SAINT CATHERINE LABOURE SCHOOL NEWS

December 2022

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



December PTO Fundraiser – Franco's Pizza

> December 2 8:45am Mass – 4L Report Card Distribution

December 5-6 PTO Christmas Store

December 8 8:45am Mass – 2L

December 9-16 PTO Retail Fundraiser – Five Below

December 15 PTO Cookies & Cocoa-1st, 2nd and 3rd Grades

December 16

8:45am Mass – 8C Last Day-Community Outreach Drive

December 20 6:00 pm School Christmas Program

December 21 1:30pm Posadas Prayer Service – 5C & 5L

December 22

Virtual Half Day 11:30am Dismissal for Christmas Break NO PRESCHOOL

A Message from the Principal, Mrs. Reagan

Dear St. Catherine Laboure Families,

This school year has been going by so fast. We have already finished the first trimester and are into the second trimester. While November did not have too many activities, it came and went in the blink of an eye. November started with our celebration of All Saints Day with an all School Mass as well as the presentation of our October Disciple of the Month for Reverence. We then finished the month (prior to Thanksgiving Break) with our Discover Catholic Schools Week and our Mini Thon. The week of Discover Catholic Schools Week and Mini Thon was fun and exciting. The students participated in Spirit week, we had an open house for new families, and we ended with the Mini-Thon activities and pep rally. This was a fun and exciting way to help us transition into our Thanksgiving break.

This coming month of December will also go quickly but may be filled with more events and activities. We will celebrate our November Disciples of the month for stewardship at the beginning of the month. Our PTO has put a lot of time and effort into the preparation of the school Christmas store that will take place the first full week of December. Our 3rd-8th grade students will take part in the school Penance on December 13th. This will be followed by our cookies and cocoa event for 1st-3rd grade classes on the 15th. We will end our month with our Christmas program and school prayer service before we go on Christmas break. We are blessed to bring back our Christmas program live and in person this year as this will be a wonderful event to celebrate the Christmas season. We continue to be thankful for the many blessings we have here at SCLS to include our students, families, teacher, staff, and community. We wish you all a blessed Christmas season.

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13 (NIV)

Peace, Jodú Reagan Principal

SCLS 2022-2023 Annual Fund and Online Day of Giving Update

Online Day of Giving was a success!!! We collected **\$10,473** towards our goal of **\$10,000**.

That brings the Annual Fund to **\$34,719**. Please donate today to our 2022-2023 Annual Fund and help us reach our goal of **\$55,000**. All proceeds go directly to our school and our students.

Thank you for your support and generosity!

Link to donate: St. Catherine Laboure · 2022-2023 Annual Fund (Iglforms.com)

Newsletter Submissions: If you would like to submit information for the newsletter, please email information to d_mehalick@hotmail.com

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

December 23-January 2 NO SCHOOL-Christmas Vacation

<u>January 3</u> NO SCHOOL-Teacher In Service

> January 4 School Resumes



Happy Birthday!

December 1 Mary Ellen Barry

December 2 Patricia Byrnes Jillian Phelps

December 19 Maggie Cole

December 20 Jennifer Wright

December 22 Stephanie Grossnickle

> December 26 Stan Bielawa

> December 30 Jamie Bufton



A Note from the SCLS PTO President, Erín Henderson

Welcome to December, SCLS families!

It is really hard to believe that we are entering December and the hustle and bustle that the holiday season brings. I truly think that time seems to be going so fast because we are as close to "back to normal" as we have been since the start of the pandemic. It feels really good to be back here!

