

October Newsletter



Saint Nicholas Catholic School

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Saint Nicholas Catholic School



Important Dates

Oct. 5th

First Responder's Day - Sponsored by PFS

Oct. 8th

Field Trip - Weakland's Corn Maze
Sponsored by PFS

Oct. 9th

Fire Safety - Nicktown Fire Company



Oct. 12th

School Picture Day
Pack a Lunch & Special Bussing Day

Oct. 14th

Living Rosary out at the Shrine at 1pm
(Weather Permitting) - Please join us!

Oct. 16th

Diocesan Inservice-No School

Oct. 21st

Pink-Out for Cancer Awareness
- Jeans and pink shirt for Donation to
Cancer patients



Oct. 26th - 30th

Middle States

Oct. 28th

End of 1st Marking Period

Oct. 29th

2nd Grade Reconciliation afternoon retreat

Oct. 28th-30th

PFS Pumpkin Contest

Oct. 30th

Halloween Celebrations - 1:30pm
See next page for details.

From the Principal

Dear Parents:

In this world today, we have much to be prayerful for and during the month of October, we have many special days in which we can offer prayer and ask God for help through the intercession of the saints. Some of the special feast days are:

- ✕ Oct. 1 - St. Theresa of Lisieux
- ✕ Oct. 2 - Guardian Angels
- ✕ Oct. 4 - St. Francis of Assisi
- ✕ Oct. 15 - St. Teresa of Avila
- ✕ Oct. 18 - St. Luke
- ✕ Oct. 22 - St. John Paul II

Please remember to take time out each day to pray as a family and thank God for all that He has done for you! Use the Hallow App.

Mrs. Theresa Burba
Principal



A Guardian Angel
Flew down from above,
To teach me a lesson
About the powers of love.

She whispered to me,
Then took hold of my hand,
There are so many things
For you to understand.

A pat on the back,
A kind smile on your face,
Can make someone's life,
A much brighter place.

It doesn't take much,
To show someone you care,
To give them the love,
God gave you to share.

You've been put on this earth
To bestow the powers of love,
And with those final words,
She disappeared up above.

Author: KRISTEN M SACCARDI



THANK YOU!!

Thank you to PFS for organizing this educational event and to all of our 1st Responder parents who participate to teach us about safety. Thank you to Nicktown Fire Company for your valuable time to teach us fire safety.

Weakland's Corn Maze- Oct. 8th

Pack a lunch. No glass bottles/containers - all disposable if possible. Names clearly marked. Jeans, sweatpants or capris with St. NCS gray T-shirt. Sneakers ONLY.



Students are no longer permitted to wear shorts beginning October 1st! In case of an unusual hot day, an announcement will be made.



Picture Day is on Monday
October 12th.

PreK students are welcome to come Monday 10/12 at 9:15am & enter through the RED doors of the community center.



Please send a coat in with your child in October. There are times when the students will still go outside for recess.

Halloween Parade

On Friday Oct. 30 we will be having our annual Halloween Parade, Guess Who, and Saints presentations at the St. Nicholas Community Center beginning at 1:30pm. Doors will be locked promptly at 1:30pm.

K - 4 will bring their costumes to school. They should all be something that the students can independently put on. NO make-up/hair-dye...etc.

All are welcome to attend. Please note, at 1:30pm doors will be locked and no further admittance will be permitted.



We will be honoring our veterans on Veterans Day with a slide show. Please send in pictures for any veterans in your families that we may not have in our slideshow. They can be electronically sent to tburba@stnccs.org or paper copy sent to school by Oct. 23, 2026. All pictures sent to school will be scanned in and returned to you.

Mass Days

Fridays

All are welcome!
Doors will be locked promptly at 9:10am



HALLOWEEN PARADE
Friday Oct. 30 at 1:30pm

See details above



reminder

If your child is going to be absent, please call or email the OFFICE that day by 9:15am.



Tuition Payments

Due by the 15th of each month



Oct. 21 – Pink-Out for Cancer Awareness
- Jeans and pink shirt for Donation to cancer patients

Please note that on ALL Jean Days:
Sneakers Only

Jeans Only – Unless otherwise specified - No holes in Jeans

T-shirts – no inappropriate wording

No excessive jewelry such as bracelets, hoop earrings

BOO!



Pre-K

In Preschool, we have been working with "Leo the Letter Lion" to help us with our letters and sounds. We studied the life cycle of an apple seed, which then in October we will compare with the life cycle of a pumpkin seed. We are two colors away from moving on to the next section of Math, which will include sorting.



