

STNS OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

ST. THERESE

This month we honor our patron Saint Therese of Liseux. Each and every day our children are watched over by our patron saint. Saint Therese of Liseux's feast day is October 1st. For the entire month we will be learning about her through coloring, crafts, and even a tour of the stain glass windows in the church. Our three year olds will be making flowers to present to the statue in our foyer while our four year olds will take a tour of stained glass windows that tell the story of of her life. We have certainly needed her prayers this past year and a half and will continue to pray for her. The symbol of St. Therese of the Liseux

are roses that she showers upon you when you ask for her prayers and intercessions.

Taking time out of the day to pray is essential for our own spiritual growth. Modeling this for our children is a habit that becomes an integral part of their lives and keeps them connected to our Lord. We often think that we must say our prayers before we go to bed or at a meal. A prayer can be a conversation with our Lord at any time of the day anywhere!

Saint Therese was devoted to our Lord from a young age and spending time in prayer can give us the moment of peace we all need during these times. We all need a break and prayer is the answer! The car is great place to start on your way to or from school. You can each say I want to pray for . . . as you drive!

Happy praying!
Miss Michele

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HALLOWEEN PARADES AND BLESSINGS!

In celebration of All Saint's Day and Halloween, the nursery school children will be involved in Halloween parades and blessings. This year we will follow a few additional safety procedures! *Each class will have their own parade to maintain our cohorts

The parade schedule is as follows:

Thursday, October 28th

Miss Meg 9:30 a.m.

Miss Jenn T/Th 11:00 a.m.

Miss Christine T/Th 11:30 a.m.

Miss Nancy T/Th Noon

Friday, October 29th

Miss Allison 2:30 pm

Miss Christine M/W/F 11:00 a.m.

Miss Jenn M/W/F 11:30 a.m.

***Family viewing:** Each family will stand in the first row of parking spaces. We will block that parking row for the day of the parades.

***Parties** will happen in the classrooms either before or after the parade. Sign ups for Halloween party donations will be sent via email in Sign Up Genius. Please remember that we are a peanut/tree nut free school when selecting your item to send in.

***Reminder:** The classes will parade around the front of the school and will be blessed for a safe and happy evening! Safety is of our utmost concern and for this reason we will be blessing the children in front of the school with our families remain in the first row of parking spaces. Please understand that this is the first time that many of our children will encounter an experience where there are so many adults gathered. This is a developmental milestone and we focus on making all of the children feel comfortable in this new situation. The main goal of the staff is to ensure the safety and comfort level of our students. To our staff, many of the faces in the crowd are unfamiliar.

***Costumes** are to be sent to school with each part labeled in one big bag. The teachers will be dressing the children. With the exception of Miss Meg's class that will come to school in costume with school clothes underneath. Please try to avoid any scary masks and fancy shoes as they impede walking. Costume masks will be placed on top of the child's head instead of over their face which can impede their vision.

***Blessing:** Most importantly, the children will be blessed at the end of the parade for a safe evening!

FIRE SAFETY MONTH

October is also fire prevention and awareness month! The children will be reading books and discussing fire safety in their classroom!

The fire department will also visit us on Thursday, October 7th at 10:00 a.m. If your child does not attend on that day, please feel free to stop by with them for the demonstration.

Due to time constraints they are only able to visit one day. Please discuss a fire exit plan for your family and practice this life saving technique. Each family should also have a meeting spot outside their home. My children and I chose the big tree in our front yard as our meeting point. At school we hold a monthly fire drill and practice exiting the building quietly to the sidewalk adjacent to the church. Your child may mention this on a fire drill day!



STNS SCARECROW

The North Haven Garden Club is once again sponsoring a scarecrow contest on the North Haven town green. I have entered our school once again! The children will be working on stuffing the parts of the scarecrow with hay! We will use a school t-shirt and tote bag! I am looking for volunteers to assemble the parts together! This will be done outside of the school. If you are virtue trained, please feel free to contact me to assemble the scarecrow! We are also in need of child size pants, a long sleeve shirt, and boots for donation!

Be sure to visit the green from October 12th through Halloween! I will need volunteers for this Friday, October 8th to assemble!

October Service Project

Each month we try to incorporate a service project into our curriculum. To kick off the year we will be helping fill a food pantry Ronald McDonald House food pantry. Please have your child fill the bag under the sign in log.

Items needed are:

- Gift Cards: Stop & Shop, Rite Aid, CVS, Walmart, Target
- Fresh Foods: eggs, vegetables, fruits
- Butter, Pam Cooking Spray, Ketchup, Mayonnaise, Maple Syrup
- Individual serving size packages of: Chips and snacks, Juices, Cereals, Pudding/Applesauce
- Tuna Fish, Canned Meats
- Keurig K-Cups

Ronald McDonald House provides lodging and some meals are donated but parents are responsible for a good portion of their meals and snacks. The stocked pantry helps immensely!

