

Dear Families,

A special thanks to all the parents who come to have lunch with their children on parent lunch days. Last week the eighth graders welcomed their parents; today it is the seventh graders' turn. The parent lunches are something everyone here looks forward to! Parents are doing a great job of keeping up-to-date with the Family Focus online! Be sure to keep "turning" the pages. Having the Focus online allows us to have more than two pages when we have a lot of information to pass on.

It's that time of year again for all of us to reacquaint ourselves with the carpool rules! This procedure is explained very well in the SSM Handbook, Section 1, topic 10.0, which you can view online at www.ssmartyr.org, School, 2011-2012 School Handbook. Below are excerpts from the handbook for the morning and afternoon drop off and pickup patterns! Areas that we need to work on are underlined. Just as our students are practicing drills in school, we must practice also to make sure children get in and out of school safely. Please share this information with anyone who might be picking up your child. Even if they have done it for years, they will benefit from this information!

Mrs. Margaret Bowen



ARRIVAL: School doors open at 7:15 am. Students go to their classrooms at 7:45 am. The parking lot door is locked at this time. Students who arrive after the door is locked should go to the courtyard door to be let in. Students are considered tardy at 8:01 am.

DROP OFF PATTERN IN MORNING: Cars must enter the main gate from Pindell, drive up to the door, stop to let students off and leave by the open gate either LEFT onto Greenup or STRAIGHT onto English. Right turns are not encouraged as this is how staff are arriving to work. Please do not park in the spots along Greenup that are meant to be for teachers.

DISMISSAL: The school day ends at 2:50. Car riders are dismissed from the door nearest the church parking lot (north end) and walkers exit the Hess Lane door (south end). Day care students report to the Marteen Room. Students should be picked up by 3:00 pm.

PICKUP: Drivers who pick up children in the afternoon should enter the parking lot from Greenup and form five lines, pulling completely forward as far as possible. The right two lines will turn right onto Pindell as they leave the lot and the left two lines will turn left onto Pindell. Parents must stay in their cars until all children have been loaded. An adult supervisor and the safety patrols will remove the barriers or give a signal when it is time to move. If your child does not come out on time, drivers must circle the block and re-enter the parking lot from Greenup. Please DO NOT block Greenup; keep the line moving forward. This is a residential street and access cannot be blocked. Drive around the block until you can enter the parking lot safely. No one may park in the church parking lot between 2:30 and 3:15 pm to facilitate the dismissal traffic pattern.

FAMILY FOCUS September 14, 2011

St. Stephen
Martyr School
2931 Pindell Ave
Louisville, KY 40217
502-635-7141
E-mail:
school@ssmartyr.org

Weekly Calendar

Wed, 9/14	7th Grade Parent Lunch 10:50 am
Thurs, 9/15	1:00 pm Early Dismissal
Fri, 9/16	
Sat, 9/17	
Sun, 9/18	Dr. Laura Grimes 12:45 in the Marteen Room Sponsored by New Life Ministry
Mon, 9/19	
Tues, 9/20	
Wed, 9/21	6th Grade Parent Lunch 10:50 am



Please be alert to our traffic guard and follow her directions for turning onto Pindell. She will use her Stop sign to allow children to safely cross the street. Please hold cell phone calls until you have safely dropped your child off in the parking lot.

Our traffic guard is there to assist our children safely into and out of school. Please pay attention to her!

Please send all Family Focus news items to Wendy Gerhard at wgerhard@ssmartyr.org by Tuesday at noon!!



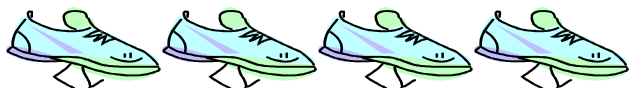


KUDOS KORNER



What a special sister **Kaylee Northcutt (3R)** is to support her brother, **Ryan**, by walking in the Light the Night Walk on Saturday, October 2nd. The Light the Night Walk supports the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. If you would like to make a donation or join **TEAM RYAN**, go to <http://pages.lightthenight.org/ky/Louisville1/TeamRyan>.

Way to go, Kaylee!



On Saturday, several of our 8th graders helped at an event for service hours. Mr. Jim Laemmle, Executive Director, of the South Louisville Community Ministries wrote: *"The Saint Stephen Martyr youth did an outstanding job for us! They were polite and very hard workers. The school has much to be proud of with them... We are forever grateful for their help, and has much to be proud of."*



Those 8th graders are **Jessica Laemmle, Erin Muthler, C.J. Meurer, and Hannah Fouts, Alex Gaines, Jonah Bibb, Justin Lotz, and Kristina Coogle.**

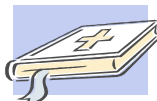
We have AWESOME 8th graders!

Support Groups are available at the dePaul School, 1925 Duker Avenue. Contact www.depaulschool.org for more information.

<p><i>"Managing the Stress of Having School Age Children"</i></p> <p>For children in grades 1-8 Cost: \$5 6:15-8:00 pm</p>	<p>Parent Support Group for families dealing with learning differences or ADHD. Groups are meeting on 10/18, 11/15, 12/13, 1/17, 2/21, 3/20, 4/17, and 5/15. 7-8 pm</p>
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Teachers' Corner...

