

August 3, 2011

Dear Parents,

As I turn the calendar to August, I realize it soon will be time for school to begin for the new year. I hope you and your family have been enjoying a relaxing summer.

This letter contains much of the information you need for the beginning of the 2011-2012 school year.

I am pleased to announce the faculty and staff who will be working with you and your children this year:

Vice Principal - Peggy Zappelli

K - Shelley O'Rourke

1 - Julie Brand

2 - Catie Costa

3 - Colleen Langridge

4 - Megan Raudsep

5 - Linda Grund

6 - Kendal Flatley

7 - Samantha Bauarschi

8 - Michelle Leitch

Science - Dan Meyer

Computer - Anne Brinkman

Math - Veda Ryan

Art - Alexis Stephano

Kindergarten/Resource - Cheryl Raffetto

Liturgies - Cathy Yee

Extended Care/Primary Aide - Becky Ott

Primary Aide - Patty Claire

Primary Aide - Mary Sacco

Secretary - Sandy Edens

Secretary - Lisa Jessup

I know you will give a warm welcome our new staff members: Kendal Flatley, Samantha Bauarschi and Anne Brinkman.

PE and music in all grades will be provided by Rhythm and Moves, the same independent contractor that provided our PE and music programs last year.

The PTG Board has planned a "Welcome Dinner" for all kindergarten parents and all new parents in grades 1-8, on Monday, August 22nd, at 7:00PM. This is an enjoyable way for parents to meet each other and to meet the faculty and staff, priests and PTG Board members. **The kindergarten parents' orientation will precede the "Welcome Dinner" at 6:30PM in the kindergarten classroom. All kindergarten parents should be present to meet Miss O'Rourke and Mrs. Raffetto and learn important information to make your child's entry into school a smooth one.**

New this year, there will be a "supply drop off morning" for kindergartners on Friday, August 19th from 9:00-11:00AM. This is an optional time when you can bring your kindergartners to meet their teachers and turn in their supplies. This may alleviate some of the first day anxiety for both students and parents!

School will officially begin at **8:05AM** on Wednesday, August 24th. All parents are invited to attend the Welcome Coffee that morning in Homer Crouse Hall. Sweatshirts will be available at that time for purchase. If possible, please join us for our Opening of School Mass at 9:30AM when we will once again ask God's blessing on our new school year.

Again this year, we will be communicating via e-mail. Newsletters will be e-mailed each Friday. It is very important that we have **one** accurate e-mail address per family. The Parent-Student Handbook will be available on the school website (www.stpiusschool.org). Please read and review the material with your child/children. The Athletic Program has a separate Athletic Handbook which is also on the website. If you would like to receive a hard copy of the newsletter or handbooks, please call and inform the office staff.

Enclosed with this letter is the uniform code, and I remind you that uniforms are purchased at Dennis Uniform Company. Please help us enforce the uniform code by purchasing proper uniform items and by seeing that your child/children are in uniform when they leave home each morning. All students should be in complete uniform for the first day of school. Again, this year, the eighth grade students will have a class sweatshirt. It will be the only variation to the uniform.

Supply lists were sent home in June with the report cards. Please check on the website under "Parent Resources" if you need additional supply lists.

Please be certain that if your child is new to St. Pius School, he/she has received all of the required immunizations for school and that the form has been turned in to the school office **by Friday, August 19th**. The sooner the office receives this information, the better for our staff. State law mandates that no new student may be admitted to school without updated and complete immunization forms. This non-admittance, should it occur, is always difficult for students and is especially disruptive on the first day of school.

Hopefully, you remembered that again this year tuition will be paid from August to May. A gentle reminder that the first tuition payment is now due. The tuition is as follows:

\$5,415.00 - one child	(\$541.50 monthly)
\$10,080.00 - two children	(\$1,008.00 monthly)
\$14,770.00 - three or more children	(\$1,477.00 monthly)

Tuition for the second tier is as follows:

\$6,415.00 - one child	(\$641.50 monthly)
\$11,080.00 - two children	(\$1,108.00 monthly)
\$15,770.00 - three or more children	(\$1,577.00 monthly)

Tuition for all new families who are not Catholic or live out of parish will be \$1000.00 more per year. Tuition, for your convenience, may be made in ten monthly payments.

