

Heart to Home School Newsletter

Sept. 16, 2016
Newsletter #1



Sacred Heart Area School

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We have a different dismissal time than last year. The kids are now dismissed at 3:15 every day instead of 3:10. We have had to do a lot of adjusting these last 2 weeks, due to all of the changes with the school district and bussing. Thank you for your patience.

Principal's News

Ingredients for a Great Year!

Dear families and friends of Sacred Heart Area School. We are already into our 2nd week of the school year at SHAS. As we begin this year, we should strive to make it the best year our school has had yet. To do this our school family must focus on loving and respecting God, each other, and all His creations. As teachers, we will work together to provide the most beneficial classroom management and discipline practices at every grade level, for happy, safe, highly productive learning environments. To be successful, we need your support. We are fortunate our parents are very caring and engaged in their children's education. SHAS encourages families to take time each day, working, playing, and praying together. Checking up on our children's homework, having a little fun time, and a dinner and/or before bedtime prayer with your child each day, will go a long way in developing them spiritually, academically, and emotionally for a happy successful life. Reinforce community and school laws and policies. Go over the school handbook with them, especially the anti-bullying, school dress code, and phone use policies, which are most commonly concerns at school. Encourage the recycling of aluminum, paper, and plastic in your home. Communicate often with your child's classroom teacher regarding your child's education or with the principal if you have a teacher or school-wide concern. We can never strive to improve if we don't see the short-comings.

You Are All Represented

Sacred Heart Area School Families will again be represented this year by the SHAS School Advisory Board. This year's board members are; Katie Noska, Chris Perius, Michael Cole, Tom Brichacek, Susan Storry, and Sarah Gregerson. In addition, for the first time this year, the board will have an *ex officio* parent representative, representing the parents that are not members of a local Catholic parish, who have not been able to serve on the board in the past. Together, these advisory board members will work with the principal and

Jim Opelia, Principal

pastor in developing school policies, problem solving, and decision making. All board members are elected to serve 3 year terms.

Homework

The Sacred Heart teaching staff collectively discussed the value of homework for our students, as well as the value of consistence of homework between grade levels. Items mentioned were: First of all, the value of having the home connection in the children's learning, where parents engage with their children, realizing what they are being taught and understanding how well they are learning the material. Secondly, the importance of teaching children the skill and responsibility of completing homework, which they will certainly have plenty of for the remainder of their life after leaving our school. The last but not least item, was that we should not over do homework, as to not burn the children out, when their families' lives are very busy, and play time and family interaction time is incredibly important. The classroom teachers all agreed that we should be consistent, in providing homework, that the children can accomplish in a relatively short time. Please keep in contact with us with your concerns regarding homework throughout the year.

To be a grandparent
is to experience the joy
of unconditional love.



Happy Grandparents Day!

Come and celebrate with us September 29th starting with mass at 8:30, coffee and treats to follow at school.



Dates: September 26-30
Shopping Hours: 7:30am-3:30pm
Special Events: Grandparents Day, Thursday September 29th



Sept 21 Fall Picture Day
Sept 21 Religious Ed Begins
Sept 23 District Wide Evacuation Drill
Sept 29 Grandparents Day Mass
Sept 30 Mid-Quarter 1
Oct 14 No School
SACRED HEART ONLY
Marzano Training for Teachers
Oct 19 Work-a-thon
Oct 20- No School MEA
21
Oct 26 Halloween Dance
Oct 31 No School-PLC



Evacuation Drill

Please watch for important information that will be coming home regarding the evacuation drill that is scheduled for, Friday, September 23rd!



**Fall picture day is
September 21st.
Picture envelopes were
sent home this week!**

“One small positive thought in the morning can change your whole day.”



Mission Statement

In sharing our Catholic faith in Christ, we foster spiritual and academic formation in a positive, welcoming atmosphere that reflects love and respect for all.

All student arriving to school before 7:40 will need to report to BEFORE SCHOOL CARE held in the second preschool classroom. All BEFORE SCHOOL CARE students will go to breakfast at 7:40 and then will return to their classroom after.



Thank you all for the warm welcome I have received. I really enjoy working with the wonderful staff, students and parents here. It was a great move for me and I feel like I am HOME! I am excited to be introducing the Big Day in Pre-K curriculum to my students. It is easy to work with and the kids are really liking it. The first two weeks we have had ‘Welcome to School’ and ‘Making Friends’ as our themes. Week one we learned about the rules and routines at school. We have come up with a pretty good schedule, but it may need some tweaking here and there as the situation demands it. The second week of school we learned about working and playing together. My students are already very good at that. Even when the group is large, they work well together. They have earned many complements from me. They make me so proud!

The first two weeks have really been about getting to know each other and the expectations here at school. Next week we will be introducing Handwriting without Tears and The Letter of the Week. We will continue to work on colors, numbers and shapes too. We have been working with position words and patterns which we will continue to build upon as the year progresses. We are off to a great start!