This year 7th and 8th graders are going to have an exciting year in Ms. McCauley's classes! The 7th graders will be learning about Life Science and will learn about concepts ranging from the atoms that make up the smallest cells to information about some of the largest animals. Students will develop an appreciation for the complexity of God's design of life as they grow and develop their abilities to understand Life Science concepts. Eighth graders will be studying Physical Science this year and will be putting physics into *motion* as they use their *energy* to apply physics concepts to higher level thinking problems. They will also *spark* their creative thinking as they contemplate the ways that atoms interact with each other during our Chemistry lessons. Seventh graders will learn about the four Gospels and about important Catholic beliefs in religion class. They will be challenged to grow and develop their faith as they grow and develop as people. I hope that by the time they leave my classroom at the end of the year, they will have developed a strong bond with God and have a much deeper understanding of the rich faith traditions of the Catholic faith. I can tell that this is really going to be a great school year for my students and I am excited for all the learning that this school year will bring!



Ms. Jennifer McCauley



"Life Style" is Market Day!!! Deadline: 9/23

The Fall Fundraiser is now underway! **PLEASE LOOK THROUGH THE PACKET THOROUGHLY...order forms for coupon books, cookie dough, and the gift catalog were all in the same envelope.**

PLEASE put your child's name on all three order forms or they might not be processed.

Checks should be made payable to: SSM

DO NOT include sales tax for orders sent to school. However, if you order online, sales tax WILL apply.

Be sure to look for Life-Style items that are only available online! Instructions for shopping online were included in the packet that was sent home last week. You can place your order online and have items shipped directly to you (which would include a shipping charge) or sent here to school (with no shipping charge).

Congratulations to **Matthew Roth (5F)** !
He is the winner of the second VIP fundraiser drawing!

The following people have placed orders online but did not designate a student seller. Please call Wendy at 635-7141 during school hours if the following people ordered for your family!!

LOOK

Lauren Rodgers, Susan Zhe, Barb Churchill, Jean Reiners, & Maggie Cyphers.

LOOK



Thank you for remembering to call the office in the morning when your child will be out sick or leaving early. This is so helpful to the office staff for keeping track of attendance!! (635-7141)

SSM ONLINE

www.ssmartyr.org



Daily School Bulletin
 Family Focus
 Parish information & forms
 Athletic information & forms
 Market Day order forms
 Lunch Menu
 School Handbook
 PTO/SAC Board Information
 PE uniform info (form coming soon!)

NEW: Log on to the parent screen of PowerSchool, click on School Bulletin, and look for daily messages!

Please check the website every day! If you are having trouble viewing or finding online items, please call Wendy at 635-7141.

Student Council News

Thursday, 9/29: Skating Party at Skate World
 6:30—8:30 pm

Thank you for sending in coke bottle tops & 12-pack rewards! You can enter these online yourself at www.mycokerewards.com! If you enter codes online, you don't need to send the bottle tops or 12-pack rewards to school. Select SSM as your school and we get the credit!!



Please help the 2011-2012 Reverse Raffle



Items needed immediately for class projects are **end tables** and **small outside bistro-type tables**.

If you can donate any of these items, please contact Lisa Swikert at veigl-swikert@hotmail.com or Karen Frey at 417-6349.

Mark your calendar for this fun event! The 2011-2012 Reverse Raffle will be on Saturday, February 18th!

THANK YOU!!

SSM continues to collect SMALL ink jet cartridges and gently used cell phones for recycling! Send these to school with your child. Each classroom has a recyclable bag to hold these items.



PLEASE DO NOT SEND LARGE TONER CARTRIDGES!!

Also, there is a recycling bin on the Greenup Road side of our school for paper recycling. Feel free to drop your papers in the bin for recycling. Please though, do not put cardboard in this bin!



Recently we received our 2011 Take Charge of Education donation. For the 2010-2011 school year, SSM REDcard Target shoppers earned just over \$1,100 for our school.

Did you know? If you use a Target REDcard, in addition to earning 1% of purchases for SSM, you earn 5% on your own purchases!

Speak to a Target Customer Service Representative to get signed up and start saving!



If you have a rosary in need of repair, or would like to purchase a rosary or rosary bracelet, contact Sherry Collard at 502-271-4233 or sherr2112@gmail.com.

Forms are available in the school office if you are interested in participating in the Living Rosary Procession on 10/9.



SSM Health Fair

October 2, 2011
 12:30—3:30 pm

FREE admission,
FREE door prizes,
FREE give-aways!!

Finger Painting
 Face Painting,
 snow cones, frog pond, exercising area, coloring,
LOTS OF FUN , LOTS OF INFORMATION!

Flu shots for ages 3 or older for \$29.99 (free with Medicare B, file insurance with Walgreens; cash payment accepted).

Norton Cancer Van will participate again. Call 899-6842 to make an appointment for mammogram (free but file insurance) or prostate exam (free).



PTO Sponsored Event

Let's Raise Some Dough Together!!



Are you ready for some pizza??!! Then mark your calendar for Tuesday, September 27th. Take a night off from cooking and help your child's PTO raise money!

The St. Stephen Martyr PTO is sponsoring a "Raise the Dough" night with Domino's Pizza located at 812 Eastern Parkway. For every pizza or menu item delivered or carried out from this location on the 27th, Domino's Pizza will give 10% of total sales to the SSM PTO.

There is an information sheet in your child's Wednesday folder today with the form you must give to the Domino's delivery driver or take to the store with you. If you would like more forms, please call the school office (635-7141).

Go Cards!!!

Recently the SSM 7th & 8th grade football team participated in a jamboree where six schools played three games—all to benefit the Make-A-Wish foundation. Almost \$1,900 was raised for this worthy organization. The six schools involved were SSM, St. Agnes, St. Edward, St. Martha/Ascension, St. Patrick and Holy Spirit all participated in this event.



SSM team player Joey Sullivan (pictured below) was honored for his ongoing fight against cancer. He received a pendant of St. Christopher as an SSM football player.

Awesome team effort by everyone involved!!

