

Heart to Home School Newsletter

May 18, 2017
Newsletter #32



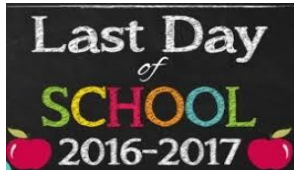
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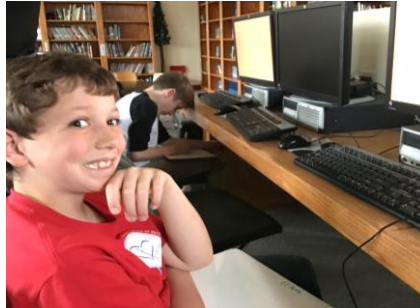
Sacred Heart School's last day of school is June 2nd! It is a half day and busses will load at 12:20!

There will be no after school care that day!



Principal's News, from Jim Opelia, Principal

Hard Work Paying Off



5th graders Gabe Koval (front) and Zach McIlravy (back) working hard on their end of year tests in the computer lab

Over the past two years, teachers have worked hard studying, and implementing new teaching strategies by Dr. Robert Marzano. The strategies have included developing and posting scales of the learning standards for students, discussing learning goals and objectives with the students, increasing rigor, and frequent formative assessments. Our primary focus this year has been on math, with next year's focus to be Reading/Language Arts. We are happy to say we are seeing positive results from our works. Our 3rd-5th grade students' MCA scores have improved significantly over the past two years, with the vast majority of our students now meeting or exceeding the standards this spring. I am very grateful to all the teachers for their hard work in the past, and their continued commitment to continue to increase our children's potential. As I have said before, our school is in a position most schools would like to be. The implementation of these new teaching strategies is taking place throughout the schools of the St. Cloud Diocese.

Congratulations Graduates!

This morning we had our 5th grade graduation Mass and program. We will miss this wonderful group of children as they move on to the middle school for grade six. Tomorrow we will celebrate kindergarten graduation at 2:00pm. We also celebrated our preschoolers' completion of the school year yesterday afternoon and this afternoon, with some great tunes performed by the preschool students.

Summer Bridges



As we did last year, at the end of the school year, SHAS students will receive a Summer Bridges Activity Workbook. These workbooks are specialized to meet the needs of each individual grade level of students, to better prepare them for their next school year and help them retain the knowledge they have learned during their completed school year. The staff has made this fun for kids by introducing incentives for them to complete the tasks throughout the summer and return their completed books next fall to receive rewards which will be awarded at the start of school. This past fall, we noticed a considerable improvement in test scores for students who took advantage of this opportunity. We ask parents to encourage their children to take full advantage of these workbooks this summer, which by all means, will be self-paced and voluntary.

Mark Your Calendar

- May 19 Hooked on Fishing - 4th Grade
- May 19 Kindergarten Graduation 2:00
- May 29 Memorial Day - No School
- May 30 All School Field Trip- Paul Bunyan Land
- June 2 Last Day of School ½ Day
12:20 Release Time

June 2 No After School Care



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.

Last Day of School

Please join us for our annual "Last Day of School" picnic on Friday, June 2nd. The potluck will be **served** at 11:00 am, so please be here with your potluck item by 10:30. **Mass will be at 8:30am that day.** Each family is asked to bring a potluck item to share. The picnic will be held right here at the school on the north side of the building. **Remember it is only a half day of school that day with school being released 3 hours early, buses will be loading at 12:20!**



Wow! Where has all of the time gone this year? It's hard to believe that our 12 kindergarten students are ready to graduate and be promoted to first grade. Please join us in the gym on Friday, May 19th at 2:00 pm for a special ceremony.



Spring is finally here, but just a reminder that our school policy is as follows:

- Shorts are not allowed to be worn unless that morning's forecast is for 75° F or warmer.
 - No gym shorts, biker shorts, or cut off shorts are allowed.
- Shorts cannot be worn to Mass either day, however, students will be allowed to change into shorts after Mass if the weather is appropriate.



Wow the year is coming to an end fast! In First Grade, we are wrapping up as we complete our last units in every subject. I can see my first graders becoming second graders. We are excited for the upcoming all school field trip to Paul Bunyan Land. We made it through our mass this year and are leading Rosary one day a week. With only 10 days of school left, the first graders wanted to challenge themselves and see if they could spell 100 words! We are going to take that challenge next week! We wish everyone a great summer and we will see everyone next year! The First Grade Class!

Field Trip!



Our field trip this year will be on May 30th, to Paul Bunyan Land. A form was sent home this week, please return that ASAP! Permission slips will be coming home on Monday so please watch for them!