



Dear Parents,

Let us begin the month of November by taking time out of our busy schedules to reflect on God's graciousness in our lives, and to thank Him not only for His many blessings, but for all those He sends to us who touch our lives in wonderful ways. Our **First Friday Mass** took place this afternoon and as always, was a wonderful way to begin the month by coming together to pray in a community of faith and love. We hope you have had a chance to share with your children the reasons we celebrate the first Friday of each month.

Last Friday we had our annual **St. Philip School Walkathon!** What a wonderful day it was! As you know, this event is held to raise money, show school spirit, and have fun. Our sincerest thanks go to Mrs. Jamie Allienello, coordinator of the event. Another gigantic "thank you" is extended to all the parents who helped to make the event so successful. Our 'make-your-own-sundae' party afterwards was great fun and we couldn't have done it without the parents who 'scooped' for us! Thank you for all of your generous donations. Please know that if you missed the donation deadline, we will continue to accept donations through the end of next week.

Our **Extended Day Program** is available both before and after school. It is not necessary to pay at the time of service. **Extended care bills** go home every two weeks via e-mail; if you have not used the program, you will not receive a bill. If your children have been sent to the extended day program and you are having difficulty receiving or accessing your bills, or you need to provide a different e-mail address, please contact the business office at 949-1130, ext. 14.

We continue our collections for St. Philip parish's weekly **St. Vincent de Paul parish food pantry**. Adding one or two extra items to your weekly grocery shopping is a relatively easy way to help with this project. **This month's featured needed items are pancake mix and pancake syrup.** Our regular "Club Sandwich" program will not begin this year until after the holidays, so more information about that program will be sent home at a later date. Your continued kindness as we endeavor to help our less fortunate brothers and sisters is sincerely appreciated. Our school families are certainly known for their generosity, in spite of their own hardships!

School picture re-takes will be held on Thursday, November 10th. For students who were absent on the original date, or whose parents would like pictures retaken, H & I Photography will be at the school at 8:30 a.m. Please note it takes no time at all for pictures to be taken on re-take day, so students should be on time to school that morning! Late arrivals may miss the picture-taking session. If you wish to have pictures taken again, you must send in the original portrait package and send your child to school in his/her full formal uniform. For those students who did not have their pictures taken the first time, order forms are available in the school office; if you no longer have one, please let Mrs. Daigle know and she will send one home with your child. If you ordered a class picture, please know that class pictures will be sent to the school only after all students have had pictures taken – so we do not expect class pictures to arrive until sometime in December.

Please read this newsletter carefully and make note of any information that applies to you and/or your children. We wish you a November and Thanksgiving that is filled with God's love, family, friends, laughter, and wonderful memories.

Sincerely,

Darlene A. Walsh, Principal
Patt A. McCormick, Assistant Principal

*Mr. Leveille
the Parrot
delights
students
arriving on the
morning of our
walkathon!*





Where values come to life.™

St. Philip School is once again participating in a fundraising effort with BJ's Wholesale Club. Attached is a flyer/application for those families who are interested in the program. St. Philip School families have the opportunity to join BJ's or to renew a current membership and receive \$10 off the annual membership fee. This offer includes an additional 3 months of membership, enabling families to receive 15 months of BJ's membership for only \$40 instead of the standard 12 months for \$50! BJ's will donate \$5 of every new/renewal membership back to St. Philip School. Renewing families will have the 15 months added to their existing memberships (your expiration date may be found at the top of any BJ's receipt). Families who are (or choose to become) Rewards members may earn \$20 off their membership fee and also receive the three extra months of membership.

Applications (with checks made payable to **BJ's Wholesale Club**) must be returned to the school office no later than **Friday, November 18, 2010**. Please see the attached flyer for more information, or contact Laurie Mitchell at 934-1781 if you have any questions. Applications may also be obtained through the PTO page of our website at www.stphilipschool.com.

DID YOU KNOW?

ST. PHILIP SCHOOL COLLECTS THE FOLLOWING ITEMS!!

PLEASE HELP US OUT BY SUBMITTING YOURS TO THE SCHOOL INSTEAD OF THROWING THEM AWAY!

Box Tops for Education

Earn cash for our school every time you shop for groceries or office supplies! Clip and save *Box Tops* from hundreds of your favorite products and submit them to the school. Box Tops coupons can be found on cereals, beverages, baking items, snacks, frozen foods, disposable bags and paper products, baby and personal care items, snacks, and Avery brand office products. Each Box Tops coupon is worth 10¢ to our school – and that adds up fast! In our most recent contest, we collected 7,234 Boxtops! That's \$723.40 for St. Philip School!!

