



Pope John Paul II Catholic School
2922 Camp Easter Road
Southern Pines, North Carolina 28387
910.692.6241

The Eagle's Nest News

www.jp2catholicschool.org

Issue 3, Version 2

August 30, 2010

Dr. Rick Kruska, Principal

Calendar Reminders

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| September 1 | 8 th Grade Parent Meeting |
| September 3 | Early Release – Faculty Meeting NO LUNCH <i>except for aftercare students</i> |
| September 6 | No School – Labor Day |
| September 7 | Pre-K A-K starts – 11:30 release (Pre-K only) |
| September 8 | Pre-K L-Z starts – 11:30 release (Pre-K only) |
| September 9 | K – 8 Back to School Night – 6:30 PM |
| September 15 | PTO Meeting – 6:30 PM (New Date and Location – Parish Hall) |
| September 11 | San Juan Diego Festival |
| September 28 | Begin ITBS Testing |
| October 1 | Early Release NO LUNCH <i>except for aftercare students</i> |
| October 17 | Parish Picnic (<i>tentative date</i>) |
| October 20 | PTO Meeting – 6:30 PM – Parish Hall |

Construction / Capital Campaign Update

As was announced during the Parent Meeting on the first day of school, due to the Diocese of Raleigh's Capital Campaign for a cathedral in Raleigh, the general PJPII capital campaign for the gym and school was placed on hold. This does not mean that we can't continue to raise funds to build the gymnasium and permanent academic wing and speak individually with interested donors.

PJPII / St Anthony Church will be a part of the Diocese's capital campaign when it is launched in early 2011. PJPII can also continue to raise funds as long as we do not solicit funds from potential donors of the Diocese's campaign. We can ask non-Catholics and all persons outside of the Diocese (family and friends, Catholics or non-Catholics) to support our new school.

Soon you will receive a letter and an envelope that requests that you consider asking family and friends to support the construction of our school. The focus of this effort is not an attempt to get current parents to pledge funds. Upon receipt of the letter and pledge envelope, please prayerfully consider asking someone in your social circle to pledge funds for the new school.

The Diocese is willing to loan PJPII / St Anthony the \$1.5 million to build the gymnasium if a portion of the needed funds are collected and a major portion of the funds are pledged.

If you have any ideas, feel free to contact our capital campaign chairperson, Allison Melvin (admelvin@nc.rr.com).

PTO Meeting Change

The PTO meetings will be on Wednesday evenings. The first one will be on Wednesday, September 15 at 6:30 PM. They will be held at the St Anthony Parish Hall on Ashe Street.

This change is due to schedule conflicts with some other youth groups on Thursday evenings.

Book Bags and the Children's Backs

Recently it has been noted that some of the students in the middle school grades are taking all of their books to each class during the day. I have instructed the teachers to work with the students so they can leave the materials (books and binders) in their homeroom unless needed in the next class. This should lighten their load.

Also, it has been brought to my attention that students are taking all of their books home each night and some backpacks are exceeding 50 pounds. This is not necessary. Each night, students should take home only the materials necessary to complete the assigned work.

We discourage the use of rolling book bags for safety reasons as well as space constraints; however, they are not prohibited.

Service Hours

Thank you to the many families that have already been volunteering and putting in time for their service hours. The response has been wonderful! Make sure that you are signing in and out as well as specifying your "destination" ie: lunch, library, classroom, etc. This will insure that you receive credit for your hours.

ITBS Testing

Iowa Test for Basic Skills (ITBS) will begin on September 28th and finish by October 6th. The 2nd grade will take the Cognitive Abilities Test and 3rd through 8th grades will take the ITBS. There's nothing to study for but please make sure the students get the appropriate rest and nourishment during this time so we can get an assessment that truly reflect their abilities.

Early Release on First Fridays

On the first Friday of each month we will have an early release at 12:00 noon. Most early releases will have after care until 6:00 PM. There will be NO LUNCH on these days. However, if your child is staying for after care, PLEASE SEND LUNCH. The purpose of this release time is to allow the faculty and staff to meet for professional development and planning.

Christmas Bazaar!

Pope John Paul II annual Mardi Gras committee will be hosting a Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, November 20, in the St. Anthony's Parish Hall. We are looking for vendors who would like to sell their goods or services. If you know anyone that is interested in our Christmas Bazaar, please contact Kelly Curran at kellycurran@aol.com

Message from Mrs. Batchelor, Art Teacher

Pre-K, K and 1st will be reading "Harold and the Purple Crayon" in art class and then creating a project from the story. If you have any purple items at home that you can donate it would be greatly appreciated. This project will be mid September. Items we can use will be purple beads, buttons, stickers, small ribbon, lace, glitter, shiny foil, fabric and anything small that children can handle. Thanks for your help as this is a fun project for the little ones. *Mrs. Batchelor*

Teacher email

The most efficient way to contact PJP teachers is by email. Teacher emails are available on our website at http://www.jp2catholicschool.org/school_e-mails. Please allow one business day for a response. However, please continue to call or email the office if a matter needs immediate attention such as: your child will be out sick, there is a change in pick-up, etc.

Pinehurst Resort Military Appreciation Day

September 7th--reported in the Pilot and Raleigh N&O: Pinehurst Resort Military Appreciation Day. Free golf and discounts on Pinehurst spa treatments. Call the resort for details. 910-235-8320. <http://www.thepilot.com/news/2010/aug/22/golf-bag-simson-strantz-honored/>

Lack of Shade

Since we have minimal shade on the property and the children are enjoying being outside on the new fields, feel free to provide your child with a hat that they can put on when they are outside playing. It would be a good idea to put your child's name inside of his/her hat.

Picnic Tables

The generosity of our parent community continues to astound me! We put out a request for the purchase of picnic tables for the students and 15 families said they would contribute \$190 each

towards the purchase of tables. We will be placing the order soon. Please forward your check to Kim in the office.

It's time to re-link your store cards!

If you haven't already done so, please re-link your cards to PJP School. By linking your store card to PJP, you help us earn money!

Red Cross Babysitting Class

If you are a PJP student between the ages of 11 and 14 and are interested in taking a Red Cross Babysitting Class on-site, please send an email to me at kstepnoski@jp2catholicschool.org. The class will be approximately seven hours long and cost \$30 per student. We must have a minimum of six registered to be able to offer the class here on our campus.

Pope John Paul II Catholic School Contact Information

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| School Main Number | 910-692-6241 |
| Rick Kruska, Principal | x 223 |
| Kim Stepnoski, Secretary | x 221 |

For weather issues regarding school closings we will notify you via the Alert Now phone system. Feel free to check with WRAL Channel 5 for other school closings. We will use this site as well as other data to determine what is best for PJPII. We will do all we can to notify you of any school closure or late start due to inclement weather as far in advance as we can.

Vision Statement

Pope John Paul II Catholic School, with a culture immersed in an environment of a traditional Roman Catholic identity and as the school of choice in Moore County, is available, affordable, and accessible to ALL children in the Sandhills region regardless of socioeconomic status, race, religion, ethnicity, learning challenges, or physical abilities.

Mission Statement

Pope John Paul II Catholic School is dedicated to forming the hearts and minds of our students according to the teachings of the Roman Catholic faith and with the highest standards of academic excellence.