



STNS

September Newsletter

Dear Families,

Our first days of school have passed and our friends and families have adjusted to this first stop on the learning journey. This is a new experience for many of our families and compiled with our current health status as a world, a much different one than we typically have. We are here for you! Please feel free to reach out at any time via phone, email, or even the Remind Text to contact us. I am on the sidewalk each day to guide you as well. Many of our plans for the year are contingent upon how our world is at the time. I am hopeful that we can resume some of our events such as our Fall Festival in late October. Even so, the last year has shown us that there are many creative ways to still celebrate in a safe way for all. I will share these plans in the monthly newsletter or via email and text. Please take some time to read through the newsletter for just a few reminders about our school.

Finally, I am attaching below a list of parenting advice that I shared at graduation last June. After thirty years as an educator and a mom of three children myself ages 23, 20, and 18, I have walked in your shoes many times and I am here to support you just as the staff is! Our staff has twenty of our own children as well as many years in early childhood education to guide you on this journey! Praying for a safe and healthy year twenty one!

In God's Peace,

Miss Michele

10 PARENT TIPS

BY MISS MICHELE

1. Stay calm
2. Take 24 hours to think about making a decision or responding when you feel overwhelmed
3. Listen to your child, really listen: Ask what made your belly laugh today
4. Spend time with them doing the things that need to be done like cooking, cleaning, gardening. You are teaching them valuable life skills while spending time together that may lead to conversations you never thought you would have.
5. You don't have to plan big experiences, sometimes the unplanned times together are the most valuable.
6. Don't rush through the milestones of your child's life because before you know it, the ride will be over.
7. Be present, really present, not behind your phone, just take that picture with your heart
8. Remember that our children are always watching and listening to everything we do. What they see us doing, they think is o.k. for them.
9. Always say I love you each and every time you leave them.
10. Above all, rely on the Lord and have faith that he will guide you on this journey no matter where it takes you as our Lord is truly in control and he knows what is best for each and everyone of us.

REMIND 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 your child is out and you have a note from the doctor, this can be attached.

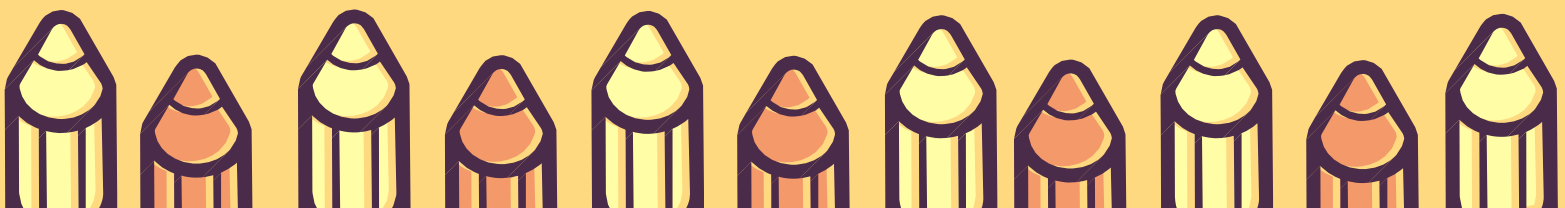
if your child is going to be out for the day, you can text me on this system and even include a note from the doctor if need be.

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.

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 at 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.



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)

STNS Walking Club!

Many of our families are new to our program and even our community! We have families that walk to school each day! In an effort for our families to get to know one another while getting in some exercise, I invite our parents, grandparents, and caregivers to meet informally in the front of the school at 9:10 each day for a walk around our neighborhood! Some families have younger siblings in carriages that can join in as well! If you are interested, see me! Happy walking!