Day Care will be available starting August 24th, from 7:30AM until 6:00PM. The Day Care fee remains \$4.80 per hour. For part of an hour, the fee is broken into 1/4 hour increments of \$1.20 each quarter hour. There is also a \$50.00 Day Care Registration fee for each family that uses Day Care.

Hot lunch will still be available 5 days a week. Monday, Wednesday and Friday hot lunches will be provided by Choicelunch. We will continue to offer Tuesday pizza and Thursday PTG hot lunches. More information will be sent home on the hot lunch programs when school begins.

This year we will have Back-to-School Night on Tuesday, August 30th, for grades 6-8 and Wednesday, August 31st, for grades 1-5. The schedules are as follows:

Grades 6-8 General Session at 7:00PM

Grades 1-5 General Session at 7:00PM followed by classroom presentations

The teachers in grades 1-5 will give two twenty-minute presentations in their respective classrooms at 7:25 and 7:50PM. I know all parents (grades 1-8) will want to attend the Back-to-School Nights.

Grandparents' and Special Persons' Day will again be held in the spring. This will be on Wednesday, May 9th, and it will be a minimum day. Please be sure our special guests know the date we will be celebrating them.

This year we will offer the instrumental music program and after school programs in Spanish, French, jewelry making, soccer, golf, basketball, chess, art and manners. Information on all these activities will be sent home in the next newsletter.

A copy of the calendar for the 2011-12 school year will be sent home in the first brown envelope. Please keep it handy so you can check vacations, holidays and minimum days.

Don't forget to record service you have completed since June on the Service Hour Sheet. Hopefully, you have been faithfully using e-Scrip this summer. Even though this is not required, e-Scrip continues to benefit our school.

I look forward to welcoming you and your family back to a new school year on, August 24th, at 8:05AM! Enjoy the remaining days of summer.

Sincerely,



Rita Carroll
Principal

IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES

Listed below are some important dates to remember until the September calendar arrives home:

Friday, August 19th Kindergarten "Supply Drop Off Morning" (optional)
9:00-11:00AM

Monday, August 22nd Faculty Meeting, 9:00AM-3:00PM
6:30-7:00PM Kindergarten Parent Orientation
(Kindergarten classroom - **Parents Only**)
7:00PM Welcome Dinner for Kindergarten Parents
and All New Parents (Homer Crouse Hall)

Tuesday, August 23rd Faculty Meeting 9:00AM-3:00PM

Wednesday, August 24th The First Day of School
7:45-9:15AM Parent Welcome Coffee
(Homer Crouse Hall)
8:05AM School Begins
9:30AM Opening of School Mass
12:45PM Dismissal

Thursday, August 25th 12:45PM Dismissal

Friday, August 26th 12:45PM Dismissal

Tuesday, August 30th Back to School Night - Grades 6-8 at 7:00PM

Wednesday, August 31st Back to School Night - Grades 1-5 at 7:00PM
Classroom Presentations at 7:25PM and 7:50PM

The Kindergarten schedule will be explained at the Kindergarten Parent Orientation Evening.

SHIELD THE VULNERABLE: Anyone who volunteers in any activity with the students must complete the on-line child abuse training at www.shieldthevulnerable.com and complete the background check authorization form. It is the hope that all parents, if you have not yet done so, will complete this on-line training and the background check authorization form before the 2011-2012 school year begins. The background form is on the website, in the 10-11 Parent-Student Handbook or available in the school office.

UNIFORM EXCHANGE BLITZ DAY: Mark your calendars now for the "Uniform Blitz" on **Saturday, August 13th from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM**. This is a great way to have your child outfitted for the new school year for a great price! All sweatshirts, pants, shorts, skorts, PE shorts, shirts and blouses are \$2.00 each. You can also bring in your outgrown items (in good, clean, wearable condition, Dennis brand only) for a trade. The address is **1535 Valota Road** between Carlton Court and Palm Ave. You can reach me at **650-364-1768**. Uniform Exchange is available all year. The regular hours are Mon-Sat 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Have a great summer, Kristin Bright.

SERVICE HOURS: Between June 1, 2011 and May 31, 2012, each family is required to perform forty (40) Service Hours (20 for single parent families). (A single parent family is defined as a family with one parent being financially and physically responsible for the child.) While service **may** be done in the parish, at least 20/10 of the total 40/20 service hour requirement **must** be completed in projects specifically related to the school. If you do not complete this commitment you will be placed in the higher tuition tier for the following school year.

