



Saint
Christopher
School

Newsletter August 24, 2017

Dear Parents,

I'm so pleased that our year is off to a great start. Students (and parents!) are learning the routines that keep our students safe, organized and prepared to learn! I've had a couple of questions about the new 7:55 arrival time for school. All students should arrive at school by 7:55 a.m. At that time, the back doors of the school building will be closed and I will return to the school office. As a community, we will begin our days with important announcements for the day and then pray, recite the Pledge of Allegiance and our school mission statement. Since I will be leading this over the intercom throughout the school, each time the door "buzzes" with a student who is arriving after 7:55, a noise is made interrupts our morning routine. Thank you to all who have been diligent about ensuring your children are at school by 7:55 a.m.

Starting next week, our students in K - 6 take the beginning of the year NWEA MAP test. MAP = Measures of Academic Progress. NWEA (Northwest Education Association) recently released a Parent Guide to understanding the MAP test. Please take a moment to read this attached article so that you can familiarize yourself with this adaptive test. You soon realize why we place greater emphasis on the data from the MAP test than the ISTEP test. Teachers are able to get immediate results!

God bless you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen A. King".

Karen King, Principal

GREETINGS FROM MISS ANDERSON'S 4TH GRADE!

Welcome to a new school year! Where did the summer go?!? We are slowly getting back into the groove of things in the 4th Grade. The students are adjusting to being among the "big kids" of the school. They are learning to become more independent and responsible, as they know that they need to set a good example for the little kids. I am really enjoying getting to know my new class!

The students have already begun their first writing assignment! (We do a lot of writing in the 4th Grade!) Each student is writing a letter to me introducing him/herself and describing what he/she thinks about the 4th Grade so far. I am anxious to read them!

One of the new experiences of the 4th Grade is visiting the retirement home. It is our service learning goal. The 4th Graders are divided into groups, and the groups take turns visiting the residents at Harrison Retirement Home and celebrating Mass with them. We are eagerly anticipating our first visit on September 1.

As the days slowly grow shorter and the temperatures get cooler, the 4th Grade looks forward to learning more about Indiana's history, beginning a chapter book called *Sarah, Plain and Tall*, and doing some fun science experiments. The 1st Quarter is sure to zoom by!

~Miss Anderson and class

Help Us Improve

At St. Christopher School we are always working to improve. This year we have three goals that you can help us with at home:

- 1. All students will accept the grace of the Holy Spirit and use it to influence their actions.**
- 2. All students will improve in reading. (Our focus is text structure.)**
- 3. All students will improve in math. (Our focus is number sense.)**

Throughout the year you will see many ideas in the newsletter on how you can help us at home to improve in these areas. We will continue to work hard here, but any help from home will give us that much more growth.

To help us improve in reading we are focusing on text structure. Text structure is the organization of the text by the author. When reading fiction retelling the story really helps with comprehension. The younger students may retell by focusing on the beginning, middle, and end of the story. This is the text structure they can follow. The older students may look at the story structure to identify the characters, setting, problem, and solution. Simply having a discussion on the way to school focusing on the structure of the story or book they just read can really help.

Bingo Kitchen Teams

A recently updated Bingo Kitchen Teams schedule is attached. If you have questions about the schedule or haven't yet been assigned to a team, please contact Cheryl Campbell at cjq2c@sbcglobal.net.

Indiana Deduction for Private School Tuition

St. Christopher School does not provide any advice regarding personal income tax requirements or filing, however we do want to inform parents that IC 6-3-2-22 authorizes taxpayers to claim a \$1,000 income tax deduction for each dependent who is enrolled in a private school or who is homeschooled in grades K-12 and incurs cost for tuition, fees, computer software, textbooks or school supplies. To claim this credit, provide the following information to your accountants: St. Christopher School C795 Code No. 626. Additional instructions, found on the Indiana Department of Education website, can be seen here:

<http://www.doe.in.gov/sites/default/files/choice/2012-02-08-deduction-privatehomeschool.pdf>

NEW INFORMATION for Safe and Sacred

For parents who are not registered members of St. Christopher Church, prior to completing the Safe and Sacred program, you need to register with the parish (as a non-Catholic) so that we can best track with which ministry you'll be volunteering. To do this:

- Get a registration form from any of the following locations:
 - the school office
 - the parish website (<http://stchrisindy.org/index.php/parish-life-commission>)
 - the parish office
- Upon completing the form, return it to Beth Crouch, parish secretary:
 - In person at the parish office
 - By emailing to bcrouch@stchrisindy.org
 - By faxing to 317-241-6587

REMINDERS for Safe and Sacred

It is policy that volunteers at St. Christopher and the Archdiocese of Indianapolis who have contact with children must:

- Complete the Safe and Sacred online program:
<https://safeandsacred-archindy.org/login/index/php>
- Complete a background check prior to any volunteer service. You will have the option to complete the background check through the Safe and Sacred program.

