



September 16, 2016

Dear Parents,

In this Sunday's Gospel we learn what it means to be in right relationship. We also hear the word trustworthy being used by Jesus as He speaks to His disciples about stewardship. Being in right relationship means our hearts are connected with Christ to be trustworthy stewards. God has given each of us life. Life is a wonderful gift and we must take care not only of ourselves but also the precious resources of the earth which have been entrusted to us. Each of us must do our part to be responsible stewards. The children here at school are being reminded to reduce, reuse and recycle. We start off with little ways

and someday soon we will collectively make a larger impact in the world. Let us all work to help the children understand that all the wonderful gifts from God are precious. We can work to help them understand how to show ourselves to be trustworthy and take responsibility for the care of these gifts. Let us all work to be in right relationship with God first, then others, and also with all of creation.



It has been a pleasure watching the children the first few days and more specifically this



first full week! I have visited classrooms and seen your children eager to learn and the wonderful faculty interacting with them. Our biggest problem to deal with right now are the amount of tardy students! Last year our tardy record was not good! I am really going to be firm on this. School begins at 8:00 am. The teachers have a tight schedule so if your children are not here by 8:00 am, they miss the entire first 10 minutes which sets the organizational tone of the day. By 8:10 our classes are in full session. It is so important that we try to keep the children mindful of the importance of

getting to bed at a reasonable time to be sure they are up and ready to begin the school day. Anyone who is tardy, must report to the office and parents are asked **not** to walk down the hall with them. (Tardy is: coming in after the students have left the gym.) The students all know where their classrooms are now. We have given them time to adjust and it really makes it harder when the parents walk them in. We ask your cooperation and understanding in this matter.

Along the lines of getting to school on time, please be really mindful of safety with morning drop off. The speed limit is **5 miles per hour please!** The morning drop off is supposed to be slow, single file and no car should go around one that is dropping off a child ahead of them. The after-noon pick up is going smoothly now that all the parents know the procedure and routine for pick up. Your patience with all of this is greatly appreciated. It is for everyone's safety that we have these rules in place.

As I have been observing the children, I do notice that not all the students are wearing the correct uniform shoes. We have only one option for the boys, the Nubucs /Oxfords (tie shoe) in tan with the red clay sole. The girls have two options: the same tan tie shoe as the boys, or the navy blue Mary Jane shoe with the buckle or Velcro. I know the Kdgn. and First Grade boys are having trouble with the belts, but the school belt should get easier with wear. If these first few weeks have been difficult for your child to the point of having accidents, you can wait until Nov. 1st to wear them, when we go into the full winter uniform. By then they should have adjusted to things a little better. We want the children looking their best at all times. Keeping the shirts tucked in is another problem. The gym uniform does look neater with the shirts tucked in. Try sending them to school that way and we will remind them throughout the day as well. We are hoping everyone will be set in the correct uniform by next Friday. We would like to take a picture of the entire student body on Sept. 23rd for the Annual Christmas Card that we send to donors and friends of the school.

Important dates and deadlines:

Sat. Sept. 17th the Fife and Drum Corps will be marching in the Guilford Fair Parade. Nick Fradiani, a former graduate and winner of American Idol last year, will be performing in the evening .



Choir begins Monday, **Sept. 19th**. The flyers in the packets are for students in Grades 3-8. For this first rehearsal Monday, the parents are asked to come in to get the forms for registration as well as a copy of the schedule of rehearsals for the first half of the year. Parents do not have to stay during the rehearsal.

Sept. 19th is also the deadline to sign up for Sr. Carolyn's upcoming book study, "The Joy of Love" by Pope Francis. Anyone interested in joining the

book study should call the church office 203-488-1607 to register or speak with Sister for more details.



Tennis begins **Wed. Sept. 21st**. Please know your children do not need any equipment as racquets are supplied by the instructor.

A new addition this year is our Tae kwon do club . It will begin **October 11th**. In this week's packet all the information is included on the flyer. The children have this opportunity to attend the classes right after school in the gym. This is so convenient for the parents, and I hope many families will take advantage of this program. The very generous offer from Master Hahn of a return of \$40.00 from the cost of each child's registration , will be donated back to the school. In addition to it being beneficial to the children, it is also a helpful fundraiser for the school. We appreciate this cooperative effort from Master Hahn. It is open to Grades K-5. Anyone joining the club will be allowed to wear their uniform on Tuesdays in school all day. This way, they will be able to begin the club immediately at 2:30.



On **Oct. 2nd**, on the Branford Green is the blessing of pets. I am looking for volunteers from grades 6, 7, and 8. Please let me know if your child can help, by returning the permission slip so I can let Mrs. Susan Barnes know if we can help out. More info was in last week's blue letter.

One last important reminder from the Home and School: your service hour agreement (the one where you sign up to fundraise or pay the \$600.00 in two payments), **was due on Sept. 6th**. We are still in need of some families to return their family commitment forms. Please do so ASAP.

Another VIRTUS session has been added for Monday Oct. 3rd, from 6:00-9:00 at the Parish Center. I appreciate Mr. Shea adding an additional date. Hopefully, all families will have completed their training by this last date here at the Parish Center. If none of these dates were possible for you, it will now be expected that you go to the online site (Virtus.org) and select another parish time and place to receive the training .

I hope to see many of you tonight at the Pasta Supper.

Have a great weekend,

Sr. Annette