I wanted to take this letter to finally announce something that the PTO Board has been working on behind the scenes, and as we wrap up this calendar year and head into 2023, it seems like a good time to officially let everyone in on what we have been working on. As you all know, we work very hard each year to raise funds for SCLS that can be used for larger scale school-wide projects (security cameras, new cafeteria tables and water bottle fillable water fountains have been just a few of our recent projects). The four of us on the PTO Board myself, Colleen, Danielle and Janell - have been working with Father Lease, Mrs. Reagan, several members of the School Board (Vince Paese, Pat Henderson and Jordan Golob) and Joe Formica (from the Athletic Association), and we are excited to announce that we will be funding a new playground which we can all agree is sorely needed at our school. We truly have been blessed by a very supportive Father Lease and Mrs. Reagan to be able to make this happen. Father is even generously giving us several parking spaces to expand the footprint of this new outdoor space! We have a model selected (thanks in part to the students who voted on several pieces that were being considered), and this particular design will be ordered before the end of the year. We will have to wait until Spring until anything can start to come together outside, so this is going to be an ongoing project for the rest of this school year.

But we still need your help! While we have some of the funds to purchase the playground unit, there will still be expenses to come to make this project a reality. So please continue to support restaurant nights as they are announced each month. We will be planning a Krispy Kreme donut sale again around Catholic Schools Week and will likely do another sub sale in the Spring. There will also be another Spirit Wear sale closer to Easter, and we always have our bulk items available. Remember that each time you support one of these PTO fundraisers that the money will be going towards making this project a reality. Look for ways to help in the coming months! As we get closer to rolling up our sleeves and making this playground happen, there will be plenty of volunteer opportunities - so stay tuned!

We could not have gotten this far without the generosity of our SCLS families, and we are so thankful to you, because without your support this project would not be so close to happening. Thank you, thank you, thank you! Wishing all of our SCLS families a very Merry Christmas, and all the best things to come in 2023.

Erin Kenderson

PTO RESTAURANT AND RETAIL NIGHTS

Please come out and support the PTO for some good food and fun!!! Flyers for both events are located at the end of the newsletter and can be shared with family and friends.

(Watch for emails and social media postings too!)

Franco's

The entire month of December Must Bring Flyer! (located at end of newsletter)



<u>5 Below</u> December 9th through the 16th Flyer at the end of the newsletter



PTO Executive Board

Erin Henderson President

Colleen Formica Vice President

Janell Maglowski Treasurer

Danielle Harper Secretary

Father James Lease Pastor

Mrs. Jodi Reagan Principal



PTO FUNDRAISER and EVENT UPDATES

Thank you to everyone who continues to participate in our PTO fundraisers!!!! We appreciate the support and look forward to exciting news on what we plan to purchase this year. STAY TUNED!!!!



Fundraiser. The Class selected a sweet treat of CupCakes to Celebrate!





SHARE THE WARMTH PTO and SCHOOL COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Our Community Outreach Drive has kicked off! Every year we pick a charity to donate their most needed items as a way of giving back to our community and those in need. This year we have decided to donate items to The Evergreen House - they provide a safe and nurturing environment for women recovering from addiction - and Caitlin's Smiles - they provide pediatric patients with arts and crafts activities all over the country.

We are having PreK to 5th Grade donate items to The Evergreen House - we have designated items for each grade level.

The <u>middle school will be donating items to Caitlin's Smiles</u>, and we have designated items for each grade level as well. Caitlin's Smiles also has an Amazon Wishlist if you want to look at these items as well - <u>https://www.caitlins-smiles.org/wishlist/</u>

We will start the donation collections on Tuesday, November 29th and collect items until Friday, December 16th. Please have your child bring your donations to their homeroom teachers.

See flyers at end of newsletter for details.

SCLS Christmas Store

Monday, December 5 and Tuesday, December 6 Shop 'til you drop!!!!

The SCLS Christmas Store will be open on Monday, December 5 and Tuesday, December 6.

SCLS has partnered with Penguin Patch to provide sweet gifts for family and friends. Students in grades K-5 are invited to come and shop with their class. Students in grades 6-8 can visit only if they have money to shop.

Gift list budget envelopes and a letter will be sent home on *Tuesday, November 29*. Gifts range from \$.25 to \$12.00. Cash only will be accepted. Please no checks. Please remember to send money if your child is able to participate so they can experience the spirit of giving!

