



ST. STEPHEN SCHOOL

355 Grafton Street, Worcester, MA 01604 - 508.755.3209
www.st-stephen.net

Newsletter
January 31, 2018



From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that we are beginning the month of February and marking the 100th day of school next week.

This week we celebrate Catholic Schools: Learn, Serve, Lead, Succeed.

We held our open house this past Sunday. Student volunteers guided prospective students and their families through the school. Teachers were on hand to discuss curriculum and answer questions. Our school community attended Mass on Monday morning. Following the Mass, visitors spent time in the classrooms.

Tuesday, the students learned about vocations - religious and non-religious. Parents and guest speakers met with students to talk about their specific vocations.

Today, we recognized and celebrated our nation and shared different cultures. The students also enjoyed a game of Family Feud in the Church Hall.

Tomorrow, we recognize the faculty, staff and volunteers. Friday we will have Police Officers and a Registered Dietician visiting with the students, and a Talent Show in the Church Hall as we end our week celebrating our students!

Thank you for entrusting your child(ren) to us.

Joanne Mallozzi, Principal

Value of the Month:

"Honesty is the best policy." *Benjamin Franklin*

Teaching the value of honesty to children is part of the development of moral and emotional strength. The quality of honesty helps to develop character and solid self-esteem. Teaching honesty by example is very effective. Be honest with your children at a level that they can understand. Teaching by example means that you conduct your own personal and business affairs in an honest and ethical manner. By doing so you will be demonstrating the self-respect that accompanies ethical behavior.

Inclement Weather – We will make every effort to send a Connect Ed Message to notify parents of school delays and closings. Just in case you don't happen to receive the message, we also recommend that you listen to WTAG, 580 AM and WSRS, 96.1 FM on the radio or tune into the major TV news stations. If there is a 1 or 2 hour delay, ½ day Pre-K is cancelled for the day.

This Week's Brown Envelope Inserts..

- March Lunch Order Forms*
- February Calendar
- Milk Orders*
- 2018/2019 Policies and Procedures for the Diocesan Catholic Schools Tuition Assistance Fund
- Re-registration forms for 2018/2019



**Please remember to make out separate checks for Lunch and Milk orders.*

Coming Up...

- ~ Saturday, February 3 – Catholic Schools Week Ends
- ~ Saturday, February 3 - Worcester Railers @ DCU Center
- ~ Friday, February 9 – Parent Forum 9AM in the School
- ~ Friday, February 16 – Chill Out for Grades K-8 - \$1
- ~ Friday, February 16 – BoxTops Due & Clip & Count
- ~ February 19-23 – NO SCHOOL - Vacation Week
- ~ February 26 - SWOMP Club Meeting
- ~ Wednesday, February 28 - Next Newsletter



Catholic Schools Night at the

Worcester Railers - February 3rd at 7pm at the DCU. We want to make sure

that our students take advantage of this night that has been dedicated to Catholic Schools. So... Let's get ALL ABOARD with the Worcester Railers!!!!

Tickets can be purchased at:

<https://railers.isportstix.com/order/group/Stephens/>

- Tickets are \$15 each.
- All tickets will be delivered to the school before the games.
- A portion of the proceeds from our ticket sales will come back to St. Stephen School.

Anyone who cannot attend this event but would like to support it, please comment in the comments section of the link above, that the ticket is to be donated and use our group code which is *Stephens* and the ticket will be donated.

Outdoor Clothing – With the cold weather upon us, we want to remind parents to send children to school with jackets, hats, mittens and boots if needed. The children will be going out to recess during the winter months.

Please label your child's clothing. Our Lost and Found Box is FULL of sweaters and St. Stephen clothing. If your child is missing anything please have them check the box.



HELP WANTED – Please contact the school if you would like to help with one or more of the following opportunities... Please be aware that these events can **NOT** take place without volunteers to chair and help!



Calendar Raffle Donations – The calendar raffle fundraiser is coming this spring! Donations of gift cards or services, or \$25 sponsors would make our raffle even more successful. **They are needed by February 16th**. Sponsored squares can have a message “in memory of” or “in honor of” someone special to you... More information will be coming soon.

Mother/Son Night – We need someone to chair this event and also volunteers to help with planning.

Family Night – Family Night is normally held in May and is a St. Stephen's tradition of community-building and spirit-raising which allows families to come together for an evening of food and fun! We are still seeking a chair person, co-chair and volunteers for the Planning Committee (food, decorations, games, baskets). New ideas and new parents are always welcome. If you want to help, please contact the school as soon as possible.

Spree Day – We are in need of a chair person, co-chair and volunteers for this annual fun event!

Reminder: Safe Environment Training and CORI check are needed to volunteer.

The next Parent Forum will be held in the school on Friday, February 9th at 9 AM.



Box Tops and Labels – This is the month to send in those BoxTops! The next collection is February 16. Any students who bring in two or more sheets will receive a bonus. Clip and Count volunteers are welcome at 11:30 on February 16.

Magazine Drive:

The top sellers were Danny Ducharme (Gr. 8) and Jayce Batista (Gr.5).

The top classrooms for magazine sales were Grades 2 & 8. The students will enjoy an ice-cream party to celebrate their efforts.

Thank you to Michelle Mason for ALL of her hard work, as well as Mrs. DiCicco and Mrs. Kelly, and all of our students and families who participated in this annual fundraiser.

I M P O R T A N T . . .

Financial Aid Forms K-8

Financial Aid is distributed by the Diocese of Worcester based on need as it relates to the cost of tuition. Assessment of financial need and distribution of grants is made solely by the FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment of the FACTS Management Company. In order to be considered for financial aid, students must be enrolled and have completed their tuition agreement with their school. Applicants must apply on line. The website is <https://online.factsmgmt.com/aid>. This link is now available.

Please note the deadline for applications is Friday, March 9, 2018. If you need assistance with the application process, please contact the school at 508-755-3209 well in advance of the application deadline.

Re-registration Forms for 2018-2019

All current students need to re-register for the upcoming school year. Re-registration forms are enclosed in this week's brown envelope. We want to remind parents that the \$150.00 registration fee and the **completed registration form must be turned into the school office by Friday, March 1, 2018.** After the March 1st deadline, the re-registration fee will increase to \$175.00.

If your child will not be returning next year, please indicate that on the re-registration form and return it to the school office as soon as possible. All financial obligations to St. Stephen School must be satisfied prior to a student's transfer. Please note that any parish school and diocesan high school will not accept incoming students from parish schools whose financial obligations are incomplete.

As a reminder, our parish follows the guidelines of the national Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People approved by the US Bishops and the policies of the Diocese of Worcester in screening those who work with children in our care and in helping victims of abuse find healing. If you or someone you know has been sexually abused by a Church employee or volunteer in the past, please contact Judith Audette, Victim Services Coordinator for our diocese at 508-929-4363 (direct line and confidential voicemail). If you are concerned about a current case of abuse, please contact the local civil authorities immediately.