



St. Stanislaus Kostka Catholic Academy

A center for quality Catholic education in Greenpoint, Brooklyn

12 Newel St.
Brooklyn, NY 11222

Tel: 718-383-1970

Fax: 718-383-1711

www.ststansacademy.org

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Dear Parents,

Welcome to another new school year! Mostly everyone agrees, both students and adults, that the summer truly flew by and we find ourselves at the start of a new and exciting opportunity to reconnect with friends and expand our knowledge.

During the summer, SSKCA was a busy place. Electrical wiring was upgraded, making it possible for air conditioners to be installed in all classrooms now. Intercom phones were installed in every classroom as well for teachers to be able to communicate with the office, especially in cases of an emergency. Bathrooms had new faucets and hand dryers installed and the basement bathrooms were repainted. The auditorium ceiling was repainted also and makes the entire room much brighter.

We have three new teachers joining our faculty this year: Mr. Joseph Wasserman in grade 4, Mrs. Rosenda Desepeda in PreK for All -2, and Catherine Rogers is the new Art teacher. After school will begin on Sept. 11th. Our annual parent orientation meeting for grades 1 – 8 will be held on Thursday, September 14th, at 7:00 pm. We hope to see you there so that you can meet your child's teacher and learn what the expectations for the new grade are.

The school calendars just arrived from the printer and will be sent home by the end of the week but I will list here important dates for September:

- 9/13 Dress Down #1
- 9/19 First general HAA meeting (Home Academy Association; academy version of PTA), 7:00 pm
- 9/25 After school clubs begin this week; schedule of clubs and permission slips going home next week
- 9/27 Dress Down #2 and first Cupcake Sale hosted by grade 3.

The two monthly dress down days are optional. Should a student wish to take advantage of that opportunity, the fee is \$2.00 for each day. The cupcake sales are a fundraiser that had been requested by students a few years ago. Each month a different grade serves as host for the sale by bringing in either home baked or store bought goodies that are then sold to students during lunch. The students have become very competitive by trying to be the top selling grade at the end of the year. I believe we have some budding entrepreneurs among them!

Our first pizza lunch Friday will be Sept. 15th. Parents who wish to order a slice for their child need to send in the \$2.00 fee no later than the day before each week so we know how much to

order. Money should be placed in an envelope with the child's name and grade written on top and given to the teacher, NOT the office. Those parents who wish to prepay for Monday big pretzels at \$.50 and/or Friday pizza lunch may do so for 10 weeks at a time. Simply enclose the appropriate fee(s) in the envelope with a note to the teacher requesting the pretzel and/or pizza for the next 10 weeks and the teacher will record that on the class order sheet. For pretzels the prepay period will be from Monday, Sept. 18 through Monday, Nov. 27th (\$5.00) and the pizza prepay period will be from Fri., Sept. 15 through Fri., Dec. 1st (\$20.00).

After the horrible effects of Hurricane Harvey that the people in Texas are dealing with, we have been asked by our diocese to join in the efforts of the National Catholic Education Association's campaign to assist our Catholic school colleagues and their students who have been impacted by the devastating storm. Every Catholic school family across the country is being asked to contribute at least \$1.00 per student to help these schools rebuild and reopen. This campaign is a "powerful opportunity to engage students in living the Gospel message of compassionate service and generosity to others". Should you choose to participate, kindly send in your donation by Sept. 22nd.

This year, our Board of Directors has decided that any SSKCA family that chooses to make a \$750.00 donation in lieu of donating their time for school volunteer service should check with their employer to see if their company offers a matching fund program. SSKCA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable educational organization. Any additional funds that we obtain through employer matching funds will help to keep our tuition as low as possible.

Kindly remember that there is no parking in our school parking lot. The parking lot is reserved for teacher parking and student recess. Also, please read the Student/Parent Handbook with your child in order to become familiar with our school policies. Then kindly sign the compliance form and return to your child's teacher along with the emergency information card and the Consent to Photograph/Acceptable Use Policy for Computers form by Sept. 18th.

Attached please find a great newsletter with helpful hints for parents at the start of a new school year. I would like to add a suggestion that students be required to give their electronic devices, such as smart phones, Ipads, etc., to their parents at bedtime to ensure that they are actually going to sleep and not using those devices until late into the night. Getting the proper amount of sleep is crucial to their ability to perform well in school the next day. In addition, not having access to their devices at bedtime cuts down on incidents of cyber bullying. The devices can always be charged in their parents' room and returned in the morning.

We would love to have you join us at the special opening of a new school year Mass on Friday at 9:00 am when we will pray together for God's blessings for a successful year.

Sincerely,

Mrs. C

