



Dear Parents,

On Monday, we celebrate Valentine's Day. Today, most people celebrate Valentine's Day by exchanging tokens of love and caring, such as cards, flowers, candy and small gifts. But, the holiday of Valentine's Day began as a saint's feast day, which means its original purpose was to celebrate Christian love and devotion to Christ. In the case of St. Valentine, love even in the face of death. Saint Valentine of Rome was martyred on February 14 in AD 269. The Feast of Saint Valentine, also known as Saint Valentine's Day, was established by Pope Gelasius I in AD 496 to be celebrated on February 14 in honor of the Christian martyr. For me, this day is a reminder to live with love and share it with others. I hope that you get to share this day with your families and those you love in a simple and meaningful way.



### Happenings this Week...

On Monday, our Second Grade students (and a few other classes) were visited by Chief Razza and Deputy Chief Viera. They came to personally thank Sr. Daisy and the Second Grade students for the awesome poster of appreciation they made and delivered to the Police Department during Catholic Schools Week. The boys and girls were truly surprised by the visit. Each day at St. Rocco School we teach our students to freely express gratitude and say thank you. What an amazing example Chief Razza and Deputy Chief Viera demonstrated to our students as they showed their gratitude to them in return.

This past Monday also marked the 100<sup>th</sup> Day of school. Students in grades PreK3-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade celebrated this in their classrooms with a variety of fun academic activities. The creative ways that the teachers incorporated the 100<sup>th</sup> Day into all facets of the curriculum was amazing. Thank you, also, to all of the parents who assisted their children in creating 100 Day posters and displays.

### Reminders...



Students should be in the building by 8:10 in order to get to their classrooms on time by 8:15. While overall there has been an improvement in tardiness, there are several students who are late on a daily basis. As I have mentioned previously, this is difficult on the student, the homeroom teacher and the office staff. Please make every effort to get your children to school by 8:10.

Students at every grade level have homework each evening. Whether it is reading a book out loud to a parent, practicing Math facts, studying for a test or writing a paper. All students should be doing something every evening. With less than a month left in the trimester, students need to stay on top of their work. Being a good student is an everyday job. It cannot be a last minute effort to make up missed work. Helping your children to establish good study habits at a young age will set the foundation for them to be a successful and independent student throughout their school years.

### Next Week...

Over the course of the next week, Mrs. Rachdouni will be sending out videos of her Music classes performing. Grade 6 parents got a preview of this last week. Mrs. Rachdouni is excited to share what the children are doing in Music class. Keep an eye out for these videos!



The Frist Friday Mass canceled last Friday has been rescheduled for Friday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:45. This is the Fourth Grade Mass. After the Mass, both 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grades will be presenting their Virtue of the Month. All are welcome.

### Coming Up...

The Catholic Athletic League is looking to have both a Volleyball and Soccer league this Spring. I am hoping that St. Rocco School will be able to take part in both of these sports. Yesterday the students in grades 4-8 were asked to express their interest in joining these sports. For Grades 4 and 5, it is soccer. For grades 6-8, it is soccer and/or volleyball. After speaking with the students, it is clear that we have enough interested 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Graders for a soccer team and enough Middle School students for a soccer team. There are also enough students to field both a 7<sup>th</sup> and an 8<sup>th</sup> Grade volleyball team. To have all of these teams, we will need parents to step up as coaches. If you are interested in coaching any of these teams, please call or email the office. There will be a training by the Catholic Athletic League to be a coach. The fee for this class will be paid by the school. Practices for both sports would begin in early April with the seasons' first games beginning April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Dance Class will be returning on Wednesday's beginning in March. This is exciting news for our K-Grade 4 students. Please see the attached flyer to register.



### COVID Updates...

Governor McKee's briefing yesterday addressed several changes in protocols for the state of Rhode Island. The one that is most forefront for schools is that of continuing to wear masks in schools. While the governor gave a date of March 4<sup>th</sup> for his Executive Order requiring masks in schools to be lifted, he also made it clear that districts would be given the freedom to make decisions in the best interest of their school. He also said that RIDOH and RIDE would be giving guidance over the next few weeks. Once this guidance is released, I will share with the St. Rocco community the safety measures that are best for our school moving forward. In the governor's words when asked about the timeframe, "I am waiting for RIDOH and RTIDE to release their recommendations for the state." And, as Dr. McDonald said when referencing the new guidance, "Let there be a little more calmness and kindness moving forward as we make these changes." I know that at St. Rocco's we always strive to proceed with both calmness and kindness.