Brigido's / IGA Receipts

St. Philip School is a member of the *Bridigo's Fresh Market Community Fund*, which helps to raise money for the school. All you need to do is save your register tapes from Brigido's / IGA and send them to St. Philip School in an envelope labeled *Brigido's / IGA*. St. Philip School will receive a percentage of the total register tapes submitted for reimbursement.

Campbell's Labels for Education

St. Philip School participates in the *Campbell's Labels for Education* program, which allows the school to receive free materials for the classroom and extracurricular programs. Help our school receive these free items by clipping the UPC codes of Campbell's brand labels and sending them to the school! Products include all Campbell's soups, specially-marked Spaghettios canned pastas, all V-8 juices and soups, Franco-American gravies, Pepperidge Farm breads & rolls, croutons, crackers and stuffings, Prego Italian sauces, and Swanson chicken broth products. With parish and school family participation, these coupons will add up fast so that we can earn more points towards free materials! *Please send in just the UPC codes and not the entire labels*. This will help to cut down on the work our volunteers have to do to prepare the coupons for shipping.

STOP AND SHOP PROGRAM



A+ AMAZING! It's not too late to help! All you have to do is log on to www.stopandshop.com/aplus to register online **OR** dial 1-877-275-2758 to register your Stop & Shop card over the phone. After you register your card, each shopping trip at Stop & Shop using your Stop

& Shop Card earns CASH for our school! Each month, the amount of CASH awarded is updated on the Stop & Shop website. You can track the amount of points you earn for our school by checking your grocery receipt and online when you create an account at stopandshop.com. Our school will receive a check at the end of the program. The money can be used for any of our school's educational needs.

WRITTEN NOTES REQUIRED!

Please remember that students must bring in written parental notes when...

1. they are to be released early from school, or they arrive late to school. All notes must be dated and contain a parental signature! These notes are legal documents and are required for the safety and protection of your children.
2. they are to be released to someone other than those designated on the student emergency card on file in the office (per diocesan mandate, these notes sent via e-mail or facsimile are not acceptable),
3. they are to stay after school for extra-curricular activities (basketball, Student Council activities, etc.),
4. their departure from school deviates in any way from their 'normal' routine.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR!

The annual fall Scholastic Book Fair will be held next week!
The schedule is:

Tuesday, November 8th

Set up and preview for teachers
Open after school 2:30-4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 9:

8:45 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Book Fair open for students
2:30-4:00 p.m. & 6:30-8:00 p.m. – Book Fair open for parents

Thursday, November 10

8:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Book Fair open for students
12:00 – 1:00 p.m. – Break down of Book Fair

Heating Assistance

Heating assistance is available for families who qualify. If you need heating assistance contact the agency nearest you. If all other forms of assistance have been exhausted

East Bay CAP 437-5102

South County CAP 789-3016

West Bay CAP 732-4660

Tri Town CAP 351-2750

Blackstone Valley CAP 723-0227

Providence CAP 273-0882

Cranston CAP 467-7013

2011 ST. VINCENT DEPAUL

ITEMS NEEDED FOR THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS BASKETS

Cranberry sauce	Cake mix
Gravy	Macaroni & cheese
Stuffing mix	Jello & Pudding
Green beans	Canned tuna
Peas	Peanut butter & jelly
Corn	Rice
Canned fruit	Instant potatoes
Muffin mix	Coffee/Tea
Pie Crust Mix	Pasta Sauce
Cereal	Pasta
Soup	Cookies
Beef stew	Kleenex
Chili	Laundry detergent



IMPORTANT MONEY REMINDER:

When sending payment to the office for any school-related expenses such as extended care, hot lunch, fundraisers, field trips, etc., please do not combine payments if you are paying by check. It makes for difficult accounting when money needs to be deposited into different accounts.

If you choose to pay anything with cash, please enclose exact change. Since most families pay by check, it is often difficult for teachers to scramble to find enough cash to make change if a student hands in more money than is necessary.

Thank you for your cooperation! 😊

PARENTS - PLEASE BE REMINDED OF SCHOOL POLICY! CHILDREN MAY NOT RETURN TO SCHOOL AFTER ILLNESS UNLESS THEY HAVE BEEN FEVER FREE (UNDER 100° F. WITHOUT THE USE OF MEDICATION FOR A FULL 24 HOURS.