1st Grade

The first few weeks of September have been busy! We have become more settled into our routines and schedules. Two students brought in monarch caterpillars, and we spent time observing them transforming into butterflies! In science, we learned what a scientist is, we learned about scientific tools, and planning an investigation. The students had a lot of fun measuring different objects in our room. In math we are comparing numbers to 10 and in phonics we reviewed kindergarten concepts and began learning about the short vowel a. Looking forward to October we will begin addition in math, in reading we will learn to describe characters and read the story Mice and Beans. As time allows, we will have some fun fall activities.



3rd Grade

3rd grade has been busy getting back in the groove of school. We have been getting our three green lights in Reflex. We have been learning numbers to 10,000 in math. In reading, we have learned the author's point of view, text features, and how the author uses details to support the main idea. We are all reading for AR. Third grade is excited to go to the corn maze in October and pray the Rosary.

Kindergarten

Kindergarten has settled in, and we're looking forward to a fall full of learning! We are excited for our trip to Weakland's Corn Maze. October is full of special feast days that we will learn about in Religion, including Guardian Angels, St. Francis of Assisi, and Our Lady of the Rosary. We will continue to learn letters, sounds, and numbers to 10.

2nd Grade

2nd grade is off to a great start! We began our sacramental preparation for First Reconciliation and will be having our retreat in October. We read the book 'If We Were More Like Sunflowers' and made sunflowers to show the similarities of sunflowers and our faith. In math we are busy showing the different ways to write a 3-digit number. In Reading we are looking at a variety of genres of text and making connections between events.

Music

As always in the beginning of a new school year we are preparing for our annual Christmas program. Students voted for a play again this year, so we've been busy signing up and trying out for parts. We have also been practicing our songs.



English & Reading

Grades 5-8 are writing different types of personal narratives, and we will be getting ready to start our annual spooky stories in October. We also had a great interactive lesson on what it may look like to use AI ethically, including productive group discussions, examples, and scenarios.



Spanish

Students K-4 are continuing their curriculum with Spanish for Kids. Grades 5-8 are continuing their curriculum with Avancemos. Students also are learning their prayers in Spanish such as Bless Us Oh Lord, and the Hail Mary.

Reading Grades 1 & 3

September was an exciting month because my small group of first graders got to build words with magnetic letters (way more fun than writing words with a pencil!). My third graders got to learn about author's point of view and argue with reasons to support their points (we still haven't decided which kind of tractors are the best).

In October, first grade is looking forward to learning how to read more words with new spelling patterns such as short vowels and diagraphs. Third grade is looking forward to (even if they don't show it!) learning more about analyzing texts through strategies such as main idea and cause and effect.



Computers

Kindergarten spent their first few classes learning to navigate on their iPads. All students have been discussing digital literacy with digital footprints and cyber security. Kindergarten has moved on to coding in Scratch Jr. 1st through 3rd have been enjoying coding adventures in code.org. 4th grade has been busy exploring their laptops and preparing for typing. 5th through 8th are being introduced to Codehs.com where they will explore Python coding, game design and Web design and development.

Math

In 5-8 math we finished chapter 1 and are working on chapter 2. 8th grade religion is learning about the 4 marks of the church: one, holy, catholic, and apostolic. 7th grade religion is learning about the mystery of the incarnation. We will also take some time to learn about the rosary since October is the month of the rosary.



Social Studies

5th and 7th grades have begun learning about the discovery of a new lands, with the introduction of St. Brendan and a false fact about Christopher Columbus! 6th grade has begun looking at world geography, moving into how the land formations affect the people living there. 8th grade is continuing their walk through American history as we approach the Civil War.

Science

6th grade has been learning about the faithfulness of Abram and Mary as they followed God's will in their lives and fifth grade has been learning about the Sacraments. We have also been learning about sacrifices and uniting our own sacrifices to the Eucharistic Sacrifice. The science classes have been exploring a variety of concepts. Everyone started with friction experiments using a variety of wet and dry tracks and toy trucks. 5th grade is learning about natural cycles and has even practiced using microscopes. 6th grade is learning about how energy is transferred in waves and the types of waves. 7th grade has been focusing on mechanical and chemical weathering and conducted an experiment with wet and dry Brillo pads to see the effects of water on substances. In 8th grade the focus has been on the characteristics of living things. They pretended to be mountain lions to see if they would be able to "catch" enough food to survive. We learned about Archbishop Fulton Sheen in the weeks leading up to his beatification. October is sure to be full of adventures as fifth and sixth grades prepare for their saint presentations!



