

RAMOPAGE

St. Luke Catholic School Newsletter

Steve Weber, Principal

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September 2, 2009

Mr. Weber Says: The saying goes, "Patience is a virtue." Each month we focus on one of the fruit of the Holy Spirit. As we start the month of September we are challenged to look at the role of patience in our lives. Often we have trouble being patient with our children, our spouses, the neighbor, the teacher or the principal! Most often we may have trouble being patient with ourselves.

The Lord has been very patient with most of us. He tolerates us when we think that we are the center of the universe. He looks the other way when we get mad and throw an adult or child version of a tantrum. He patiently nudges us to "get a grip" with some reality checks.

Can we take some time this month to reflect on this virtue of patience? Most often I get in trouble when I lack the patience to step back and see the whole picture. A rush to judgment or hurried decision often takes twice as long to correct or clean up as it might have in a calmer environment.

Please take time to model patience with your children. Encourage them to accept the slower sibling or classmate, without frustration or rude comment. I know it is really hard (for me at least) to be patient in traffic. My goal is to keep my blood pressure down and enjoy the ride. Being there one minute earlier, in most situations, is just not worth it. Thank you for being patient and reading these thoughts. Have a great year!

Spring 2009 ISTEP+: If your child took the spring ISTEP+ testing at St. Luke last year you will find a sheet from the state Department of Education, which explains how to get access to your child's results. We mailed the information to families who graduated or moved. Because of the changes in testing time and content this is considered a baseline for growth measurement. When we get our full school report and review it we will report back to you.

School Pictures: Our school picture day is Thursday, September 10. The order form is included in this week's family packet. Students may wear dress up clothes on Thursday, September 10. Remember that the picture will be a head and shoulders image. All orders must be prepaid and checks made out to Inter-state Studios. All children will have a picture taken for the yearbook, even if you do not choose to purchase pictures.

Family Packets: We have already had to replace about 20 family packets from our first use on August 19. Please be sure to return your family packet tomorrow so it may be reused. We will not be replacing packets in the future unless there is a specific request. If you are a two household family and need a second packet please contact Mrs. Atkins to work out a plan for your family.

Room Parent Meeting: All room parents should plan on attending an orientation on this coming Thursday, September 3 at 8:15 in the Reception Room. Your role is critical to a great year with your children's grade and it is important to "get it right". Thanks.

Gr. 8 Parent Meeting: Grade 8 parents, please plan on attending this important meeting on Thursday, September 3 at 7PM in the parish hall cafeteria. It will end at 8PM

PTO A&E: The PTO arts and enrichment committee is sponsoring an assembly on Monday, September 14 at 9AM entitled "**Bully No More**". You are invited to attend.

In addition, the PTO will again sponsor a **St. Luke Arts and Literature Journal**. Please encourage your child to save their best writing samples and artwork, whether a school project or an individual work done at home or elsewhere. Watch for details for collection dates later in the fall.

Uniform Notes: Thank you so much for the overall cooperation with our revised uniform policy. The kids look great!

As noted in the Quick Note sent out on August 26, we did make a minor revision on the Ram Celebration Day dress. Students may wear either uniform shirts or spirit shirts with jeans if they had no mediation Rams. In the handbook and prior years only middle school students could wear spirit wear. Some missed that information. You may check the announcement list on Teacher-ease if you missed that note.

Free or Reduced Lunch: Given the state of the economy, families may now qualify for free or reduced lunch. Please check the school link on the parish website under "school forms" for complete information. Turn in a completed application to Mrs. Noble in the cafeteria if it appears that you qualify. Use the funds you may have spent on lunch to help with tuition, church contribution or whatever you need. Contact her if you have any questions. All information is confidential.

Teacher-ease: Please be sure to make www.teacherease.com a bookmark on your web browser. You can see the school calendar, lunch menu, lunch balance (drop down box under fees), your child's assignments and grades. Please alert Kim Schmitz if you change e-mail addresses or have not been receiving TE messages

Community News: NC Women's Soccer will host a middle school night for players on Wednesday, September 9 at 6PM. Meet the coaches and players and have some pizza. NCHS women will play Warren Central HS 5PM JV and 7PM V

Washington Township Swim Club will have introductory sign ups from 5:30-7:00PM on September 1, 2, 3 at the new NCHS Natatorium. Call 709-7231 or visit www.wtscswim.org for information.