Congratulations to 7th grader Peter Tillinghast, winner of the Smithfield Little League's 2011 Sportsmanship Award for his team, Navigant Credit Union. Peter modestly described his award as, "it just means you listen to the coaches and don't say mean things to the other kids." Way to go, Peter! That IS what good sportsmanship is all about!

CLASSROOM NEWS!

LIFE IS PRECIOUS!

The Mother of Life Center in Providence is always in need of **baby clothing** and **baby items**. St. Philip School accepts these items and attempts to fill the bassinet in our prayer atrium several times throughout the school year through our on-going Gabriel Project. Items are delivered to the Mother of Life Center and other parish Gabriel Projects when the bassinet is full.

While cleaning up and clearing out your home for Thanksgiving and Christmas, please remember the Mother of Life Center.

It accepts clothing sizes from preemie/newborn to 10 yrs. old, smaller toys, children's books, maternity clothing, large & extra-large regular clothing for women, breast pumps, baby & adult sheet sets. Shampoo, body wash, and similar personal care items are always needed.

If you would like to adopt a family for Christmas, Please call Marlo at 421-0820.

GRADE 3

October is over and we are heading into the month of November. It is so hard to believe that we are getting ready to celebrate Thanksgiving.

October has kept us very busy. Here is a look at some of what took place over the month of October.

Students in grade 3 participated in TerraNova testing. This was the first time students took standardized testing. I was very impressed to see each child working so diligently.

In Math students learned how to multiply by 2, add money, subtract money, and determine the missing addend. They also began working on adding larger numbers and multiplying by 5.

In our first unit of Social Studies students learned to identify the three types of communities, use a scale on a map, use a compass on a map, and compare communities in Mexico to those in the United States.

We also began using our Vocabulary books. Students in grade 3 are now participating in a formal vocabulary program. Since the start of this program, students have learned to identify parts of speech, identify synonyms and antonyms of vocabulary words, use vocabulary word in context, and identify the correct meaning from multiple meaning words. We have already finished Unit 1 and have started working on Unit 2.

As a way to build upon the formal vocabulary program, all students in grade 3 have been working on an independent assignment. Students in grade 3 have been reading Ralph S. Mouse. Students have been learning the meanings to key vocabulary words in the story as well as practicing their writing and editing skills by writing a summary of the story. I can't wait to read the students' work.

I am sure that November will keep us just as busy as the month of October. Be sure to check schoolnotes.com for changes and information relating to grade 3, as I update this on a regular basis.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you on Parent/Teacher



Conference night and wish all of you a wonderful Thanksgiving.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mrs. Monahan: Sixth grade students are learning about the forces of Earth in geography. They are working on figurative language and creative writing, as well as grammar and vocabulary in English & Language Arts.

Mrs. Werner: All grades in the middle school have begun our new Diversity of Life Science kits. We will be starting our kits by studying living and nonliving things based on the characteristics/evidence of life. Soon we will be using our new microscopes to look at plant cells and protists. We will be collecting and putting together our own mini ponds in our classroom to see what life forms we can culture overtime. We are having wonderful discussions as we discover the answers to our questions through our own investigation.

In religion classes we have been reading our What's New about the Mass booklet to learn about the changes that will take place in the Roman Missal beginning November 27, 2011. Students have been

writing thoughtful reflections on the purpose for this change, their feelings about it, and how they will prepare for this change.

Mrs. Sorice: October flew by in the middle school! The 8th grade would like to extend a huge thank you to all who supported our first fundraiser of the year, a Halloween themed basket. Congratulations to all the winners. We are busily looking to the year ahead, planning future fundraisers and service projects. More information on all 8th grade events will be coming in the next few months.



Our first dance was a huge success. Students danced and had a great time. This spirit building activity helped us turn our attention toward November and the upcoming student council elections. Our hallway has been busy as students have worked hard campaigning. All students who have participated deserve a pat on the back for their enthusiasm and well thought out speeches.

