



St. Anne's Newsletter

Number 3

October 1, 2009

Calendar

- Thursday, October 1st—
ERB testing begins
- Wednesday, October
7th—Golf Outing
- Thursday, October 8th—
All school chapel at
9:45 am; 8th grade leading
- Monday, October 12th—
Columbus Day, no school
- Thursday, October
15th—Holy Communion
chapel at 9:45 am, all
school; Admissions Open
House from 5 pm—7 pm
- Wednesday, November
25th—Special Friends' and
Grandparents' Chapel

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The Joys of Learning, A Message from Peter Thayer, Head of School

The other day my wife bumped into one of our Middle School students after school and she asked him how his day had gone. Not settling for the typical response of "fine," she probed a little further. Remembering that he was on the soccer team, she asked how the practice went, figuring a middle school boy might have more to say about that. What surprised her was when he instead launched into a passionate summary of his science class because they were looking at the differences between plant and animal cells under the microscope and the teacher allowed them to use a part of a scab (that was falling off the knee of one of the boys) as a sample to place on the slide. He spoke with real vigor about the shapes of the cells and the colors and what it all meant, and my wife left this encounter energized to hear how much this student had learned from this experience and how much joy there was in his learning.

Yesterday, I was walking a visitor from a Connecticut boarding school out on the patio during Lower School lunch, and four students stopped me to show me the red velvet ant that was crawling on the brick wall. The students explained to me that these critters pack quite a sting, for which they are sometimes called "cow-killers," (a slight hyperbole I understand). By the time their explanation was done I realized that there were some twenty other curious observers gathered, who each had something to share about what they have observed in nature. It is passionate and engaged young learners like these that make it such a pleasure to be a part of this great school

Last Thursday I watched a group of third graders as they were leaving their music class and heading to PE, when one of them, just bursting with enthusiasm, said to me "we were dancing to Rockin' Robin in music class today." Her observation was matched by the energy and vigor with which they all moved onto the next activity. This group clearly was firing on all cylinders. It was a privilege to feel their energy and to realize that it came from a great teacher doing what she loved for the sake of children.

When our parents filled out the parent surveys last spring, one of the recurrent themes cited as a strength at St. Anne's was the quality and caring nature of the teachers and administrators. How else can we explain the general good will and eagerness that you feel from children as they come into school each morning? Students know that when they walk through those red doors in the morning the teachers will be acting as their advocates, their mentors, and their catalysts for learning. Our community feels like a family to kids and their parents, and as a result it feels safe to take intellectual risks, to show a keen interest, and to express excitement about learning. In that context the academic challenges can be more significant, because teachers rarely face the hurdle of convincing students the value of doing harder work. As one student said to me the other day, "At St. Anne's it is OK to work hard!"

At Founders' Day last Thursday Mr. Brownlee spoke eloquently about the heritage of a St. Anne's education. His message was clear that the spiritual and moral growth of our students is part of the legacy that we hope each student develops more fully while at St. Anne's. As we strive to fulfill our mission of raising responsible, respectful and compassionate citizens of the world, it is very affirming that our serious efforts in those areas do not preclude, but rather enhance a genuine joy in learning.

Admissions

OPEN HOUSE

October 15, and November 10, 2009

Program begins at 5:00 pm at St. Anne's Episcopal School.

Invite your friends to come learn more about St. Anne's!



Nurse News

Happy Fall from the Nurses! We get shots, too! Giant Pharmacy came to Saint Anne's Episcopal School on Tuesday September 29th to administer the seasonal flu vaccine to our faculty. We would like to thank Kelly Steeves RPh for providing this service. Please contact your physician regarding flu vaccines for your family. The H1 NI vaccine will be available mid-October. School-age children are amongst those recommended for immunization. Please check the Center for Disease Control website for updates at <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/vaccination/acip.htm>.

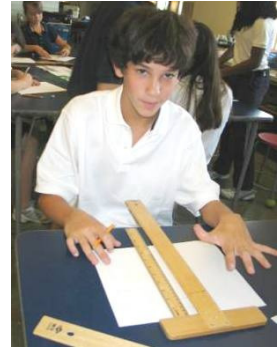
www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/vaccination/acip.htm.