SCRIP NEWS: Families no longer have to purchase a certain amount of SCRIP. Yet, you are encouraged to use e-scrip since it does benefit our school. Paper SCRIP is no longer available in the school office.

WANTED: YARD DUTY WORKERS: Looking for parents eager to help create a happy, safe, fun environment for our children's lunch period. This is a great job for new parents who wish to become involved and for seasoned parents who wish to stay involved. You're welcome to bring your little ones with you. You choose the days you wish to work. Hours: 12:30-1:10PM. Salary: 1 1/2 service hours per each 40 minute lunch period worked. Sign-up is online, so you can pick the areas where you would like to serve. If interested, please call or email **Peggy Zappelli @ 368-8327** (viceprincipal@stpiusschool.org) or **Mimi Koberlein @ 599-9415** (thekobes@comcast.net) to get access to the online sign-up.

SPIRIT SHOPPE: Volunteers needed! Two parents are needed to help with Spirit Shoppe set-up on August 23rd and sales on the morning of August 24th. Volunteers earn school service hours AND first option on school sweatshirts and gym shorts. Please contact Alicia Gray at 650-364-1902 or email aliciagray1@comcast.net to volunteer.

Uniform sweatshirts and PE shorts will be sold on Wednesday, August 24th, during the Welcome Coffee out of the field kitchen behind Homer Crouse Hall from 7:30-9:00AM. These items will also be available during the school year in the Spirit Shoppe through order forms available in the school office.

PTG NEWS:

New Parent Welcome Dinner: If you are a parent of a kindergartner or a new member of our school, you will be treated to a wonderful dinner on Monday, August 22nd at 7:00PM. All of the details are in the invitation, which was sent to you.

First Day of School PTG Welcome Back Coffee: After you drop your child(ren) off at school, please join us on the first day of school from 7:45 - 9:15AM for our annual "Welcome Back" Coffee in Homer Crouse Hall. This is a great way to reconnect and meet new parents. Get involved in your child's school and learn about the many events in which you can participate. See you there!

PTG Welcome Back BBQ: Mark your calendar for the PTG Welcome Back BBQ on September 10, 2011. More details to come! Call Kim Velez at 368-6481 or Cristina Lawrence at 474-0339 if you would like to help.

PTG Hot Lunch: PTG will again be providing hot lunch every Thursday, beginning September 16th. We will provide hard copies of the hot lunch order form in your first take home packet in August. As always, we need a lot of volunteers to make this happen every Thursday, so if you would like to help please call Tisha Costantini at 364-7746 or Courtney Hyland at 298-0098.

SPORTS NEWS: There will be a **Mandatory Parent Meeting** on Thursday, August 25th, at 7:00PM in Fitzsimon Center. At least one parent from each family must attend this very informative meeting. This is for all families (grades 4-8) that will be participating in any sport this coming school year. Failure to attend this meeting will result in your child having to miss his or her first game.

GIRLS' REGULATION UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

Grades K-4 Campbell Plaid Shift

Grades 5-8 Campbell Plaid Skirt

Grades K-8
Blouses Choice: White Peter Pan Collar - short sleeve
 White Oxford - short sleeve
 White Knit Shirt - short or long sleeve (sleeve lengths
 must match Dennis Uniform shirts - no cap
 sleeves, no color on the inside of the shirt and no frills around the
 collar)

Slacks Khaki Twill
Walking Shorts Khaki Twill

Skorts Khaki Twill

Belts: White, brown, black or navy blue leather or cloth belts with a small, plain buckle must be worn with shorts or slacks.

BOYS' REGULATION UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

All grades: Khaki Twill Pants
 White Knit Shirt - short or long sleeve
 Belts: white, brown, black or navy blue leather or cloth belts with a small, plain
 buckle must be worn with pants or shorts.
Walking Shorts: Khaki Twill

SHOES AND SOCKS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

Sturdy tie or velcro, oxford or ked style shoes (no slip-on shoes)
SOLID black, dark brown, white, or navy blue

No boots, heels, sandals, top-siders, moccasins, or platforms
No buckle or zipper shoes

All shoes must be cut below the ankle bone - no high tops or mid-cuts

All shoes must be tied snugly and properly.

