layer. Students should arrive at the Southington Catholic School at 12:30 and will return to school at the end of the parade. Parents should meet their child in the schoolyard following the parade.

Help is needed to decorate the float at 8:30 Sunday morning in the school yard.

Apple Harvest Booth

Apple Harvest Volunteers: I would like to thank everyone who has volunteered to work in our booth over the next few weekends. This weekend's weather looks great, so that means we will be busy!!!

Please note there has been a location change of our booth due to fire code requirements. We are still located on Riccio Way (the main fairway leading to the rides). However we are now on the left side when looking at the booths. We are booth #83, which is a few up from the Fried Dough. We have a nice walkway alongside our

booth allowing easy access to the back. Also, please remember to sign in on arrival for tracking of commitment hours. We look forward to a great festival and making hundreds of Frito Pie!!! Thank you, Jill Petruzzi

Book Fair

Please consider helping with the book fair which will take place the week of October.14th

School Uniforms

Students are expected to wear the official school uniform during school hours. Other articles of clothing that may have the Southington Catholic School name or logo, such as sports or spirit attire, cannot be worn during school hours in place of the school uniform.

An Exciting New Class

Mr. Tim Gallagher has once again volunteered his programming skills to teach a computer class to our students in grades 5-8. Beginning Saturday, October 27, students will learn Python coding and configure operating systems. This 5 week class will be taught on Saturdays from 10-noon. A \$75.00 fee will be required to cover materials. This is a unique science opportunity for our students. Please return the permission slip as soon as possible as space is limited.

SCS First Dance & Cheer Team

Open to girls & boys in grades 2-8 interesting in participating in the SCS Dance & Cheer Team!! Practice will be one day per week for approximately one hour at our school. Start date & time TBD. No previous dance experience required. The children will be able to showcase their abilities at our home basketball games this year and at the talent show at the end of the year. If your child is interested and/or you have any questions, please email Georgiann Gallagher at Georgiann.Gallagher@hotmail.com. Please include your child's name, grade and parent contact information.

H.S.A. News...

Apple Harvest

It's here!! Tonight's the night it all begins!! This is a major, major fundraiser for our school. Thank you to all who have signed up to help! There are still Booth shifts to fill. We ask that every family try and participate in some respect with our Booth and Float.

The sign up instructions for working the Booth are below. Come and serve Frito Pies with us. We work hard but have a great time together doing it. Fingers crossed for

good weather! The event chair for the booth is Jill Petruzzi and she can be reached at jramsay@sbcglobal.net.

We're using SignUp.com (the leading online signup and reminder tool) to organize our upcoming activity.

Please sign up for Apple Harvest 2018!

Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:

1. Click this link to go to our invitation page on SignUp.com:
<http://signup.com/login/entry/1070103165161920122>
2. Enter your email address: (You will NOT need to register an account on SignUp.com)
3. Sign up! Choose your spots - SignUp.com will send you an automated confirmation and reminders. Easy!

Note: SignUp.com does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact me and I can sign you up manually.

The Float Committee is looking for the following items to be donated: ten bales of hay, mums, pumpkins and three or four bags of red balloons. If you have an item to donate and/or would like to join the Float Committee please contact the event Chair, Sarah DeMerchant at sarah.demerchant@yahoo.com.

Yankee Candle

Our Yankee Candle fundraiser ended yesterday. Many thanks to all who participated. All forms should have been returned to the office by now. We will update you when we have a confirmed delivery date and pick up time/location at school.

Lyman Pies

The Lyman Pie fundraiser will begin on Monday, October 1st. Information will be sent home with your child. Antoinette Oakes will be Chairing this event. If you have any questions during the Lyman Pie fundraiser, please contact Antoinette Oakes at antoakes@att.net.

Dress Down

The HSA will be sponsoring nine dress down days this year. All dates are on the HSA Calendar. Each dress down is \$2.00. If you wish to participate in the dress down days, you may send your \$2.00 into the office with your child on the particular date(s) or pay for all dates at once in advance. Please label your envelope "HSA Dress Down Days" when you send it in. Participation in dress down is completely optional. If you do not

wish to participate in the dress down days, the normal school uniform should be worn to school on these dates. The next dress down day is October 26th.

Scrip

Thank you to everyone who participated in this week's scrip order. Your gift cards will be forwarded to you by way of your child's backpack today. If you did not participate in this month's order but would like to take advantage of Script this year, watch the HSA Calendar for our dates. The next order will be on October 22nd. A list of participating retailers is on our school educonnect website under Forms and Documents. To participate in script, you may send your order with a check made out to Southington Catholic School to the office in an envelope marked "Script Order".