We have a fun October planned for our students. Nurse Trivia is coming back. Nurse Trivia is a weekly trivia question posted on our bulletin board. There is a question for Lower and Middle School. The question is usually health, nutrition or anatomy related. We pick one winner from Lower and Middle School. We have a "Treasure Chest" of prizes that include pencils, bookmarks, etc. We will accept (and welcome) any donations

of unused prizes. This is an exciting thing for students! Please have them check our bulletin board in early October for guidelines. Our faculty also participates in this fun activity. Their prize is the coveted front parking spot!

Our contact information is nurse@saintannesschool.org or 378.3179 x340. Please call or email with any questions or concerns.

Bev Ashkenase, R.N.
Andrea Croce, R.N.



A young architect shores up his parallel lines in his architectural drawing.

Young architects have taken over the art studio! Seventh graders are learning a variety of drafting techniques. Using t-squares, rulers, templates, compasses and graphite students are designing their own cities. Pulling inspiration from some great global architectural structures, these young designers will embellish their cities with detail, texture and value. Who knew you could hone in on some impressive math skills, while stretching your creative painting, drawing and designing skills?

Student Council Begins a New Year

Middle School Student Council is looking forward to a great year for 2009-2010. We have some great executives: Elsa McLean (President), Malcolm Brown (VP), Brian Kenney (Treasurer) and Peyton Beard (Secretary) as well as amazing representatives from each class. Our Student Council meeting today will be the first one this year with everyone there. Student Council has been working on the Fall Fest and bulletin boards to keep everyone informed. Recently,

we received our shipments of snacks for the school store and they will be ready to sell on Friday, October 2nd. The Student Council will strive to make this a great year for every member of the St. Anne's community.

Basketball Clinic

SAES will be holding a basketball clinic for any middle school student on the following dates: Oct, 14th, 21st and 28th from 3:30 – 5:00 pm. Coach Spencer Dunkley, a SAES parent, former professional basketball player and varsity basketball coach at Appoquinimink High School, will be running the clinic, assisted by players from his squad. Please contact Mr. Szarko at SAES if you are interested in having your child attend. There is no cost.

Art

Please feel free to stop by and see the beautiful landscapes created by our third grade artists. These watercolor and texture creations were inspired by the landscape surrounding our community. Also, the seventh grade value studies are on display in the upstairs hallways. Each observation has been carefully executed using a variety of graphite tools. Pre-K is finishing up their beautiful Starry, Starry Nights and first grade still life works are prominently displayed outside of the music room. We certainly have a lot of creative young artists inside of these red doors!

Fall Fest is Coming

Please join SAPA on Saturday October 24th, 2009 from 11am-3pm for our annual Fall Festival. This year's theme is Health and Fitness. We will have a lot of fun activities for the whole family including fish racing, hayrides, food and bake sale, games, crafts, demonstrations, and much more. We will also hold our 3rd annual student baking contest. There are plenty of opportunities for volunteers, so please see the Fall Fest Volunteer sign-up form in this newsletter or contact Lisa Conover at 302-312-5296 or

conover123@verizon.net. Don't miss this great opportunity to spend time with St. Anne's Episcopal community.



Two seventh grade girls prepare to draw their sky scrapers in art class.

From the Chaplain, A Message from Louise Howlett

Today we went outside for chapel and enjoyed the excitement of many furry and feathered animals, as well as some in shells and water, joining us for a blessing at our St. Francis Day celebration. Thank you to those parents who were able to join us! Thank you also to The Rev. Jo Ann Barker of St. Anne's Church and The Rev. Jay Hutchinson of St. Andrew's School for helping with the many blessings.

Next **Thursday, October 8 at 9:45 in the Gym, the 8th grade will be leading us** in a special chapel they have planned around the theme of celebrating nature. This is an opportunity for them to work collaboratively and show leadership to the whole school, as well as share how the natural world is important to them in their relationships with God.

On **Thursday, October 15 at 9:45 we will gather again in the Gym for an all-school celebration of Holy Communion.** We gather for the Holy Eucharist (the Greek word for thanksgiving) five times each year as a way to celebrate our communion with God and one another. The service retells the story of Jesus' last supper and the love he expressed in his death and resurrection which are central to the

teachings of the Christian faith. The bread and wine are symbolic of his sacrifice and the love with which God feeds us every day. All children and parents are welcome to join us in this special service. Different branches of Christianity celebrate this sacrament with varying traditions and liturgies, but here at St. Anne's we do a very child-friendly, shortened service and invite all who wish to share in the meal to come forward to receive a blessing or the bread and wine. *Please take the time to talk with your children about how you would like them to participate: come forward for a blessing, share in the bread, or take the bread and dip it into the wine, according to your custom or tradition.* Please know that parents and students are also invited to a weekly service of Holy Communion Wednesday mornings from 7:30-7:50 in the Music Room.