In the classroom, 7th graders have been diligently working on their author scrapbook research projects. A cross curricular project between Language Arts, Library, and Art, students are challenged to research an author of their own choosing. Then, s/he must take that research and transform it into a scrapbook that the 'author' would create about himself or herself. With support on design elements from Mr. Hannon, constant writing workshops with me, and countless research hours with Mrs. Dawson in the library, their hard work is beginning to shape itself toward the final product. We can't wait to see how they turn out! Some after school workshops will be offered as this month goes on; more information about that, and other progress notes will be sent home and posted on Schoolnotes. The web address/link for my Schoolnotes page is <http://new.schoolnotes.com/msorice>.

Meanwhile, 8th graders have been focusing on the creation of their own 'lead books'. Modeled after Chris Van Allsburg's The Mysteries of Harris Burdick, students had to find pictures in the world around them that they found interesting. Then, they had to cite the sources from which their pictures came using proper MLA style documentation. Now, through asking a series of inside and outside questions, they have written 'leads', first sentence ideas to accompany each of their pictures in a collection they've created. This collection will have a theme and I am really impressed with how hard students have been working throughout this project. The final products promise to be impressive.

GRADE 5

Fifth graders put on *The Insect Imposter Mystery* for Grades 2, 3, and 4 on Wednesday, November 2, 2011. They did a wonderful job and the audience was very appreciative!

We received another letter from a kind person in Fire Island, NY who found one of our bottles. We will have fifth grade pen pals in New York shortly.

Creative book report ideas will be distributed at conference time.



MATH NEWS FROM MRS. VENTER

Lots going on in the Math room! Grade 5 is reviewing and expanding on all their basic skills from last year, as well as traveling on the Math Quest map by solving problems using specific strategies. Many students are making gallant attempts at solving STAMPSS (Students Applying Mathematical Problems Solving Strategies) and earning stickers for our chart. Students who solve 10 STAMPSS get to delve into the prize bag. We're waiting for our first champion!



Grades 6, 7 and 8 are finishing up their second chapters, and the new buzz in the room is about Kakooma problems! Do you like Sudoku puzzles? Can you KenKen? Ask a middle schooler about our new Kakooma craze.

Algebra and Pre-algebra students are hard at work and have discovered the benefits of Khan Academy, an online "school" with lessons on almost every math topic imaginable, and practice problems galore. It's great for homework help and skill practice.

SCIENCE NEWS FROM MRS. IAFRATE

Grades 3, 4 & 5 – We are starting our new science kits in grades 3, 4, & 5. A letter to parents of students in those grades was sent home with your child. You should have received a letter from me explaining the kit and what you as parents will be asked to do. If you did not receive that letter, please ask your child for it. If your child lost the letter, please have them ask their teacher for another copy.

Grade 2 – We are continuing our work on habitats. We discussed a polar habitat. Our next habitat that we are covering will be the desert.

Grade 1 – We are finishing our unit on bats. Students are finishing their bat books. Our next unit will be on magnets.

Kindergarten – We are beginning a unit on habitats. We will be doing activities involving animals and characteristics of different habitats.

KINDERGARTEN



Here it is already November and time for Open House for next year's Kindergarten class. October was once again a busy month: Columbus Day, Fire Prevention Week, and of course Halloween. We had fun with our buddies and enjoyed our dance, *"The Witches" Brew.* Then there was learning and teaching to be done!! We are growing in so many ways and are starting to read and write words and just this past Thursday, we wrote about what we are thankful for. How much we have grown.

We have learned many new words in Reading and are so interested in making Venn diagrams. We love to learn new things. We have completed our correct formation of numerals 1-10 and our ordinal number words. In Religion, we have talked about God creating the land, sky and the animals and we have learned about how God wants us to love Jesus, others and then ourselves. I-Buddy has taught us about safety on the computer and how to have fun by asking an adult for help.

Now in November we will be learning about Pilgrims, Indians and decorating our room. This is a month for giving thanks and we will be baking breads for the food pantry at our church. We are going to learn about privacy in Civics and also study magnets as we learn the letter Mm and "Investigate" the properties of magnets as we learn about the vowel "i". Now that we know "a" and "i" we should be able to read many more words and write more sentences too.

In Math we will learn about solid and plane shapes and in Religion we will talk about God creating us to know Him, to love Him and to

serve Him. We will also be practicing our songs for our school wide production of, *"Oh, My Stars, It's Christmas!"* Then it will be December and we will wait for Santa Claus – did you know that his initials are **S.C. and so are the first letters in the words-self-control!!** That is what we are trying to learn in kindergarten so that we can learn so many new and fun things. Talk to you in December!!!

