

# SHSF NEWS



Monthly Newsletter

Back-to-School 2016

## Back-to-School Activities

You are invited to our Open House as a part of our community's FIRST DAY CELEBRATION on Monday, August 29, from 5 PM—6 PM. This event provides a chance for teachers, parents, and students to meet together as a school community. We hope you will be able to share in the joy of this beautiful occasion with all of our families.

Immediately following Open House, we hope you will be able to stay for our Annual Family Get-Together Pot-Luck Picnic starting at 6:00 PM on the school grounds. If you plan on attending, please return your form or email the school office to let us know how many will be attending.

The first official day of school for Sacred Heart St. Francis is Wednesday, August 31. Students in Grades 1-8 will line up in the paved parking lot according to grade level at the 8:15 AM bell. Following the second bell students will proceed to the classrooms for morning prayer with their teachers.

Preschool and Kindergarten parents are welcome to accompany their children to their classrooms beginning at 8:10 AM.

### Mission Statement

*Providing excellence in academics and a deepening faith in God and Gospel*

*Values in an environment that is caring, challenging, and respectful, striving to develop in every student the habits of thinking critically and acting responsibly in daily life.*



Pot-Luck Picnic allows everyone a chance to get reacquainted.

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Everyone gets excited for the first day of school.

## Consumable Book Fees

You can begin paying your consumable textbook fee at anytime, but **all monies are due on or before the first day of school.** You can pay all at once or it can be added to your monthly FACTS payment. If you prefer to add it, please let Mr. Estes know. This expense is an important investment of your child's future and well worth the cost. This is required of all families.

## After-School Program Begins

Our After School Enrichment program, under the direction of Mrs. Nancy Hopkins, will begin on Wednesday, August 31. In order to cover all our expenses, the cost this year will be \$10.00 per day per student for the entire time or \$5.00 for the first hour. The program will run from 2:45 PM until 5:05 PM every full school day.

There will be an opportunity for homework assistance Monday through Thursday and special activities are planned for the children as well. This is an important service we can provide for our families. Mrs. Becky Greenslet will be our homework club teacher again this year.

Sign-up sheets are sent (e-mailed) home every week. Please note that [payment must be received in advance](#) for the days your child will be attending. If you should have questions about our ASEP, please call the main office. An After School Enrichment Handbook is available on-line or you may request a hard copy. Registration packets are available online and at Open House. These must be on file with Mrs. Hopkins in order to attend the program.

## Welcome, New Students!

We wish to welcome these new students and their families to our school community: Aaron Paul, Gwyneth Podkowka, Jacoby Dicranian, Kali Coon, Kendra Coon, Ashleigh-Kate Babcock, Willow Babcock, D'Andre Hampton, Kingston Peterson, and Levi Skidmore.

<b>New Preschool 3 and 4</b> \$50 (includes mat)
<b>Returning Preschool 4</b> \$20 (+\$30 if mat is needed)
<b>Kindergarten</b> \$70
<b>Grade 1</b> \$85
<b>Grade 2</b> \$85
<b>Grade 3</b> \$85
<b>Grade 4</b> \$100
<b>Grade 5</b> \$100
<b>Grade 6</b> \$130
<b>Grade 7</b> \$130
<b>Grade 8</b> \$130

**School Lunch menus will be emailed to you at the beginning of each month. Lunches are free again this year.**

## Safe and Sacred

For the safety of our children, all volunteers, including parents, are required to complete an on-line certification entitled "Safe and Sacred". You can access it by visiting [www.vermontcatholic.org](http://www.vermontcatholic.org). There is a link to the program under Child Safety. Just a note, you will be required to do a background check as part of the certification. Completion of this is in accordance with Diocesan policies and is required for anyone who wishes to work with our students in any capacity. Fingerprinting, however, is not necessary for this background check.

It may take a few weeks for you to receive a certificate of completion due to the large number of volunteers in all our schools completing the program.

If you should have any questions, please contact Mrs. Gilarde in the office, who is our Safe Environment coordinator.

There is no cost for any part of this program.



## Informational Software

If you are new to our school, you are invited to use our school's information management system – [RenWeb](#). This is a private and secure parent portal that will allow parents to see academic information specific to their children, while protecting their children's information from others.

- Attendance
- Daily Grades
- Progress Reports
- Report Cards
- Discipline
- Homework
- Missing Assignments
- School Calendar
- School Announcements
- School Closings and Delays
- Staff and School Directory
- Teacher Email Addresses
- Customized Web Surveys
- Other Useful School Information

We will also be using Renweb this year for school emergencies and weather related delays and closings.

RenWeb has created a 5 minute [ParentsWeb Overview video](#) which will give you an introduction to the system. Please watch it at your convenience by pasting this address in your browser [vimeo.com/126932181](https://vimeo.com/126932181). The password to access the video is **ParentsWeb**.

Together we can improve our children's academic development and the communication between our school and your home.

## Peanut-Safe School

.We have students at Sacred Heart St. Francis School who have life threatening allergies to nuts, especially peanuts. We are asking that you work with us to make Sacred Heart St. Francis [a peanut safe school](#) by refraining from sending your children with peanut butter or other products containing nuts or nut oils (i.e. nutella). If these students come into contact with anything containing nuts, nut oils or derivatives, it could be life threatening.

It is only necessary that physical contact with these substances be made, even on a second hand basis. For example, a severe reaction may occur should the child touch a desk, toy or book previously handled by another student who has touched peanut butter, peanuts or peanut oil. If you do send any treats into the school to be shared, keep this is mind. Thank you for your support, understanding, and cooperation with this serious matter.

# Welcome, New Staff Members!

We welcome three new staff members.

Mrs. Stephanie Paul as our new music teacher. Mrs. Paul will be replacing Mr. Timmermans who has relocated with his family to New Jersey. She is a graduate of Robert Wesleyan University with a degree in Music Education. She has been teaching music in the school setting and giving private lessons for the past nine years.

Mrs. Pamela Earle will be teaching Spanish. Mrs. Earle, who is from Chile, has taught at all levels from preschool through college. She will be taking over for Mr. Noguera.

Mrs. Rita McWilliams will be taking over custodial duties for Mr. Masia who had been working after school hours keeping our school clean and safe.

## Spruce-Up Day

Please join us on Saturday, August 27, from 8 AM - Noon (all or part) for a school yard spruce up day. Please bring gloves and, if possible, labeled tools such as sturdy rakes, brooms, pruners, and garden tools. A few wheelbarrows, trimmers, and weed whackers would help too. Dress to get dirty! Rain or shine. Middle school students can earn community service hours.

We are always seeking new students. If you know of any family who may be interested in enrolling their children, please let us know or have them give us a call. Word of mouth is a great marketing tool.

Maintaining our enrollment is crucial to our existence. Please help your school community.

## From the Principal...

The start of a new school year is always an exciting time. Enthusiasm and expectations are high. Parents, students, and teachers share the hope that this year will bring outstanding achievement in education, in community spirit, and in affirming our faith in God.

Realization of that hope requires both commitment and a plan of action. Your prayers, your participation as a volunteer, and your spirit of cooperation are essential to its success. We plan our curriculum to meet the high standards which characterize Catholic education. Our goals focus on areas of knowledge to be studied, skills to be acquired, and habits and attitudes to be developed.

We are partners in the process. The close ties between family and school reinforce moral values and nurture our faith tradition. You are always welcome to call or visit to talk about ways we can help each other in educating your child spiritually, intellectually, and physically.

Let us enjoy our partnership as we work closely together during this new school year.



### **The School of Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales**

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