



# NEWSLETTER-FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2011

Dear St. Elizabeth Families,

This week we completed the first quarter of our school year, which means parent teacher conferences are just around the corner. Our fall conferences this year will be held on October 27<sup>th</sup> from 2 p.m.-7 p.m. and October 28<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. We hoped extending hours into the evening would be helpful to everyone with a busy work and family schedule.

Pre-school, Pre-K, Kindergarten and First grade parents will visit with teachers in their homeroom classroom. These conferences will be for parents and teachers only. Please make every effort to help teachers stay on schedule by arriving promptly and limiting your conversation to twenty minutes.

Parents and students should attend conferences in grades 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>. Teachers have worked with students on goal setting activities and on a conference agenda so the student's presence is necessary for a successful conference. These conferences will also be twenty minutes in length and will be held in homeroom classrooms. Again please support the teachers' goal to stay on schedule by arriving on time and keeping the conversation to twenty minutes. If additional time is needed another conference can be scheduled.

This year we are also initiating a new routine for Junior High conferences. These conferences will be held in the gym with all teachers participating at individual tables. This format will allow visits of about ten minutes per teacher. We recommend conferencing with the homeroom teacher first and then making your way around the gym to other teachers. In this format there will be no appointments and you will meet with one teacher at a time. Students should attend with parents as part of the teachers' collaborative efforts to support student success. Teachers will have prepared students with goal setting activities and a review of the conference agenda.

All specials teachers will be available in the gym as well, all parents and students from every grade are welcome to stop by and visit with them as well. Our specials teachers provide support and enrichment to our students and have a lot to offer to student's all around success.

Fall Conferences are an opportunity for parents to partner with teachers so that together we can create the best learning environment for our students. If you have questions about classroom management, teaching strategies, and general expectations, now is a great time to inquire about these aspects of the school and classroom environment. The following are some examples of questions other parents have found helpful as they plan to meet with teachers and support their children's school success. I have included the website information if you are looking for more tips on conferencing.

- What will my child learn this year in key subjects like math, science, history, and English? Will my child participate in group work, partner work, and individual projects? How do these activities function in your classroom?
- How do you inform students about the academic standards they're expected to meet? What kind of projects and assignments have you planned that will help my child meet higher academic standards?
- What kind of information do you use to evaluate students? How do you know if they're academically ready to move on to the next grade?

Read more on FamilyEducation: <http://school.familyeducation.com/slideshow/parents-and-school/38586.html#ixzz1b9Elcb7c>

Additional questions may include topics like homework expectations, communication procedures, and the social/emotional aspect of student learning. We hope this conferencing opportunity is successful for all our stake holders. Feedback on scheduling and format is appreciated as we work to make this important element to our school success as positive and useful as possible. We look forward to seeing you all next week during our conference days.

Blessings,  
Mrs. Kollasch

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Office hours are 8:00 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.**

After hours - Call 523-7101 and follow the prompts to dial the extension you are trying to reach. Teachers' phone extensions are found by clicking on FRONT DESK in the left hand column of the Sycamore home page and then clicking on Employee Directory.

**The After Care extension is 3113.**

### Diocese Appoints Ombudsman

In June, 2011, the diocese appointed an independent public liaison and ombudsman to field and investigate all reports of inappropriate behavior or sexual misconduct by clergy, employees or volunteers. To make a confidential report to the ombudsman, please contact Jenifer Valenti, at 816-812-2500.



### PICTURE RETAKE DAY & ABSENTEE PICTURE DAY

Tuesday, October 25 is picture re-take day. If you were not 100% satisfied with your child's picture, you may return the package with them on Tuesday for a re-take.

If your child was **absent** on the original picture day, you may pick up an order form in the school office. The order form and payment should be sent with your child on Tuesday.

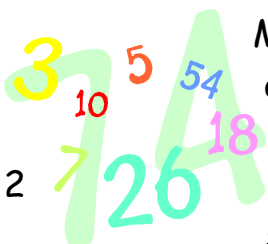
Students grades kindergarten through 8th grade who are having pictures taken on Tuesday, should come to school dressed in the top they would like to wear for their picture. However, they must bring their uniform shirts to change into once pictures are over.

There may be some families who have not received their picture packages yet. Not to worry! DeCloud is working to make it right. If you are not 100% happy with your pictures once you receive them, DeCloud will schedule another session for re-takes.



### 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter K-8 Adjusted Tuition Payments due November 1

Reminder that if you opted for quarterly payments of your adjusted tuition, your second quarter payment is due by November 2. Any questions about your payment, contact Pat Dennis at [dennis@stelizabethnet.org](mailto:dennis@stelizabethnet.org).



Math Night is being hosted by St. Elizabeth 7th grade math classes and will take place on Wednesday, November 3 in the school from 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Parents and students only from grades K-1 and are invited to attend. Play interactive games, show off your math skills and have fun!

**2010-2011 yearbooks are still available for purchase for \$20 if you missed ordering one last year. Send check payable to St. Elizabeth to Pat Dennis in the school office and a yearbook will be sent home with your child.**



**The 2011-2012 St. Elizabeth yearbook will be printed in full color!!! The price will remain the same - \$20 each. Order forms are posted under the documents tab on Sycamore. Please submit order form and payment to Pat Dennis in the school office by Friday, November 18.**

## BASKETBALL REGISTRAION IS NOW OPEN

Registration for Boys and Girls Basketball is now open. Intramural Basketball for grades 1 and 2 will start in January. Practice for Parochial League Basketball for grades 3-8 will start in mid to late November.

You may register online at [www.plkc.org](http://www.plkc.org).

Please Read the following letter from the Parochial League concerning mandatory training for parents with children in Grades 3-8.

If you have any questions please contact one of the St. Elizabeth Co-Athletic Directors - Joel Jones 816.509.6988 OR Everett Lanter 816.223.8610

Please note that the PLKC Board is requiring a new procedure with the online registration process.

At least one parent from each family must attend the Parent Like A Champion Today (Sports As Ministry) training prior to the 2012 basketball season. If one of the parents from a family has attended the Parent Like A Champion Today (Sports As Ministry) training in the past then that will meet the requirements. If one of the parents from a family have attended a Play Like A Champion (Coaching as Ministry) training then that will count as well.

If at least one parent doesn't meet either requirement mentioned above then their child or children will not be eligible to participate in the first PLKC league game of the 2012 season. Any school's teams that may have to forfeit a game because of not enough players the first weekend of the 2012 PLKC basketball season will be subject to forfeiture fines.

In the past this training cost \$10.00 per family. However due to a few anonymous donors the \$10.00 per family fee has been waived.

When a parent registers their child for basketball they will be asked if they have attended a Parent Like A Champion Today (Sports As Ministry) training. Their name will be automatically checked in the data base and if it comes back that at least one parent of a family hasn't attended a training then they will be required to register for a PLC training before they will be allowed to register their child(ren). If they have met the requirements then they will be allowed to continue with the registration process.

Please note we are beginning this process with the 2012 basketball season. Beginning in the 2012-2013 school year it will pertain to all sports.

FYI-- attending a Parent Like A Champion Today (Sports As Ministry) doesn't excuse a PLKC coach from attending a Play Like A Champion (Coaching as Ministry) training prior to coaching in the PLKC.

Thanks,

Vince Fitzgerald, R.A.A.  
Parochial League Director  
Office: [816-836-8552](tel:816-836-8552)  
Cell: [816-506-8844](tel:816-506-8844)  
Fax: [816-268-9883](tel:816-268-9883)