

JUNE NEWSLETTER 2010

SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST SCHOOL - HYDES

Dear Parents,

This year has been a very stressful year for all people involved with Catholic education in the Archdiocese of Baltimore. Waiting for the announcements of school closings put everyone on edge. We here at Saint John School knew that we were operating in the black, that we have a high Catholic Identity, and that our Standardized test scores have always been well above the Archdiocesan average. Yet, even for some here, there was worry. None of us knew what the committee would use as a barometer of who would close. We remain open, but many of our sister schools are closing their doors for the last time this June, and our hearts go out to those school families and faculties.

As we come to the end of yet another school year, I find myself with mixed emotions! We are all ready for a break and look forward to the laid back days of summer, yet we know that in a couple of weeks we will be missing the students and the excitement of each new day with them. I am sure God gives us this summer respite, not only to renew and refresh us, but to give us time to rekindle our passion for the ministry of teaching and the school year ahead.

We end this year with a commendation for all of our students who work hard throughout the year and grow not only physically, but academically, socially, and spiritually. They are the purpose for our school and the force that keeps us energized! Special congratulations to the Class of 2010! As we look back, some of them first entered our lives as three year olds eleven years ago. We find ourselves asking, "Where did those years go?" Whether they have been here eleven years or only one, our pride in their accomplishments could not be greater. We bid them a nostalgic farewell and invite them to return often for a visit. We expect to hear many good things about our graduates in the years to come.

When speaking of our students, we could not forget to mention our wonderful faculty and staff. They, many times, burn the midnight oil to complete their planning of lessons, assessments, correcting student work, taking care of the administrative duties of the school, the health of our school family and taking time to think about each student and their needs. Their dedication to the students of Saint John School and their commitment to the ministry of Catholic education are unwavering. We wish for them a summer of rest and relaxation, a time for them to pamper themselves and return to us refreshed.

Once again, I would like to thank you, the parents, for your support in our efforts to make Saint John School an extended family to all our children. We wish for you also a summer of relaxation and a time to enjoy your children as the real "gifts" they are! Know that you are in our prayers daily, and we ask that you keep us in your prayers.

Although there will be no school for the next few months, the parish life goes on. Keep Christ as the center of your life throughout the summer. Remember: There is no vacation from GOD.

Last Days of School:



The Pre K 3 students ended their year on May 27 with a family picnic. Our Pre K 4 ended on May 28, also with a picnic, but thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Karle, the children enjoyed the "Kid's Bounce." The Karles were the highest bidders for the class party at this year's Gala.

Students in Grades K-7 bid farewell to the 8th Grade on Wednesday, June 2, at 1:00 PM in the Church Hall with each class wishing them well through poems and songs. The eighth grade students will receive their diplomas on Thursday, June 3, at a 3:00 PM special Mass. The seventh grade parents will host a reception in the hall after the graduation.

On Friday, June 4, parents and friends will gather with the Kindergarten students as they celebrate the end of their school year. Festivities begin in the chapel at 10:15 AM and continue outside (weather permitting).

Monday, June 7, and Tuesday, June 8, will be noon dismissal days and Wednesday, June 9, will be the last day of school. The celebration of the ending of another successful year will begin as we gather for Mass at 8:45 AM. Students will then return to their classrooms to receive their Progress Reports. In addition, they will receive math and reading assignments for the summer. Dismissal will be at 10:30 AM.

Summer:

Business hours for the school office will be Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays during the summer from 9:00 AM until Noon.

The summer Newsletter should be ready by mid to end of July. It will be on the school website at <http://www.stjohnhydes.org>.

We look forward to seeing everyone back in August. The first day of school will be Monday, August 23, for grades K-8. Orientation for parents of new students to the school will take place on Wednesday, August 18, at 6:00 PM. There will also be a parent orientation to Middle School on August 18, at 7:00 PM. Both orientations will take place in the Church Hall. Invitations will be sent during the summer. Pre K 3 and Pre K 4 will also be notified during the summer with the date of orientation and start dates. Their start date will be after Labor Day. Kindergarten parents will receive information for their orientation that will take place the first day of school.