Only volunteers pre-signed up for the store will be able to assist children to shop.

We look forward to sharing the holiday spirit with our SCLS families!

Thank you, Mrs. Claus (Ricole Jayman ricolejayman@yahoo.com)

YEARBOOK! YEARBOOK!

Order your yearbook now to enjoy a year full of memories. Please place your online order to ensure your child receives a copy. Only a few extra copies have been ordered and they will be sold on a first

come, first serve basis. Orders can be placed using the link below. https://www.balfour.com

Search for St. Catherine Laboure School, Harrisburg, PA in the search box on the Balfour website and click the link to yearbooks. From now until December 31st yearbooks are \$28. Prices increase to \$32 on January 1st.



If you have any interest in taking over the yearbook for the 2023 - 2024 school year, please contact Colleen Formica, cformica78@gmail.com.

PTO and Student Council Soda Tab Collection

The PTO is partnering with Student Council again this year for a school-wide service project by collecting soda tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. All students are asked to collect soda tabs at home and bring them into your homerooms, where they will be collected and weighed by Student Council in 3 rounds.

Congratulations to 6C who collected the most tabs in the first round - just over 8 lbs of tabs! They will be awarded a dessert treat from the PTO.

The next round ends February 7, and the deadline for the final round of the year will be May 2. Please help Student Council reach their goal of collecting 400 lbs of tabs this school year!



RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES



Mom, I heard they are putting in a new playground for us!

Guys, you'll never believe it....we're getting a new playground!!!! Monkey bars are a must!

Can't wait to donate?????

Please click <u>here</u> to help make this playground a dream come true for our students!

SCLS PLAYGROUND UPDATE

A committee was formed.

A company was selected.

The committee narrowed it down to three sets.

The students voted (and couldn't hide their excitement).

Father Lease agreed to give up some parking spaces.

A plan is in the works.

A NEW playground is coming to SCLS!!!

THE COMMITTEE NEEDS OUR SCLS FAMILY!!!!

If you know of any groups or companies who would be willing to donate towards our playground let us know. We have a lot of fundraising left to do to ensure the playground gets completed. If you can help with donations, grants, fundraising please email Danielle Harper @ d_mehalick@hotmail.com. Stay tuned for more details around finances and timeline.

NOTE: Drawings are not finalized and could change slightly.



Jave the Mate St. Catherine families mark your calendars and order your tickets now! Tickets and sponsorships are now available. <u>St. Catherine Labouré Gala – Saint Catherine Labouré</u> <u>Catholic School (sclhbg.org)</u>.

Get your tickets sooner rather than later to this amazing event that helps to raise so much money for our little school. And you get to raise money while dressing up, dancing and having a great time with other SCLS families and faculty!

Follow the Friends of St. Catherine Gala on Facebook (<u>https://www.facebook.com/stcatherinegala</u>) to get up to date information.

THE FRIENDS OF ST. CATHERINE LABOURE PRSENTS

GALA 2023 A NIGHT UNDER THE STARS

FEBRUARY 11, 2023 5:30 PM HILTON HARRISBURG 1 NORTH 2ND STREET HARRISBURG, PA 17010

COCKTAIL RECEPTION, DINNER, SILENT & LIVE AUCTIONS AND ENTERTAINMENT GALA TICKET INFORMATION AND SPONSORSHIP OPPURTUNITIES ARE LOCATED ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE.

NAME: Aimee Surgeoner

WHAT SECTION DO YOU TEACH? Director of Instructional Support Services
WHERE DID YOU GROW UP AT (CITY/STATE)? Northeast Philly
HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN HARRISBURG? 30 years
WHAT IS YOUR ALMA MATER? Archbishop Ryan, West Chester University
HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A TEACHER? 30 years
HOW LONG HAVE YOU TAUGHT AT ST CATHERINE LABOURE? 26 years
WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE SUBJECT IN SCHOOL? Reading
WHAT DID YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GREW UP? A teacher
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE BOOK OR AUTHOR? Elizabeth George
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MOVIE? Gone with the Wind
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE FOOD? Italian Food
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE?