CYO boys and girls basketball for grades 4, 5 and 6

Registration starts now and ends Sunday, August 27. Our CYO school code is 183SCP-IN

All 4th, 5th and 6th grade girls and boys are eligible.

If you would like your child to play, please register them on the CYO website. www.cyoarchindy.org

We will enter teams based on the number of kids that sign up. If we do not have enough for a certain age group, we will not enter a team for that grade.

St. Christopher Athletic Committee
sports@stchrisindy.org

Girls season starts October 08

Boys season starts November 26

Mum Sale

Please turn in orders and payment to the school office by September 1. You may pick up your mum order on Saturday, September 16 in the front of the school building from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. All plants are \$10.00 each. If you have any questions or if you can help unload the delivery truck on September 16, please contact Diane Hilligoss at di317@att.net

Facebook

Do you use Facebook? Be sure to like our page to see fun photos throughout the year.

<https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofSt.ChristopherSchool/>

Aladdin

Hello Fellow Parents,

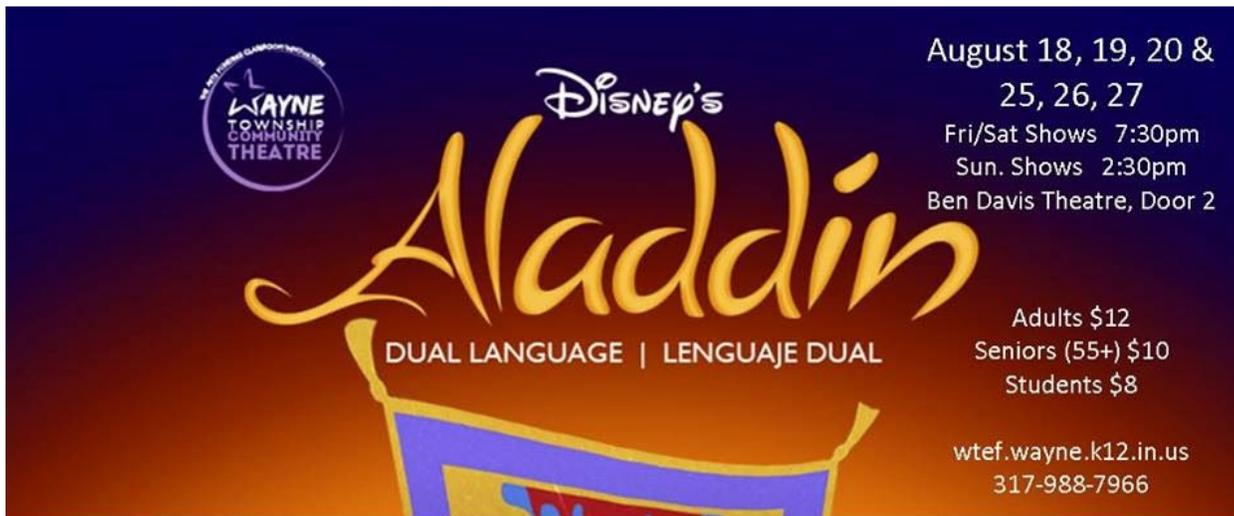
There is a really great local production of Aladdin that is being presented at Ben Davis High School through the Wayne Township Community Theatre. It is a fabulous time to introduce young children to live theatre and see the difference of a story being told on a TV or movie screen and then seeing it presented on a stage. This production of Aladdin is a dual language production. It's in Spanish and English simultaneously. You ask how? You will have to come and see the show. The ages of the actors range from very young to high school and there are a handful of adults. The music is beautiful and includes songs that the kids will know if they have seen the Aladdin movie.

Four of our own St.Christopher School students are in the production that is performing for the final weekend on August 25, 26 and 27. I have been given the opportunity to share a special "buy one, get one" offer to attend the show. Students received this flyer yesterday in backpack mail. Tickets are sold at the door as you go in to see the production and this special offer is only given if the flyer is presented. You will enter Door 2 at Ben Davis just off Girls School Road.

Thank you,

Chris Hosp

St.Christopher PTP Vice president



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.

Important Dates

September 1 - Fall Pictures, students may be out of uniform

Mum orders due with payment to the school office

September 4 – No School, Labor Day

September 6 – Former Indianapolis Colts player, Daniel Muir, speaking to students in Grades 3-6, 12:30 p.m.

September 7 – PreK field trip to Indianapolis Museum of Art

September 8 – Vision Screening for students in Grades 1, 3, 5 and Hearing Screening for Grades 1 and 4

September 11 – PTP Meeting, 6:00 p.m. in the cafeteria

September 13 – Grade 6 field trip to NCAA Hall of Champions and NIFS

September 16 – Mum delivery in front of school

September 19 – Parent meeting for students receiving First Reconciliation, 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria

September 22 – Author visit, Dr. Karl Pryor