GRADE 1

October started out with a visit from Harriet and Cathy. Harriet is a Bernese Mountain dog who actually knows sign language! The children love to sit and pet her and Harriet seems very comfortable in Grade One! With Mrs. Iafrate's guidance, we've become experts on bats! We thought they were scary, but now we know they are really interesting, helpful creatures. Grade One took a trip to the Dora Howard Senior Center. There the clients were treated to a concert by Grade One, disguised as fairies, princesses, and many other interesting folks! After we sang, we gave each person a witch to bring home. We were such a hit that we've been invited back to sing Christmas carols in December!



We were very excited to learn that we won Boxtopoly, and we enjoyed eating our prize...delicious cupcakes baked by Mrs. Bilotti. We're already looking forward to Mrs. Bilotti's wonderful idea for the next Boxtops contest! The children have now taken over three hundred computer reading tests, which translates into three popsicle treats! It's been a wonderful month, and we look forward to the cool weather of November!

GRADE 2

October was a great month in grade 2. It has flown by. It is hard to believe that we are more than half way through the trimester. We have been learning and growing in knowledge and faith every day. For November, we are looking forward to learning about the Rain Forest, studying different habitats with Mrs. Iafrate, learning harder math, and our Turkey Plea Contest. Naturally, we can't wait until Thanksgiving!!!

During October, we prayed the Rosary every day. We worked on group banners for Worship, Prayer, and Celebration and we completed a partner Religion Project to help us prepare to take tests. We had a lot of fun and learned a lot about the sacraments, especially Baptism, the gift of the Holy Spirit and how the Holy Spirit is always with us in our circle of grace.



We began really using our Neo's and the computers for math fact practice and spelling practice, working on our Haikus, and now our Thanksgiving Acrostics. We are getting very good at keyboarding, editing, adding pictures, and changing print. Mrs. Pierpaoli introduced us to Elmo. He is our new "special helper" in grade 2. He can do a lot of really cool things to help us learn computer skills, editing skills, math practice and a

lot more. Mrs. P says he's a great student, ha ha ha!!! We keep telling her he isn't really a student. Pretty soon we're going to use Elmo to help us Skype with Miss Solomon's class so we can see all of her students clearly. We can't wait.

We have just about half way through filling our bell jar. We hope to have it filled by Thanksgiving so that we can earn a special privilege like a breakfast. We have been doing a good job earning star coins. Our winners for Sept. were Richard Buckley and Kassidy Correia, and for Oct. they were Kayla Kumar and Kassidy Correia. Kyle Bourque won the candy corn estimation contest. Way to go, second graders!!!

We would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!

GRADE 4

What a fast month October turned out to be! In between our Terra Nova testing we continued to study about the fascinating history of our state! We wrote acrostic poems on Roger Williams and participated in an interactive presentation by Ranger John McNiff from the Roger Williams National Memorial Park about Roger Williams' fight for religious freedom. Ranger McNiff truly impressed on the children that our right to religious freedom is due to Roger Williams and his Rhode Island Colony otherwise known as the "Lively Experiment." We read **Something Upstairs** by Avi and learned through the students' oral presentations about 31 famous historical Rhode Islanders. We even learned about the 3 branches of government in our state!



In Science we learned about glaciers and how they have influenced the land of Rhode Island. Mathematics found us busy learning about making change and learning various problem-solving strategies.

In reading we read **Mystery on October Road** and created storyboards of sequential events to go with this book. Finally during Religion, we wrote poems about St. Francis of Assisi, learned about the Circle of Grace Program, and prayed the Living Rosary.

How much we all learned and prayed during our second month of fourth grade!



**BJ's has a special \$40 Membership
offer just for
THE STAFF, FRIENDS & FAMILIES OF
ST. PHILIP SCHOOL**



**4 Great Reasons to
Join or Renew***

- 1. Get \$10 off our \$50** Annual Membership Fee**
- 2. FREE Additional 3 Months of Membership**
- 3. FREE Second Membership Card for a household member**
- 4. PLUS, BJ's will donate \$5 of your Membership fee to**

ST. PHILIP SCHOOL!

**It doesn't matter when you last renewed,
we will add 15 months to your current expiration date.
This special offer is not valid online or at any BJ's Club location.*

**Completed applications and payment
should be returned to:
THE SCHOOL OFFICE
Attention: Monica Daigle
on or before November 18th, 2011.**