"Peace begins with a smile." – Mother Teresa

NAME A PLACE YOU WOULD LOVE TO VISIT? Charleston



WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY AND WHY? Christmas - my whole family gets together to celebrate.

IF YOU COULD BE ANY ANIMAL WHAT WOULD PICK AND WHY? A cat - I love their independence.

WHAT IS ONE FUN FACT ABOUT YOU THAT THE STUDENTS AT ST CATHERINE WOULD ENJOY? I have ziplined in the rain forest, swam with nurse sharks, and went 4-wheeling in the jungle.



Nurse sharks are slow-moving bottom-dwellers and are, for the most part, harmless to humans. However, they can be huge—up to 14 feet—and have very strong jaws filled with thousands of tiny, serrated teeth, and will bite defensively if stepped on or bothered by divers who assume they're docile.



NAME: Yvonne Jackson

WHAT SECTION DO YOU TEACH? 4L

WHERE DID YOU GROW UP AT (CITY/STATE)?

Windsor, CT

HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN HARRISBURG?

18 years

WHAT IS YOUR ALMA MATER? Providence College

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A TEACHER? 6 years

HOW LONG HAVE YOU TAUGHT AT ST CATHERINE

LABOURE? 5 years this year

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE SUBJECT IN SCHOOL?

French

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE BOOK OR AUTHOR? Jane Austen

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MOVIE? Hidden Figures

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE FOOD? Chocolate

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE? "Peace begins with a smile." Mother Teresa

NAME A PLACE YOU WOULD LOVE TO VISIT? The Vatican City

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY AND WHY? Christmas because it is about Christ's birth and the love we show each other.

IF YOU COULD BE ANY ANIMAL WHAT WOULD PICK AND WHY? A dog because most are happy and loving.

WHAT IS ONE FUN FACT ABOUT YOU THAT THE STUDENTS AT ST CATHERINE WOULD ENJOY? My fun fact is that I have a dual citizenship that allows me to be a citizen of Ireland and travel Europe for extended periods.



The U.S. is roughly 116 times bigger than Ireland by land mass. The U.S. is about 67 times larger than Ireland in terms of population.





NAME: Stephanie Teitelbaum

WHAT SECTION DO YOU TEACH? 2C

WHERE DID YOU GROW UP AT (CITY/STATE)?

Wilkes-Barre, PA (air force brat until 1982)

HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN HARRISBURG?

14 years

WHAT IS YOUR ALMA MATER? Couglin High

School and Bloomsburg University

HOW LONG HAVE YOU TAUGHT AT ST CATHERINE

LABOURE? Since October

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE SUBJECT IN SCHOOL?

History

WHAT DID YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GREW UP? Physicist (But really, a mother. I only ever wanted to be a mother)

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE BOOK OR AUTHOR? Diary of Anne Frank

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MOVIE? Empire Strikes Back

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE FOOD? Sushi

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE? "If you don't like the road you're walking on, start paving another one."

NAME A PLACE YOU WOULD LOVE TO VISIT? Australia

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY AND WHY? Thanksgiving. I have the fondest memories of childhood. It's a time to be still and together.

IF YOU COULD BE ANY ANIMAL WHAT WOULD PICK AND WHY? A horse. They are free, powerful, beautiful and carry the loads of others.

WHAT IS ONE FUN FACT ABOUT YOU THAT THE STUDENTS AT ST CATHERINE WOULD ENJOY? I have seen a polar bear in the wild and jumped into the Pacific Ocean dressed as a pierogi in January in Alaska.



An adult male polar bear weighs 770-1,500 lbs.

and measures 7 ft 10 in - 9 ft 10 in.



NAME: Antoine Baaklini

WHAT SECTION DO YOU TEACH? Physical Education

WHERE DID YOU GROW UP AT (CITY/STATE)?