Physical Education

The students have been doing their stretches before gym class and are getting into the routine. Have them share the workout with you at home. We are currently using the parachutes, which the students absolutely love. A special shout out to Mrs. Davis (Mrs. Abram's mom) for mending our parachute, thank you! This month we will be doing Fire Drill obstacle courses, relay races, and special Halloween activities.

Gym Rules

- I will display good sportsmanship at all times.
- I will be encouraging and supportive of my classmates.
- I will use an appropriate volume of my voice while in the gymnasium.
- I will not hit the walls nor jump into the walls at any time.
- I will not jump up to touch the basketball nets.
- I will use the gym equipment appropriately so not to damage it.
- I will laugh WITH my classmates, NOT at them.
- I will try my best and will encourage others to do their best.
- I will not engage in any activities that could harm myself, others, nor damage the gym equipment.
- I will be respectful to all, including myself.
- I will fully participate in the beginning stretches to prevent injuries during gym activities.
- I will ask for help when needed and offer help to others if I can.
- If I make a mistake, I will try again and do better.
- I will be a child of Christ and make good choices.
- I will have fun and be awesome. :)





What Was Exciting in September?

September was a busy and exciting month in 4th grade! We spent the month getting settled into our classroom routines while exploring new topics, building important skills, and learning more about the world around us. In English & Reading, students strengthened their phonics and reading skills while practicing syllables, word patterns, vocabulary, figurative language, character changes, and using text evidence to support their thinking. We also practiced spelling and explored how prefixes, roots, and suffixes can help us understand new words. + In Math, students worked with large numbers, place value, addition and subtraction, regrouping, and real-world word problems. We also practiced explaining our mathematical thinking and using models to solve problems. In Science, students explored how animals are built to survive and how their external structures and adaptations help them meet their needs. In Social Studies, we continued exploring Pennsylvania and learning about our state's geography, resources, communities, and history. In Religion, students continued growing in their faith as we learned about God's laws, prayer, the saints, and what it means to live with kindness, love, and service toward others. September was a wonderful month of learning, growing, and building our classroom community.

We are so proud of everything our 4th graders accomplished!



Looking Ahead to October!

October is going to be a spooktacular month of learning, faith, and fun! We will be bringing the excitement of Fall into our classroom with special October-themed lessons and activities across our subjects. Students will complete pumpkin-themed reading, writing, and math activities, including creative pumpkin writing and fun problem-solving challenges. One of our special activities will even involve hiding pumpkins and putting our thinking skills to work!

Halloween will also become a learning opportunity! We will explore some history behind Halloween while incorporating seasonal themes into our reading, writing, and math lessons. Students will have opportunities to practice descriptive, narrative, persuasive, and opinion writing through fun Halloween inspired activities. Fall-themed reading and classroom conversations will give students opportunities to practice comprehension, making inferences, recalling details, and sharing their ideas with classmates. ÷ Math will get a little spooky, too! Students will have opportunities to practice math skills through activities such as pumpkin problem-solving and shape sorting with Halloween-themed challenges. Most importantly, October will remain a month of faith. We will recognize and celebrate the feast days of the saints throughout the month, learning about their lives and how they followed God through faith, service, kindness, and courage. ★ We will also take time to celebrate and appreciate our wonderful principal and all that they do for our school community! There is so much more to come in October, and we cannot wait to make this a month full of learning, laughter, creativity, faith, and a little bit of Halloween magic!



STNCS PFS Newsletter



Alot happening in October!

- Fall Field Trip to Weakland's Farm October 8th.
- Look for info to be coming home about the pumpkin Contest to be held Friday, October 30th. Be on the lookout on the Parents for Students Facebook page about Volunteer Sign Ups! This contest will not be possible without parent volunteers!
- Fall Harvest Tickets, will be coming home soon and need to be returned to school by October 6th.

★ Next PFS meeting is scheduled for October 6th, 2026, at 6:30 pm in the Community Center Coffee Room. The Zoom Link was a great success for our September meeting. If you are unable to attend but want to listen in/contribute, this is a great way to do so from home!

[https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3349025647?](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3349025647?pwd=cVfboqUcHwpWdGhnyuHubST6wm4Gph.1&omn=71160125646)

[pwd=cVfboqUcHwpWdGhnyuHubST6wm4Gph.1&omn=71160125646](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3349025647?pwd=cVfboqUcHwpWdGhnyuHubST6wm4Gph.1&omn=71160125646)

You will need the following information:

Meeting ID: 334 902 5647

Passcode: eTGU5j