ROSES ORCHARD FIELD TRIP

Our friends in our four year old program that come to school on Fridays will be visiting Rose's Orchard on Friday, October 15th. Information has been sent home to these families and the payment is on our website. If your child attends the other days, they will go on this trip next year! Praying for good weather!





FALL FESTIVAL SATURDAY OCTOBER 23RD 10-2

This year we will bring back our annual fall festival on Saturday, October 23rd from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.! There will be hayrides, a pumpkin patch, fall tye dye, crafts, games, and more! Anyone is welcome to fall tye dye! Just bring a white t-shirt! I am looking for some parent volunteers to help with the crafts and games! A planning meeting will be on Tuesday, October 12th at 9:30 a.m.!

You are welcome to invite family and friends. The tickets need only be purchased for children! Parents and adults ride the hay wagon for free! I will be sending an email with ticket information shortly!

Volunteering at STNS

We enjoy having our families volunteer in and out of our classrooms! Traditionally, we have had parents and grandparents assist with our classroom celebrations and school wide events. Right now we aren't able to have volunteers in our classrooms. Thinking outside of the box, we have found creative ways for our families to be a part of our community! The newsletters will provide information on volunteering as well! As a part of the Archdiocese of Hartford, we are required to have all volunteers take an online training called Virtus, a background check, and a review and sign off on the Office of Safe Environment Handbook prior to volunteering. This is a requirement for all volunteers and employees of the Archdiocese of Hartford. Please click on the link below to register and complete the training and documents. I have hard copies of the background check and handbook as well. I am hopeful that we will be able to have more volunteers in the second half of the year! Our Promise To Protect (sttheresenurseryschool.com

POLICY ON DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

St. Therese Nursery School Travel Policy

Our St. Therese Nursery School International Travel Policy is a ten day quarantine upon return with an option to test on day seven and as long as the test is negative and the child is asymptomatic, they may return on day eight. If you choose not to test on day seven then the return day is on day eleven after the ten day quarantine.

Domestic travel has no restrictions except if a child is symptomatic they must have Covid 19 negative test before returning.



REMINDE TEXT ALERT SYSTEM

Our Remind Alert Text System is a great resource for communication with our school staff. I will be sending our Remind Text Alerts related to weather, upcoming events, or sometimes even something interesting that is happening at school! When I am sending the information to the whole school it is sent out similar to a blind copy. You as the parent can text back to me and the text is sent to me alone and not the whole school. You can ask me a question about what I just sent or you can even use the text alert system to send me a text at any time. There is also the capability to add a picture or document. For example, if you child is out and you have a note from the doctor, this can be attached. if your child is going to be out for the day, you can text me on this system and even include a note from the doctor if need be.

This can be shared with the teachers to bring them into the loop as well! You can also use the link below to have other family members such as grandparents or care providers that may need this information. Please see me with any questions and I highly suggest that all parents subscribe to this feature as another reminder. To sign up for remind enter the following link into your browser: <https://www.remind.com/join/achdec> *Sign up as a parent not student as 13 and under are prohibited from using this app.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CHILD IS SICK

Children are still going to have illnesses during this time even though we are in a pandemic. Unfortunately, many symptoms can be similar to those of Covid. As I shared in our "Return to School Plan" and at our Meet and Greet, our daily sign in screening is essential in making the decision if your child can attend school that day. If they present with any symptoms listed such as runny nose, persistent cough, fever, gastrointestinal issues, please contact the school via phone, email, or text. You will need to consult with your pediatrician for guidance on whether or not they want to see your child and if a Covid test is needed. I want to thank your families for already adhering to these protocols and maintaining the safety of everyone. Our health protocol is that children must be fever and /or gastrointestinal free for 48 hours without medication before returning to school. As always, please contact me with any questions



Bishop Pie/Bread Fundraiser for Thanksgiving!

Each year we hold a fundraiser of pies, breads, and cookie dough from Bishop's Orchard in Guilford! This is completely voluntary! All of the pies are frozen and can be easily baked for the holidays! *Ordering will be online on our website starting this Friday!* Orders are due by Monday, November 1st ! The pies will be delivered on Wednesday, November 18th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.! Our three year old families will need to pick up on this day as well as we do not have room in our freezer for all of these goodies! I will be picking up the pies early that morning and I am looking for some volunteers to help with pick up and sorting! Contact me if you are interested in helping!