Born in Tampa, moved to PA in 1991

HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN HARRISBURG? 31 years

WHAT IS YOUR ALMA MATER? Susquehanna Township and

Penn State

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A TEACHER? I'm new, less than 1 year

HOW LONG HAVE YOU TAUGHT AT ST CATHERINE LABOURE?

I've coached $3^{\mbox{\scriptsize rd}}$ and $4^{\mbox{\scriptsize th}}$ grade basketball for a few years

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE SUBJECT IN SCHOOL?

Gym (duh) and History

WHAT DID YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GREW UP?

I wanted to run my own business like my father did

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE BOOK OR AUTHOR? The Odyssey

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MOVIE? Conan-anything with Arnold Schwarzenegger

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE FOOD? All Lebanese food

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE? "To be is to do" - Socrates; "To do is to be" – Jean Paul Sartre; "Do be do be do" – Frank Sinatra

NAME A PLACE YOU WOULD LOVE TO VISIT? Lebanon, it has been 18 years since I've been there.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY AND WHY? Christmas because I can blast Christmas music for a month and annoy people.

IF YOU COULD BE ANY ANIMAL WHAT WOULD PICK AND WHY? An octopus because I am creative and innovative. Octopi are very intelligent and that's one of my strengths.

WHAT IS ONE FUN FACT ABOUT YOU THAT THE STUDENTS AT ST CATHERINE WOULD ENJOY? I have 4 kids. Three of them attend SCLS. I own a restaurant with my sister.



Lebanon is a country in Western Asia. It is located between Syria and Israel and the Mediterranean Sea. Lebanon is home to roughly six million people and covers an area of 4,036 square miles, making it the second smallest country in continental Asia.





COMMUNITY OUTREACH DRIVE SCLS Pre-K to 5th Grade

Donation Collection - November 29th - December 16th Please have your child give your donation to their homeroom teacher.

Donations to:

Evergreen House provides a safe, secure, nurturing environment for women recovering from addiction. This residential program helps clients achieve longterm recovery, find stable housing and learn job skills. The staff provides individual treatment, group therapy, family therapy and education. PreK & K - Soap 1st - Body Wash 2nd - Toothpaste & Toothbrushes 3rd - Shampoo & Conditioner 4th - Deodorant 5th - Hats & Gloves * all for women*

For More Information please contact Leah Adams leah.suka.adams@gmail.com

COMMUNITY OUTREACH DRIVE

SCLS Middle School

Caitlin's Smiles provides pediatric patients with arts-andcrafts activities. Whatever the gift, the results are the same for all who are touched by these simple gifts: fun, smiles, reduced anxiety, and the realization that others care. The children receiving the gifts, their family, medical staff, and Caitlin's Smiles volunteers and staff all benefit from the joy these simple gifts bring. All the pieces are created by our wonderful volunteers. They are shipped or carried to medical facilities to be distributed by their staff to the children.

CAITLIN'S SMILES

Donation Collection - November 29th - December 16th Please have your child give your donation to their homeroom teacher.

6th Grade

Coloring Books for ages PreK to 5th *not religious related* 7th Grade Crayons - 24 pack Colored Pencils

8th Grade

Sudoku, Word Search, Mad Libs Activity Books for middle schoolers

For More Information please contact Leah Adams leah.suka.adams@gmail.com







PTO is selling Spirit Wear items!

To order, please fill out and clip the bottom of this flyer and send it into the school office with cash or check (made out to SCLS PTO). You can also pay via Venmo - @sclspto. Quantities are limited - first come, first served!

SCLS			
Cinch Sack - \$10	Magnet - \$	5 Wat	er bottle - \$13
	- \$15 Baseball hat		
Name:		Hor	neroom:
Contact Phor	ne Number:		
Please	enter the quantity r	requested on the	line
Baseball Hat:	(\$20 each)	Beanie Hat:	(\$15 each)
Magnets:	_(\$5 each) Cir	nch Sacks:	(\$10 each)
Water Bottles:	(\$13 each)	Lanyard:	(\$5 each)
	Total: \$		
