

DMCS Newsletter September 13, 2018

Dear Parents-

Yesterday when I came to work, I picked up a bright red leaf next to my car. Fall is beginning to show her colors and it is beautiful. I love watching the seasons change and fall is one of my favorites! As I stand at the crosswalk each day, I am allowed to enjoy the sun and sights for a brief time. It is wonderful!

Speaking about standing in the crosswalk, there are a few reminders now that we are in the third week of school.

*Please do not get out of your car in the car lane when you drop off or pick up your child. This makes for a very unsafe situation. If you have a child who still needs help getting buckled in or out, you might decide that parking and walking up might work better. Thank you!

*Please do not try to drop off or pick up students in the middle of the street. This is not safe. Always park your car or use the car lane.

*Parents, I beg you, please use the cross walks when the patrols are present. You are the role models for every child that sees you. Your behavior sets the tone for them. Thank you for helping us keep all our students safe!

Don't forget that tomorrow is Care and Share Day! This is a dress down day for charity. All K-5 students can dress out of uniform for a donation of at least \$1.00. This money will be used to support a charity. We have used it to build a well in Africa, feed starving children, and support other causes. We have not yet decided where the funds will go yet this year, but we will let you know soon! Thank you for helping us teach your children the power of giving to others (It is **GREAT** if the dollar they pay is earned by them in some way-extra chores, etc. This makes the lesson learned so much more meaningful.)

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at the **Waffle Breakfast** this weekend. It is Sunday, September 16th from 8:30-12:30 AM at Divine Mercy Catholic Church (139 Mercy Drive). All Preschool and school-aged families are invited to this breakfast. Some of you have bought tickets already, but they will also be available for purchase that day. Please come join us and bring your friends. It is a great time to connect with other families and show your support for our school. I will see you while I help serve sausage.

Spirit Fest is just a week away. It is the Divine Mercy Parish Festival and has many family friendly activities. It will be held at Divine Mercy Catholic Church the weekend of September 21st, 22nd and 23rd. (the dance on Friday night is offsite) There are activities scheduled each day with something for everyone! See the flyer for more information on the various events.

Our school will be sponsoring a gently used book give-away at Spirit Fest again this year. If you would like to donate books, please drop them off at school before Friday, September 21st. If you are looking for "new to you" books, family fun, and entertainment, join us at Spirit Fest! I hope to see you there!

NWEA testing begins next week for our 4th and 5th grade students. It continues the week of September 24th-28th for our 3rd and 2nd grade students, then ends with Kindergarten and 1st grade students the week of October 1st through the 5th. This is one of three times this year that we will take these tests. Please see the letter included with this email blast for more information.

Spooktacular is coming soon! What is it you ask? Spooktacular is a 5K walk/run with kids' runs that is held annually to support the mission of Divine Mercy Catholic School and Bethlehem Academy. This important event raises funds that used to be raised during the Marathon. We have hosted this event jointly with Bethlehem Academy for the last few years to give our families, their friends, relatives, and neighbors a chance to do something fun while raising money for our school. Fundraisers are a necessary part of keeping tuition affordable. This activity provides the opportunity to involve many people from outside of our school family. This event will kick off on Monday, September 17th. Look for details coming home soon after.

Have a blessed weekend with your families. Enjoy some of our beautiful Minnesota Fall!

God Bless!

Gina Ashley



"The purpose of my instruction is that all believers would be filled with love that comes from a pure heart, a clear conscience, and genuine faith." 1 Timothy 1:5



Like us on Facebook!

VIRTUS Training If you plan to volunteer in your child's classroom or attend a class Field Trip the Archdiocese requires that you complete a Background Check, Code of Conduct and attend a VIRTUS Training session. If you have any questions, please contact the business office at 334-7706.

The next training session at DMCS is:

September 17th - 6:30-9:30 PM

Before attending the training, you will need to register at www.virtus.org under St. Paul/Minneapolis Archdiocese.

All school volunteers must attend VIRTUS Training.

You do **not** need to attend this session if you have attended previously. **

Dates to Remember

- Sept. 14 Care & Share Dress Down Day \$1
Sept. 16 Waffle Breakfast 8:30 to 12:30
at Divine Mercy Catholic Church
Sept. 17 VIRTUS Training 6:30 at DMCS
SPOOKTACULAR Kick-Off!
Sept. 19 8:30 Mass - Gr. 3 Host
Sept. 21 Gr. 2 to River Bend Nature Center
Sept. 21-23 Spirit Fest at Divine Mercy Catholic Church
Sept. 26 8:30 Mass K-12
Sept. 27 Vision & Hearing Screening
Sept. 28 Reward Dress Down Day

Spirit Fest is only a couple of weeks away! We hope you can join us for this fun day of festivities. The committee is asking for your help. We are in need of 16oz. Bottles of pop for the all time favorite "Ring-A-Pop" game. All donations can be dropped off at DMCS or DMCC.



Is your child in grades 3-5? Do you struggle getting your child to do homework at night? Does your child need a little extra help? If so, we would love to have your child in homework club. Homework club begins on Monday, September 24th. See the flier sent home today with your 3rd, 4th or 5th grade student for more information.

Purpose of Rice County 4-H



4-H is a fun opportunity for kids to get involved in and promote educational and leadership experiences, and help to appreciate self-identity.

4-H is a program for youth in Kindergarten through 1-year past high school. It is a non-profit and runs with the help of volunteers. To get involved with the Rice County 4-H Program call the extension office: Faribault - 507-332-6109 or Northfield - 507-645-9576. Or visit the website at: www.extension.umn.edu/county/rice.

In this week's folder

- ❖ NWEA Parent Letter (attached)
- ❖ Parent's Guide to MAP Growth (attached)
- ❖ Homework Club (Gr. 3-5)
- ❖ Spirit Fest Flier
- ❖ Hockey Flier
- ❖ Boy Scout Flier
- ❖ Girl Scout Flier

Fliers from BA:

- ❖ Homecoming t-shirt order form
- ❖ String Art Fundraiser Flier

Please Return Your Thursday Folder!

We will be sending home hard copies of the newsletter ***through September 20th***. We will also be emailing the newsletter to all of our families. If you do not receive the email with the newsletter please contact Peggy Johnson at pjohnson@dmcs.cc with your email address so that we may update our database. If you do not have access to the internet, please contact the Peggy at (507) 334-7706 Ext: 2233 and let us know that you would like to continue to receive hard copies of the newsletter.

Please remember DMCS in your will.