



**St. Rocco  
School**

*Sharing the Love of the Heart of Christ!*

**THURSDAY  
PACKET**  
Weekly Parent Newsletter



Dear Parents,

The Church recognizes May as the month of Mary, a time for special prayers and services honoring Mary. I think that the most beautiful devotion to Mary is the May Crowning tradition. Tomorrow, we celebrate the May Crowning as a school community. The May Crowning at St. Rocco School is one of the most beautiful and beloved programs of the year for our community. It is a beautiful way that our school community has to show our love, respect and reverence for Mary our Mother during this month of May. Many of our current parents who are alumni can look back and remember how special it was for them as both a younger student as well as an 8<sup>th</sup> Grader. If you have never joined us for this special devotion to Mary, or if you have been with us each year, I strongly encourage you to join us tomorrow at 9:00 for this powerful service that honors Mary and unites us in prayer as a school community. All students should be in full dress uniform.



This past Saturday, our Second Grade class along with three other students received the Holy Sacrament of First Communion. We pray that the blessing of Almighty God be with each of them and that they may continue to be filled with the Love of Christ each time they receive Holy Communion. Our special thanks to Sr. Daisy, whose faith and guidance has blessed the First Communion class with enduring love for Jesus and a desire to follow Him.

This Sunday we celebrate Pentecost Sunday. Pentecost takes place on the 50th day after Easter Sunday. It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Mary, mother of Jesus and the Apostles of Jesus while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks. It marks the end of the Easter season in the liturgical year of the Church.

**On a very different note...**

When I started at St. Rocco School in the 2002-2003 school year, the beloved principal at the time, Sr. Mary Carol, would say over the PA each day after prayers and announcements: "Make it a great day or not, the choice is yours". My children were 7 and 9 at the time and were blessed to hear this each morning at school. They learned at a young age that they had a say in how they lived each day. It has gotten us through some very difficult times. The idea that you have the choice in how you respond to the events of a day that you often have no control over is reassuring and empowering.

It is so important to empower our children by letting them make mistakes and bounce back on their own. This builds both character and resilience and gives children at whatever age a realistic vision of life. Sometimes things go your way and sometimes they don't; but in either scenario, a person needs to get up and out of bed to face the new day. Teaching this will allow children to achieve and accomplish things on their own and build strong self-confidence. Similarly, expecting someone else, often a parent, to achieve for them will build reliance instead of independence in children. Please support the faculty and staff as we strive each day to shape strong, independent, resilient young people. It is May and the students know the requirements both in the classroom and out at recess. If your child does not do well on an assignment or assessment, please encourage them to put more effort in or study harder. If they misbehave or are unkind at recess and the teacher reaches out to you, please work with them

on making better choices and being accountable for their actions. Teaching children the life skills of independence, accountability and resilience from a young age will serve them well throughout their lives.

Special thanks to Mrs. Montecalvo, Miss Tripp, Mrs. Reitz and Mrs. Okolowicz for chaperoning the semi-formal dance last Friday. Everyone who went had a wonderful time.

Special thanks, also, to Mrs. Bianco for arranging to have the Johnston Fire Department come tomorrow with a fire truck for our Early Childhood classes. They are really looking forward to it.

Wishing you a blessed week.

Respectfully,

Regina M. Hand

### A Few Reminders:



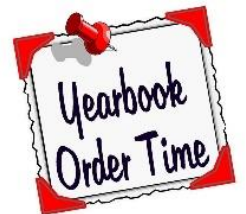
**Busing** - Beginning on April 1, 2023, the Statewide Transportation System has started open enrollment and new transportation requests for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year. To ensure a bus stop for the first day of the school next year, **both current and new riders** must register by **July 31, 2024**.

### YEARBOOK ORDERS ~ Yearbook is in publication!!! ~ LIMITED AMOUNT LEFT



Please be sure to order a yearbook that captures the amazing memories of your child's school year! **However, you NEED TO PURCHASE** through the School Office.