Halloween Party/Dance

The HSA is looking for two individuals interested in volunteering to Chair this event which will take place on October 26th. Preferably one parent of an elementary school age child and one parent of a middle school age child to allow the event to focus on activities for both age groups. If you are interested in volunteering to Chair this fun school tradition, please contact the HSA at southingtoncatholichsa@gmail.com.

HSA Meeting

The next HSA Meeting is scheduled for October 11, 2018 in the School Cafe. Please join us! Attendance at HSA Meetings awards one hour toward your yearly Commitment Hour total. As of now, there are eight meetings scheduled this year. But this can change as needed. If you attended all or just several meetings, you'd be well on your way towards your commitment hour total of fifteen hours.

HSA Contact Information

There is always a lot going on at the beginning of the year. Especially with the focus needed for the Apple Harvest to continue to be a huge success for our school. If you have any questions about any of the events going on or would like copies of any HSA documents, please do not hesitate to contact the HSA at southingtoncatholichsa@gmail.com. If you would like to talk with a member of the HSA in person, Barb Doherty is willing to connect with you as she is often at drop offs. You can reach Barb at bdoherty1@cox.net.

A Message on Box Tops

Hey there everybody! It's time to get cutting and save those Box Tops!

Box Tops for Education is a fun and easy way to help support Southington Catholic School! All you have to do is clip Box Tops coupons from hundreds of family products

from brands like Cheerios®, Betty Crocker®, Pillsbury®, Ziploc®, Kleenex®, Juicy Juice® and more!

Each month, classes will compete to collect the most Box Tops. The winning classroom will win prizes! At the end of the year, there will be a grand prize given for the classroom that has collected the most Box Tops throughout the year. There will be special contests along the way, so be sure to watch the school newsletter for classroom standings and other special contest information!!

What do YOU need to do? Simply cut those Box Tops and turn them in! That's it! Each room will have a collection box and students will simply deposit their coupons in the box. Boxes will be gathered on the last Friday of each month for each contest to be counted. The first collection is on September 28th.

It really is that simple! If you have any questions please contact Stephanie Benoit at stephaniebenoit57@yahoo.com

From the Nurse's Desk.....

Influenza Vaccine Reminder

A reminder that preschool students up to the age of 59 months are required to receive the influenza vaccine between August 1 - December 31.

Influenza: 1 dose administered each year between August 1 - December 31. Two (2) doses separated by at least 28 days are required for those children receiving flu vaccine for the first time. State of CT, DPH 2013

State regulation requires preschool students up to age 59 months to be vaccinated against the flu by January 1. Parents are asked to provide written documentation of their child's flu immunization to the school nurse by December 22, 2018 in order to return to school on January 2, 2019. If your child will be 5 years of age by December 31, 2018 the flu vaccine is not mandated, but is recommended.

If you have any questions regarding this vaccine or any exemptions, please contact the school nurse.

Vision Screening

In October, The Southington Lions Club will conduct the vision screenings at our school for students in grades K, 1, 3, 4, and 5. Members of the Southington Lions Club have been trained in the use of the PediaVision Spot Vision Screener and will perform these vision screenings.

The screening is done by a photographic process from a distance of three feet. No physical contact is made with the child and no eye drops are administered. The individual screening takes just a few seconds.

The vision screening tool is capable of screening for Astigmatism, Myopia, Hyperopia, Anisometropia, Strabismus, Amblyopia and Anisocoria. The equipment provides a print-out of the results for each individual which will be given to the parent.

It is important to understand that this is only a screening and does not constitute an examination or diagnosis of vision problems. If a potential problem is detected the child will be referred to a pediatric eye professional for a full exam.

This service is offered free of charge by the Southington Lions Club under the Lions Eye Health program administered by the Connecticut Lions Eye Research Foundation. If you do not want this screening done for your child please send a written note to the School Nurse by the end of the first week in October.

Astigmatism - inability of the cornea to properly focus an image onto the retina resulting in a blurred image

Myopia - nearsightedness

Hyperopia - farsightedness

Anisometropia - each eye has a different refractive power, so there is unequal focus between the two eyes

Strabismus - misalignment of the eyes

Amblyopia - decreased vision in one or both eyes

Anisocoria - pupils that are different sizes at the same time