On **Thursday, October 22 we will enjoy a visit from our wonderful Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Wayne Wright.** He loves coming to St. Anne's and sharing with the children and is a great story teller. Please join us in the Gym at 9:45. Chapel is a wonderful time of sharing, singing, praying, and enjoying our community life. You are always welcome!



Chaplain Howlett offers a blessing to a second grader's dog at the Blessing of the Animals chapel today.

8th Grade Chapel

The 8th grade would like to invite the whole St. Anne's community to the 8th grade chapel on Oct. 8 at 9:45 am in the gym. The eighth grade will present songs, sermons, readings and prayers. Our theme is "The Wonder of God's Creation" We hope to see you all there!



Boxtops for Education

General Mills donates money to schools across the nation through their Boxtops For Education program. You just cut out the "Boxtops" stamp-like coupon that is located on the packaging of General Mills products, including cereals, fruit snacks and more. Each Box Tops coupon is worth 10 cents for your school. Keep clipping them and turn them into school through your homeroom teacher. Occasionally, Bonus Box Tops of a different value are issued for special promotions. Log onto

www.boxtops4education.com to see a complete listing of eligible products. Last year, SAPA earned over \$550 by turning in the boxtops. Help us get to \$600 this year! If you have any questions, please contact Carey Koppenhaver. Thank you!

Golf Outing on October 7th!

Play Golf and Eat Dinner at Frog Hollow October 7th!

Please come to support the Annual Fund and have some fun at Frog Hollow Golf Course on Wednesday, October 7th. Play golf, come for dinner, and have a great time in the name of St. Anne's.

There is still room to sign up to play golf that

day- it is a 12:00 shotgun start. Please register ASAP with Carey Koppenhaver. If you do not plan to golf, please come for a delicious BBQ dinner that evening. Families, children and non-golfers are welcome! The dinner starts at 5:30 pm and is only \$30 for adults; kids are free! We will have some entertainment and a small silent auction at the dinner. If you plan to come for dinner, please let Carey Koppenhaver know. Thank you!



Respect. Responsibility. Compassion.



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We're on the web:
www.SaintAnnesSchool.org

Cleaning out your attic? Barn? Basement?

Think of St. Anne's when wondering how to best recycle an old chair or small piece of furniture. We will happily paint, distress and auction them off at the 2010 St. Anne's Auction! Please email us if you have anything that you think we may be able to 'make over' for our auction. We are always collecting fabrics, craft supplies, rubber stamps, buttons etc. We can turn your found objects into works of art!



Fall Festival Saturday, October 24, 2008 Theme – Health and Fitness



It's that time of year again! The Saint Anne's Parent Association needs your help to make this year's Fall Festival a huge success and a fun event for the whole family. We are looking for donations of baked goods or fall decorations, and volunteers to help on the day of the event.

Please return this form in your child's homework folder by Oct 16th. Baked goods may be dropped off during the day on Friday, October 23rd, or by 10:00a.m. on the day of the Festival. All baked goods should be bagged for speedy sale and tagged with the price.

Thank you in advance for your help.
Lisa Conover 302-312-5296 (Conover123@verizon.net)

Detach on the dotted line. Retain top portion for your records.

Name: _____
Phone: _____
E-mail: _____

Food Donations: (REMEMBER: NO NUTS OR NUT PRODUCTS) Please check any item(s) that you wish to bring for the Festival.

_____ Whole Cake _____ Cupcakes _____ Candy
_____ Jams/Jellies _____ Cookies _____ Pie

Fall Decorations:

_____ Pumpkins _____ Gourds _____ Mums



Volunteers:

_____ Set up (9:00-11:00am)

_____ Help sell items - bake sale and food table (please circle time)
 11:00 – 12:00 12:00 – 1:00 1:00 – 2:00 2:00 – 3:00

_____ Help with an activity (please circle time)
 11:00 – 12:00 12:00 – 1:00 1:00 – 2:00 2:00 – 3:00

_____ Clean up (3:00 – 4:00)

Monetary Donation:

If you would prefer to contribute monetarily, please check below and note the amount. Checks should be payable to SAPA.

_____ Amount \$ _____