First come first serve. We will notify you when the yearbooks are here!  
(REMINDER to GRADE 8 Parents: The school orders their book!)



## ST. ROCCO SCHOOL PARENT ASSOCIATION NEWS

We'd like to thank our outgoing President of the SRS Parent Association, Maria Cassisi, and Treasurer, Stephanie Fava, for all their hard work and dedication to the Parent Association and St. Rocco School!

The Parent Association has an opening for Treasurer on their Board. If you are interested in filling this position, or know of a parent who would be, please see the attached Nomination Form and send it back to the school as soon as possible. Thank you for all you do to support our Parent Association!

### Parents, Pops and Playground Event



The "Parents, Pops and Playground" activity will take place on Friday afternoons. The dates, times and grade levels are as follows:

|                  |                              |             |
|------------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| Grades PK3 & PK4 | Friday, May 17th             | 2:30-3:30pm |
| Grades K         | Friday, May 24th             | 2:30-3:30pm |
| Grades 1 & 2     | Friday, May 31 <sup>st</sup> | 2:30-3:30pm |



*Each child MUST be accompanied by an adult*

# FIRST HOLY COMMUNION – MAY 11<sup>TH</sup>

Thank you Sister Daisy for all your hard work in preparing the children for their First Holy Communion!



God Bless our St. Rocco School First Communion Class

Olivia Alvarez-Pinzro  
Dominic Boccanfuso  
Rocco Boccanfuso  
Avianna Bowden  
Gabriella Ciampangelli  
Alexander Dodd  
Avielle Hernandez  
Nicholas Innocenti  
Aiden Marland  
Emilia Merlino  
Mila Paolucci  
Jayden Puopolo  
Wilson Mattzo Restrepo  
Adeline Thatcher  
Amelia Thatcher

**MRS. REITZ' SOCIAL STUDIES CLASS – TAKING IT OUTSIDE ON A BEAUTIFUL DAY!**



**AFTERSCHOOL STRINGS CONCERT – THANK YOU MRS. RACHDOUNI!**



**PK4B – TAKING IT OUTSIDE!**





## UPCOMING ACTIVITY CALENDAR

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Friday, May 17, 2024     | May Crowning – 9:00 am  |
| Tuesday, May 21, 2024    | STUCO Elections   |
| Wednesday, May 22, 2024  | State Fair – 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade 9:00am/Class Rep Elections       |
| Monday, May 27, 2024     | Memorial Day – No School  |
| Thursday, May 30, 2024   | Induction Ceremony 9:00am   |
| Friday, May 31, 2024     | 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip to Boston                          |
| Monday, June 3, 2024     | Sports Banquet – Café Rocco 6:00 pm                                 |
| Wednesday, June 5, 2024  | PreK 3-K Field Day/8 <sup>th</sup> Gr. Class Night – 6:00 pm        |
| Thursday, June 6, 2024   | 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Class Day                                     |
| Friday, June 7, 2024     | First Friday Mass – 8:45 am   |
| Monday, June 10, 2024    | Pk3 Graduation – 8:45 am/ Field Day Grades 1-7                      |
|                          | 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation – 6:00 pm                          |
| Tuesday, June 11, 2024   | PreK4A & PreK4B Graduations/Kindergarten Graduation                 |
| Wednesday, June 12, 2024 | End of Year Liturgy-8:45 am/LAST DAY OF SCHOOL –<br>11:30 dismissal |



### May Virtue of the Month ~ Kindness

*And be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving one another as God has forgiven you in Christ. Ephesians 4:32*



Please follow us on Instagram @ [saintroccoschool](https://www.instagram.com/saintroccoschool) for updates and photos!  
Also, don't forget to regularly visit our website [www.stroccoschool.org](http://www.stroccoschool.org) for important information and updates.

**CHRIST** is the reason for this school.

*~in our minds, on our lips, and always in our hearts~*

A ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL • 931 Atwood Ave. • Johnston, RI 02919 • Tel. 401.944.2993 • [www.stroccoschool.org](http://www.stroccoschool.org)