

March 8, 2018

Principal's News

Dear St. Raphael Families,

Be encouraged that my commitment to this school is even more vibrant today than it was on my first day. If it is not already obvious, our school has been infused with new energy! I am seeing students striving toward academic excellence at levels that rival those of our school's recent past. The fun has returned to our after-school programs and more is on the way. Our teachers are dedicated as never before and are shepherding their students' growth...academically, socially, and interpersonally. Believe me when I tell you that I am thinking long-term--planning to guide our wonderful school toward new and exciting opportunities that will benefit all our students. I realize that I cannot do this alone--I need active parents on this leg of our school's growth journey. I so appreciate the dedication, prayers, conversations, and hard work of our staff, parents, coaches, and our many volunteers. Keep your heads up faithful families of St. Raphael, our best days are ahead!

Please make sure to complete the re-enrollment for your student(s) by next **Friday, March 16th** to take advantage of the \$75 registration fee. After March 16th the registration fee does increase to \$150 per student.

Also coming home this week is a letter from Fr. Rudolph, accompanied by a book which is a parent guide to Classical Education. This book will provide an introduction on the subject of Classical Education and contains many answers and insights regarding this topic. Please take some time to review this and plan to join us on **April 17th at 6:30 pm** in Marian Hall to further discuss Classical Education.

In His Service, Doug Ballinger, Principal

Upcoming Events

- Thur., 3/8 - **Spring Gala Planning Mtg.** 6:30 pm cafeteria
- Fri., 3/9 - **St. Raphael Spirit Wear Day & Report Cards sent home**
- Sun., 3/11 - **St. Raphael Teachers host Coffee and Rolls after Sunday Mass** - come for Mass and stay for hospitality and refreshments!
- Wed., 3/14 - **PHT Mtg.** 6:30 pm School Cafeteria
- Thur., 3/15 - **Parent Teacher Conferences**, 3:00-7:00 pm
- Wed., 3/21 - **Living Stations of the Cross**, presented by the 7th graders 9:00 am
- 3/26 - 3/30 - **Spring Break**
- Mon., 4/2 - **No School** - Easter Monday
- Tue., 4/3 - **No School** - Staff Development
- Wed., 4/11 - **Steak Fry Dinner** at Crystal VFW
- Tue., 4/17 - **Classical Education Mtg.** 6:30 pm, Marian Hall
- Fri., 4/27 - **Hawaiian Luau Spring Gala**, 6:30-10:30 pm!!
- Sat., 4/28 - **St. Raphael Twins Game Day**
- Sun., 4/29 - **First Communion Mass**

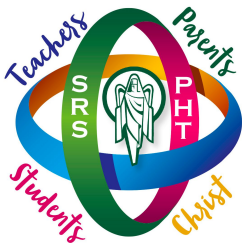
Parent Teacher Conferences

Our spring parent teacher conferences are scheduled for next week, **Thursday, March 15th** from 3:00 - 7:00 pm. Please plan on attending; this is a wonderful opportunity to work with your child's teacher to help build student success and encourage motivation.



2018 Spring Gala

Letters regarding our classroom themed baskets are coming home. We appreciate any donations toward the Gala! We are less than two months away and now the real "hands-on work" begins. We have many opportunities to plug people in to help. Please join us and make a significant impact on our Gala planning. Come **tonight, 6:30 pm in the cafeteria** to learn how you can help.



PHT Pulse

Mark your calendars:

3/14/18 - PHT Meeting 6:30-7:30 pm cafeteria

4/11/18 - Crystal VFW Dining for Dollars

4/28/18 - Twins Game 1:10 pm against the Reds

Schwan's Fundraiser - This fundraiser is continuing until March 31st!! It is really easy and the school can benefit from you and your family purchasing and

enjoying the wonderful Schwan's food items. More details at this link

<https://srsmn.org/events/pht-schwans-fundraiser-december-30-2017/> and on our school website.

Lenten Almsgiving

As part of the Lenten pillar of almsgiving, we will be participating in the **40 (40 days of lent) Cans for Lent Knights of Columbus Food Drive Project**. Now **through Friday, March 23rd** we are encouraging our students and staff to donate one can good per week for almsgiving.

Athletics

Boys and Girls Basketball: We would like to take this moment to congratulate our Boys and Girls Basketball Teams and our coaching staff for all the works of your hands and feet this season for our students and teams. Our girls coaching staff was lead by head coach Mr. Pugh and his assistant coaches, Jack Marelic, Sam Villa and Erick Peterson. Our boys program head coach was Jeff Jacobsen and his assistant coaches were Tim Jacobsen and Mike Reiff. We would like to thank our coaching staff for all of their many, many volunteer hours helping mentor, coach, and teach our students. They are such a blessing to our Parish and School!

Youth Ministry Events

Upcoming Open Youth Room Dates

Tuesday Open Youth Room: March 13 from 2:20-5:00 pm

Friday Night Open Youth Room: March 23 from 6:00-10:00 pm

Elevate High School Night (8th graders are invited!!!!) Saturday March 17 from 5:00-10:00 pm

- Our theme for this night is "Faith Amidst the [MARCH] Madness"
- Bob Swift will be joining us on this night, hope to see you there!
- Please check-in at Marian Hall at 5:00 pm - Dinner is provided!

Extreme Faith Camp Registration Now Open! June 25-29, 2018

- Open to all 6th-8th grade teens
- Week-long unashamedly Catholic camp at Big Sandy Camp in McGregor, MN
- The actual cost of Extreme Faith Camp is \$400.00 per camper. Every camper will receive a \$50.00 scholarship through the parish which brings the price down to **\$350.00** per camper.
- We would love to have you join us for the best week of the summer! Contact Anna if you have questions.

Steubenville Rochester Catholic Youth Conference – 8th Graders are Invited! July 13-15, 2018

- For current 8th-12th Grade Teens & Young Adults
- \$250.00 per person (includes bus transportation, conference fee, all meals at the conference, and 2 nights of lodging)
- Joining with the Youth Ministries of St. Vincent de Paul, Holy Name of Jesus, & St. Bonaventure, we will experience together a dynamic encounter with Jesus Christ. To reserve your spot, simply talk to Anna & Josh. Sign up as soon as possible – we have 10 spots left!

It is time for our annual Spring Plant Fundraiser!

- The objective of this fundraiser is to raise money for your family's youth account which can be used for any St. Raphael's youth ministry activities such as Extreme Faith Camp, Summer Stretch, retreats, etc.
- The fundraiser works like Boy Scout popcorn and Girl Scout cookie sales. You simply send friends and family a brochure so that they can order plants/flowers through you. This is a family fundraiser and you will get 100% of the profit which will be put into your family's youth account.
- If you are interested in participating, please email Kris Stegman at kris.stegman@gmail.com ASAP to let her know you would like to take part this year. She will then send you more detailed information on how the fundraiser works, timelines, and give you order forms so you can start selling!

- Orders need to be turned in by April 6th so let Kris know soon if you want to participate in order to give yourself plenty of time to sell.