

Saint Joseph Regional School

Website: stjosephkeene.org

August 30, 2010

Dear Parents and Students,

Happy New Year! Happy, healthy, friendly and learning enriched new school year! The first day is a sign of greatness as we began with 141 students with faculty/staff members welcoming new students, parents and staff, and reconnecting with those returning. Classes are in full swing, Cross-Country will be 'off and running' starting tomorrow*(see info. attached), our Back-To-School Liturgy is scheduled for next Tuesday, September 7th at 9:15 a.m. All are welcome! (September 8th and 15th), Back to School Evenings scheduled for parents (see below), and our first community gathering – 'Our Back-To-School Picnic', is a week from Friday, September 10th (see below).

A newsletter will go home in the Red Folders every Thursday that we have news. This week is the exception – Monday instead of Thursday. Also, weekly, our newsletter will be posted on our web site.

Once again, I invite you to come by, make an appointment, or call (Extension 1003), if you have any questions, concerns or ideas to be considered!

My prayers and support to all for a peace-filled enriched learning environment for our Saint Joseph Regional School Community.

With prayers and wishes,

Sister Laura Della Santa, R.S.M.
Principal

We welcome **Mrs. Brenda Shelley** who will be teaching Kindergarten. Mrs. Shelley received an Associate Degree in Applied Animal Science from UNH. She and her husband raised their two boys and she worked in various positions in our business community and then as teacher assistant and long-term substitute positions. She returned to formal studies receiving a Bachelor of Arts-Science/Elementary Education Degree from Vermont College of Norwich University. She taught first grade for two years in Westmoreland and most recently was employed by Cheshire Child Care Center. We welcome Mrs. Shelley to our SJRS Community and highly-dedicated faculty.

We welcome Mr. Read Gildner-Blinn who is our 5th Grade Homeroom Teacher and will be teaching French in Grades 5-8 as well as 5th and 6th Grade English. Mr. Blinn has a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Photography from the University of Northern Iowa and has done post-graduate work in English Literature at Sonoma State University, and has a MFA in Writing from Columbia University. He recently received a BA, French from Keene State College including a Study Abroad/French Immersion Program. He has been teaching French to 5th grade students, part-time, in the Keene School District and previously taught writing at Franklin Pierce University. We welcome Mr. Blinn and look forward to having him as a member of our school community and highly-qualified staff.

Student Parent Handbook is on our Website. Please send in the forms we mailed to you over the summer, signed and return by Friday, September 3, 2010, to your child's homeroom teacher.

Dismissal: 2:45 p.m. for those leaving the school at that time. If walking, a note must be sent in and given to the homeroom teacher and office. Make arrangements before the school day. Thank You! If being picked up by car, students must be picked up by using the car line – not parking and walking in front of car line. It is too dangerous, and slows down those following the procedures. Please pass this information on to those who others who have permission to pick up your child. Also, please do not pick up your child early, unless for an emergency. It disrupts the learning for all.

This diagram may help you:

Arrival:

8:15-8:30 a.m. – M.S. students come in by themselves, and go to their homeroom.

8:15-8:30 a.m. – Kind. – Gr. 8 students go to the playground. Parents may be with their children on the playground at that time. Please say ‘good by’ to them when the bell rings and let them come in on their own with their class/school mates.

Lunches from home – need to be packed in a thermos for hot or cold foods – students will not have the use of microwave. Thank You!

Back-To-School Evening For Parents – Curriculum Night

Middle School -6:10–8:30 p.m. Wed., September 8th –Grade 5-8

6:10 p.m. – (All parents are invited to a General Meeting in Armstrong Hall to begin the evening.) **Parents will then be invited to your child’s homeroom and then to follow their class schedule.** Teachers in Grades 5-8 will do class presentations/reviews. Please note that the Middle School Presentations are one time only at 6:30-8:00 p.m. Grades 5-8 presentations will be a mini run-through of your child’s daily schedule. You will follow your child/ren’s classes switching classrooms/teachers. You will report to your student’s homeroom following the General Meeting. (Please feel free to call the office for clarification on this evening.)

Elementary School - Wednesday, September 15th – Pre K to Grade 4 (Curriculum Night)

5:00-5:30 p.m. – Pre K to Grade 4 Classroom Presentation.

5:30 p.m. – General Information Meeting and Special Area Class Introductions in Armstrong Hall for all parents.

6:00-6:30p.m. – Pre K to Grade 4 Presentations repeated.

Pre K – Grade 4 Presentations will begin promptly at 5:00 p.m. in your child’s homeroom/classroom, and be repeated at 6:00 p.m. for those with more than one student in different grades.

We are beginning the evening at 5:00 p.m. with classroom presentations for grades Pre K – 4 to make it an early night for your convenience with a General Parent Meeting at 5:30 p.m. in Armstrong Hall (Gym).

SJRS Back to School BBQ/Picnic

Friday, September 10th from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Please bring a salad or dessert to share.

Pre K – Gr. 3: Salads

Gr. 4-Gr. 8: Desserts

Please join us for great food, conversation, and a chance to meet a new family or two!

Hot dogs (Includes some veggie hot dogs), chips and drinks provided by school.