I wish you and your families a safe and peaceful week.

Respectfully,

Regina M. Hand



# Important Information

Re-registration appointments are still on-going. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to the School Office at 401-944-2993 or [office@stroccoschool.org](mailto:office@stroccoschool.org)

*St. Rocco School is accepting applications for the 2022-2023 school year. Please encourage family and friends to visit our school. "Word of mouth" is the best way to spread the good news about us. Don't forget about our REFERRAL PROGRAM! Please check the website for details. For more than 58 years, St. Rocco has had the distinction and reputation of educating the whole child; spiritually, educationally and socially. We are proud of our accomplishments and we continue to strive to greatness for our students!*



**Pro-Life Baby Shower** – Thank you to all those who have contributed thus far. The response has been overwhelming! Collection continues until February Recess! All items and donations collected will go toward the Gabriel Project sponsored by the Diocese of Providence for young mothers who chose life for their baby! We thank you in advanced for your generosity. Please refer to the flyer posted on the school website.

**Financial Aid** -Applications for financial aid for the 2022-2023 school year have started. You can apply by going on to the FACTS management website. In addition, in order to receive parishioner rate for the 2022-2023 school year, you must have contributed \$250.00 to St. Rocco Church by ***December 31, 2021*** to receive parishioner rate

**Spring Sports** – If you would like to volunteer to coach our soccer or volleyball teams this Spring, please contact the office.



**Star Testing** – The results from your child(ren) Star Testing is being sent home today.

**Dress Down Day** – Tomorrow (Friday) February 11<sup>th</sup> is a \$1.00 donation dress down day for "Keep the Heat On". Please show your support by wearing the color red.



# Classroom News ~ Kindergarten ~ Miss Califano

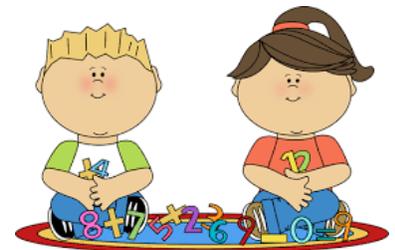


We are very busy in Kindergarten!

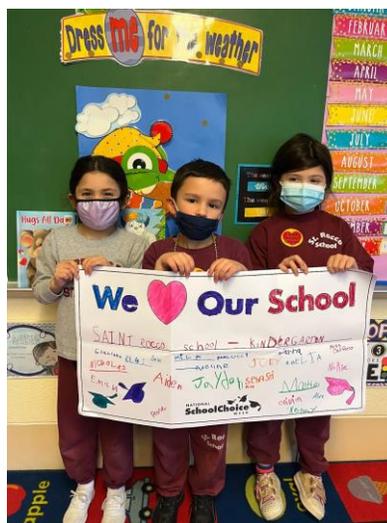
In Reading, we are working hard on our sight words. We can spot sight words in bigger words and sound out words we don't know yet. We are practicing fluency by reading at just the right pace.

In Writing, we can write sentences independently. We can use proper grammar and punctuation to make sure our sentences make sense!

In Math, we can count up to 100 by 10s independently and 5s with some help. We can identify numbers up to 100 and know how to write them. We can read graphs by using tallies or objects and identify the greatest, least, median and mode of our graphs.



Last week, we celebrated Catholic Schools Week and talked about why Saint Rocco School is so special! We made cross necklaces and showed them off at our parade! We drew pictures and wrote about why we love our school so much. We enjoyed dressing up for career day and talking about our future jobs.



# SAVE THE DATE

- Friday, February 11<sup>th</sup> Keep the Heat On  
\$1 Dress Down Day (wear **RED**)
- Friday, February 18<sup>th</sup> First Friday Mass Rescheduled 8:45am  
4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Graders Present Virtues
- February 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> Winter Vacation
- Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> Ash Wednesday Mass at 9am
- Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup> First Friday Mass at 8:45am

Virtue of the Month – Love



*Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things,  
endures all things. Love never fails.*

*Corinthians 13:5-7*



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

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

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A Roman Catholic School