Uniforms:

Flynn & O'Hara is our official uniform company. You may order online or visit the store. Only official uniforms should be purchased for student wear.

Please remember the school shoes are a choice of either blue and white saddle shoes or the brown shoes pictured on the brochure that will be sent home with the summer packets. Shoes do not have to be purchased at the mentioned store.

"Principal and Secretary for the Day"

On May 24, we welcomed to the office Luke Rothenheber as "Principal" for the day and Katie Ruszala as "Secretary." We hope they enjoyed the day as much as we enjoyed having them "walk in our shoes."

A Heartfelt Farewell:

After nineteen years, Elaine Kane, one of our secretaries, will be retiring this year. Elaine has been an integral part of the Saint John faculty and staff over all these years. She has been graciously greeting visitors to the office, helping students and teachers, in addition to her administrative duties. She has come to endearingly be known to us in the office as "Uncle Billy," as she makes her weekly trip to complete the banking for the school. Mrs. Meacham and I will surely miss our comrade and will have many memories of the three of us working toward the many goals we have each year and always being able to smile or laugh with each other. We wish her only the best as retirement approaches and many days of making memories with her children and grandchildren. She will truly be missed!

Faculty:

It is usually in this newsletter, that I write to you about possible faculty changes for the new school year. This year has not been our average year and to this writing all is not in place for the new school year. In addition to Mrs. Kane, Mrs. Kruse, our Aide in Kindergarten, Mrs. Weitz, our Aide in Pre K 3, and Mrs. Grier, a retired teacher who has maintained our Website for over a decade, also will be leaving at the end of this school year. All these women have given many hours to the success of our students and will be missed for the unique qualities they bring to our school. Although they leave our employ, we look forward to having them visit often in the future. Everyone else has signed letters of intent that they would like to stay at Saint John. We are working on making this a reality, but it may cause some changes in grades for a few. As soon as things are finalized, I will email to you the changes if any.

A Note from the Counselor, Janet Palmer:

After 8 years as your School Counselor, I will be resigning this spring. I would like to thank everyone for the trust and support that you have shown me over the years. I have appreciated the opportunity to help guide your children as they grow and mature. I will miss Saint John and all things familiar with the school that have become part of my weekly life here. I wish the best for all the children here and those to come who find love and guidance in this special place.

Applause, Applause:

Eighth Grade:

As we say goodbye to the Class of 2010, we congratulate them on a task well done. At graduation, seventeen students will receive Archdiocesan diplomas. In addition to scholarships, individual subject awards and Presidential Education awards will be given. In the summer Newsletter, I will share with you the awards given at graduation.

Congratulations to Ryan Jones, Erin Dodson, and Sean Bohon, all in Grade 5! These three students represented our school by participating in the Maryland State Catholic Bee sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. The bee was held on Sunday, May 2, at Our Lady of Hope/St. Luke Parish Hall. We are so proud of them – as they placed: First, Second, and Fourth, respectively.

Chesca Basilio, Grade 4, donated her hair to "Locks For Love," an organization that makes wigs for cancer patients.

Thank You:

A special thanks to the Knights of Columbus who help us in so many ways during the year.

As the year is ending, many thanks go to the members of the Executive Committee of the H.A.S.A. and to the members of the School Board who work so hard for the good of our school.

I would also like to thank Father Willie and, more recently, Father Foley for their support and for joining the "Gold Slip" winners for lunch several times this year. Thanks also for helping our parish realize the benefits of having a Catholic school on campus.

A big "Thank You" goes to Mr. & Mrs. Slabinski for the planting they did in back of the school, and to our Social Action Club who also helped to beautify our campus with their plantings.

Last, but not least, many thanks to all the parent volunteers who have given their time and talents over this past year. There are so many who have helped in extraordinary ways I fear I will miss someone.

SO... THANKS,
THANKS,
THANKS,
And God Bless You!
You know who you are!

Have a great summer and God bless each of you.

Sincerely,

Jean Delcher

