



Saint
Christopher
School

Newsletter

March 8, 2018

Dear Parents,

School safety has been on all of our minds lately, when time after time we hear about tragedies that take place in schools and other public arenas. It is a good time to review safety procedures that are in place at St. Christopher School. All exterior doors are locked throughout the day. Visitors must buzz to be allowed into the building. Students have been reminded not to open doors for visitors. As much as we all wish to be polite, I ask that you don't hold the door open for someone following you into the building. Every person entering the building should expect to press the buzzer and then wait for the adult who is monitoring the cameras to allow access into the building.

Each semester our students and teachers practice a lockdown drill, just as we practice tornado drills and monthly fire drills. All of the faculty and staff of St. Christopher, including many of the parish staff, have attended "Active Shooter Preparedness" training through the Indiana State Police. As much as we hope and pray we never have to have use of this knowledge, we do have it.

We have cameras inside and outside all all of the buildings on campus allowing there to be constant monitoring of movement. There are security procedures in place in the school office, the parish office and the church. You may have have also noticed the new "way finding" signs in the form of numbered doors for all doors on campus.

School safety remains at the forefront of all that we do. The parish has a safety committee that is currently reviewing all procedures and making recommendations for further improvement.

Though we hate to think about a tragedy ever happening, I want to assure you that safety remains a priority at St. Christopher.

Please continue to pray for all of those who have lost their lives or are in any way affected by tragedy within their own communities.

God bless you,

Karen King, Principal

Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who volunteered, donated, attended or bid online for our recent auction, Passports, Pints and Prizes! It was definitely a successful evening of fellowship and fundraising! When final numbers are available, I will share those in a school newsletter. If you haven't already, please take a few minutes to complete the survey (whether you attended or not) so that we can consider opinions as we move forward with planning for next year.

<https://goo.gl/forms/PNhRULUL1i4tyyDz2>

CYO Campership (Grades 2 - 6)

St. Christopher School has received a CYO Campership (scholarship for 1 Session of Camp, valued at \$595) to CYO Camp Rancho Framasa. Students who would like to be awarded this campership should write a paragraph explaining why he/she should receive it. Entries will be read by several faculty members. The top entries will be chosen and a drawing will be held to determine the winner. Essays must be submitted to classroom teachers by next Friday, March 16.

For more information about Camp Rancho Framasa: www.campranchoframasa.org.

ISTEP and IREAD

As you already know from our school calendar, the second semester includes two rounds of ISTEP for students grades 3 - 6 and IREAD for 3rd grade students. PLEASE do everything in your power to make sure students are on time and present at school for the entire day during these testing periods.

IREAD: March 12 - 16 Third grade only

ISTEP, Part 2: April 16 - May 4

Registration for the 2018 - 2019 school year

Registration is now open for the 2018 - 2019 school year. Similar to last year, the registration process for current families is through a Google form: [St. Christopher School Registration Form](#).

Keep in mind that all outstanding fees must be paid in order to secure a spot on next year's roster. **If you are NOT planning to register your child for next year, please email Ms. King so records can be updated.**

Schoolbelles - Our Uniform Company

MARCH - ONE DAY SALE
TODAY ONLY



BEST GEAR FOR
THE SCHOOL YEAR

Schoolbelles is having the best one day sale in the history of our company.

For one day only, March 8, 2018,

Buy 1 pair of pants or shorts, and GET 1 FREE!

City Barbecue Fundraiser

Thanks to all who dined at City Barbecue on February 15th. We just received a check for \$277.45. That will help pay for school field trips!

Spring Picture Day is coming!

Picture Day: Monday, April 2

Picture Day ID: HM147204Y0



First Grade News!

Miss Gillaspay's first graders have been working hard to become more fluent in reading. With the help of the Saxon **Phonics** program, they are taking the learned skills and putting them to the test with unknown words. It is truly amazing to watch 6 and 7 years olds tackle words that are 3 or 4 syllables! This week we will be discussing sibilant sounds and diphthongs!

In **Math**, the first graders are starting to learn how to use a ruler to measure to the nearest inch and dividing shapes into fourths. The students have come to love fractions and manipulating congruent shapes.

In **Science**, rainbows are the main focus! Last week, the first graders started building fact folders to gather new information. When they are complete, make sure to check them out in the main hallway. The favorite fact so far is: Rainbows are actually a full circle, but we can only see the arc when standing on Earth. If you happen to be in an airplane and see a rainbow, you may be able to see the entire circle! We hope to spot a rainbow this spring. Maybe I can convince the class to split the pot of gold with me. :)

In **Religion**, we have discussed Lent and why it is such an important time of year. They understand why we give alms, fast, and pray more. The class took some quiet reflection time to pray about how they can become better people during Lent. This class really enjoys discussing our faith and learning more about it each day.

127 days down - 53 to go, but who's counting???

Miss Gillaspay

Catholic Identity at St. Christopher School

We are always looking for ways to improve at St. Christopher School. We work on math and reading frequently, but our Catholic Identity is the first place we look to improve. This year we have been looking at the Fruits of the Holy Spirit for guidance. We have been focusing on one Fruit of the Spirit each month. Last month we focused on kindness, which looks like being gracious, helpful, and considerate. Different activities were suggested each morning to help them understand how we can work to be more kind. This month our focus is on joy. We are working to find joy in our lives from God and his gifts. The preschool students shared what brings them joy on a bulletin board near the water fountains. You can help us at home by asking your child what brings them joy and finding ways to bring others joy. Focus on the life we have with God and other people, not video games and toys.

Important Dates

March 9 - Stations of the Cross presented by 5th grade 10:00 a.m. in Church
Bingo Team 5

March 11 - Daylight Savings Time begins

March 12 - Kindergarten Field Trip to the Children's Museum
PTP Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

March 16 - 2nd Grade to participate in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in downtown Indianapolis
Living Rosary presented by 4th grade, 2:00 p.m. in Church
Bingo Team 6

March 19 - 1:30 p.m. dismissal, Aftercare is open until 6:00 p.m.

March 22 - 5th & 6th grade field trip to JA Biztown

March 23 - Bingo Team 1

March 28 - 1st Grade Field Trip to the Indianapolis Zoo

**March 30 - Paraliturgy presented by 6th Grade, 12:30 p.m. in Church
1:30 p.m. dismissal - Good Friday - NO AFTERCARE-NO BINGO**

April 2 - Spring Picture Day - students may be out of uniform

April 4 - Family Literacy Night, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

April 6 - Regular day of school, this is our snow day make-up from January 12
Bingo Team 2

April 9-13 - SPRING BREAK - NO SCHOOL

April 13 - Bingo Team 7

April 20 - Bingo Team 3

April 27 - Bingo Team 5

St. Christopher School Mission Statement

St. Christopher School, established in 1949 as an educational ministry of St. Christopher parish, serves the West Deanery of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and the surrounding community.

St. Christopher School strives to provide an exceptional education permeated with Catholic Christian values, promoting spiritual, moral, intellectual, physical and social growth for our students, preschool through sixth grade.

St. Christopher School seeks to be an extension of our students' homes, challenging them to achieve their potential and helping them to realize their great worth as children of God, capable of making significant contributions at home and throughout the world.