Shoes and socks must be **one color and one color only** including stripes, soles, designs and/or embellishments. Students may not use marking pens, etc. to make shoes fit the uniform code. Shoes need to be purchased as solid. Both boys and girls wear plain, solid white, navy blue or dark (forest) green socks. Socks must be **CREW** length, when pulled up, socks should reach mid calf. Girls may wear tights of the same colors.

SWEATSHIRT

Official navy blue St. Pius School logo sweatshirt or fleece (neat, clean and sized to wear) may be worn. The only exception to this is the eighth grade class sweatshirt. The faculty reserves the right to determine if sweatshirts/fleece are not appropriate for some formal gatherings, such as funerals.

No names should be embroidered or written on the outside of the fleece jackets or sweatshirts. Names should always be on the inside of the jacket or sweatshirt.

GENERAL UNIFORM INFORMATION

The uniform is purchased from **Dennis Uniforms** in Redwood City. Uniforms are washable so there should be no child out of uniform. **If an emergency arises, please send a written note to the office explaining the emergency.** All uniform items **must** be labeled for identification.

All clothing must be clean and mended. **Shirts and blouses must be tucked in at all times. All uniform items must be sized appropriately to fit the wearer.** The only kind of T-shirt or turtleneck worn under the uniform shirt will be solid white. No underwear or shorts may be showing under the uniforms. All uniforms must be worn at waist level. Girls' uniform skirts/jumpers/shorts/skorts must be no shorter than three (3) inches from the middle of the knee. "Rolling" a skirt is unacceptable and, even though the skirt may be of proper length, if it is not worn properly (e.g., unrolled) it can result in a detention.

Students who are out of uniform may be given a uniform notice. Continual violation will result in a detention.

MAKE UP AND JEWELRY

Make-up and nail polish are not permitted. (No acrylic or fake nails.) One earring in each ear is permitted. For pierced ears (girls only), only simple stud or pearl earrings may be worn (no hoops, dangling earrings, etc.). One simple necklace with a Catholic religious symbol is acceptable. **One small watch may be worn as extra jewelry.** No other jewelry may be worn. The only exception is a medic-alert bracelet. Boys are not permitted to wear earrings.

HAIR

Everyday, a student's hair needs to be clean, combed and styled in a moderate manner. As a guide, boys' hair is not to extend below the hairline on the

back of the neck and must not cover the front of the ears. Students' hair must be above their eyebrows. Nothing lower than a "#2" haircut will be permitted.

Any barber or hair stylist will be able to explain the difference to any person with a question. Boys with curly hair must keep the curls trimmed to a length that keeps the curls managed. Hair must be its natural color (not bleached, dyed or highlighted). **Extreme or faddish hairstyles and adornments are not permitted including, but not limited to, scarves and excessive braids.** Headbands should be no more than 2", appropriate for school attire and not distracting. No hair bands should be worn on wrists. Detention will be given for hair that does not meet the above requirements.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (P.E.) UNIFORMS

Students in grades 3-8 will wear plain forest green, kelly green or white gym shorts and plain white shirts. St. Pius athletic T-shirts may also be worn. Students may wear green or white sweat pants. St. Pius School sweatshirts or fleece jackets may be worn. No jackets. Zippers are not allowed on any shorts or sweatpants.

Students should wear athletic shoes (non-marking for the gym floor) which provide proper support for active movement. **Please purchase proper shoes.**

Students in grades 3-8 must have their **own** P.E. uniform. No borrowing or sharing between siblings and friends.

Failure to comply with these uniform rules will result in a lowered grade.

NON-UNIFORM DRESS CODE

Non-uniform dress days should be conducive to maintaining an atmosphere of learning. The same rules for make-up, nail polish and jewelry apply on non-uniform days. The attire for Student Council days will be announced. Some free dress days may be "dress up" days. On these days no jeans or sweatpants of any kind may be worn.

Students may wear:

- Shirts in good taste
- Jeans – may be worn if they are in good condition with no tears, rips and patches
- Short socks
- Skirts – no shorter than 3 inches from the middle of the knee
- Shorts – no shorter than 3 inches from the middle of the knee

Students may not wear:

- Spaghetti straps
- Halter tops
- Article of clothing with writing across the buttocks
- Bare midriffs
- Bike shorts
- Tank tops
- Mini-skirts
- Sandals
- Flip-flops
- Extremely form fitting or baggy pants
- Light up shoes