

# St. Therese Nursery School September 2015 Newsletter



## Celebrating 15 years!!!!

Dear  
STNS Families,

With the first week under our belt of school we have settled in for the 15th year of St. Therese Nursery School! Who would have thought how we would evolve over those fifteen years! We are so blessed to have our returning families and our new families to serve each and every day. Though there were tears from students and parents alike, everyone has slowly transitioned to the new routine and environment. Whether it was 15 years ago or today, we still embody our mission of Learning is a Journey, Not a Destination! Our primary goal is to make

this first stop on your child's learning journey pleasurable for both you and your child! We want to build life long learners who are excited to gain new knowledge and experiences each and every day!

Over the summer I did have a chance to read a book entitled, "The Big Disconnect, Protecting Childhood and Family relationships in the Digital Age", by Catherine Steinter-Adair, EdD. I know that I have spoken about this before but I have found that

technology and social media have had the biggest impact on our families since our formation. Although it is helpful to be able to access information in a few seconds, that can also deter from the moments we can't get back! As it is stated "It isn't that tech is necessarily a bad thing for a child's mind, it's that you have a window of time in a child's development where touch, imagination, movement, and language come together. There has to be time to develop it." Please be mindful of this and take time to put technology on hold to enjoy the every day with your child!

In God's Peace,  
Miss Michele & the  
Staff of STNS

cookies for the reception as well as hand signing a book to be presented to Father Tim.

If you would like to make an appetizer or dessert for the reception, please feel free to contact Betty Amato 203-776-2803!

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- STNS tote bags are to be used by all students. This provides independence when students are placing work in their bags. We recently ordered new bags for some of our new students as we have gotten so big that we ran out! Those students can utilize a backpack until they arrive. If you are a returning student and are in need of one, please let me know and I will pass them out as soon as they arrive!

## Father Tim's Retirement

Our pastor, Father Timothy A. Meehan will be retiring from our parish on the Feast of St. Therese. A mass and celebration of all that he has done for our parish over the past 24 years will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 26th with a reception following in the church hall. Father Tim has

been a part of our nursery school from it's formation! He has attended and supported us countless times at our celebrations throughout the past 15 years! We thank him for his support and wish him health and happiness as he goes forward! The children and staff will be making

### Inside this issue:

<i>How can you help?</i>	2
<i>School hours</i>	2
<i>9/11 Remembrance</i>	3
<i>Telephone book</i>	3
<i>Our Mission</i>	4
<i>Contact Info</i>	4
<i>Last but not least!</i>	4

## Time and Talent! How can you help?

Each year we ask our families to help in a way that fits their time and talent! You may be able to help on a committee, in a classroom, for a school event, or even something at home! Everyone has a talent to share! In the past we have had a mom who was an x ray technician share x rays, a nurse share about working at the hos-

pital, a dad share his tow truck, a tile layer brought in broken tile pieces to make mosaic art, and even a mom who was in a German dancing troop! One grandmother came in and cooked with the students!

Please note that if you sign up to help in the classroom for a holiday event, we try to be equitable by splitting up the holi-

days between parents. For example, if you are chosen as a parent helper for Halloween, another set of parents will help with Valentine's Day.

Please return the forms sent home regarding this by the end of September! Our fall festival is in October and we will be meeting soon!



## Signing your child in and out each day!



Safety is of our utmost concern. Our sign in and sign out logs outside each classroom door serve as our manifest in the event of an emergency. Please remember to sign your child in and out each day. If another person is dropping or picking up your child, please remind them of this procedure. During our fire drills and in the case of an emergency, the log travels with the teacher to our designated meeting spot. This is also a requirement of the State of Connecticut Day Care Licensing Division.

\*If you are interested in adding early drop off or extended day, please see me!

### Our school hours are as follows:

#### 8:00 a.m. Early Drop Off

**\*These students are dropped off at Miss Patsy (Classroom A) side door to ensure entrance directly to the early drop off classroom.**

#### 8:55 a.m. Opening

**The foyer will be open for families to wait until 8:55 a.m. when the Director will open the door to the nursery hall way. Each morning the staff gathers to review the events of the day and morning prayer.**

#### 11:25 a.m. End of a.m. session

**12:25 p.m. Beginning of p.m. session/End of lunch bunch**

**2:55 p.m. End of p.m. and all day classes.**

**4:00 p.m. Extended day pick up must be by 4:00 p.m.**

We open the doors five minutes ahead to allow parents to travel to work and other commitments. The doors remain locked after each arrival and the Director remains in the foyer. Please be cognizant of arriving on time for arrival and dismissal. Please remember that pick up after 3:05 p.m. is considered late. Each family is allowed one late pick up. After this time, a fee of \$5.00 each five minutes will be applied to your tuition. We realize that emergencies do arise. Please phone the school to let us know if this occurs so that we can reassure your child of your arrival time. The teacher and the Director will remain with your child if this occurs. Thank you in advance for your assistance!



## Fall Festival Saturday, October 24th!

For the past few years we have been holding a fall festival on the back lawn of the school on a Saturday in October. This event has transformed into quite a day for all ages! We have a hayride, pumpkin patch, bouncy house, food vendor, shopping vendors, apple and pumpkin donuts, and much

more! This is an enormous task that can not be done without help from our families! If you are interested in helping, please attend the first planning meeting on:

Friday October 2nd at 9:15 a.m. in the meeting room!

\*Siblings are always welcome to attend.

\*If you can't attend the meeting but would like to help even on the day of, please let me know!!!!!!



## 9/11 Remembrance

In remembrance of the tragic events that occurred fourteen years ago, the children in our four year old program gathered in prayer to our country and to recite the pledge of allegiance. Standing around our nation's flag in the circle on our front walkway, each child held a small flag as we recite our prayers and song. Our focus to the children is that this is a time to be proud

of our country and those who serve to protect us whether it be the military, fire, or police department.

Fourteen years ago we were on our third day of three year old classes when our world turned upside down. We remained open and families gathered in the meeting room to watch the day progress and pray for those souls taken and those injured. Our children made red,

white, and blue pins that were sold to our families and parish to raise funds for those in need. We also made a handprint American flag that the North Haven Fire Department displayed in their front window.

Please do not forget this day or the men and women who lost our lives for our freedom!

## School Telephone Book



Shortly you will receive our STNS school telephone book in your child's tote bag. This is a wonderful tool for both you and your

child to make new friendships! We always encourage families to choose a neutral meeting place such as the park or library. Social interaction is key during early childhood and play dates only

reinforce the strategies the children are exposed to in school. Please note that some families for personal reasons have chosen not to list their information in our telephone book.

I will be checking a proof with every parent for correct numbers. If you would prefer your cell phone, please let me know!

## STNS

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### Our History

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St. Therese Nursery School was established on October 30, 2000. We began with two classrooms, thirty students, and 4 staff members. We now have almost 100 students, 3 classrooms, a pre-k program, and a staff of 10!

### Our Mission:

The mission of St. Therese Nursery School is to nurture the student and the family within a community of learners. Our mission will be:

- to provide a safe learning environment where our children can learn through developmentally appropriate experiences.
- these experiences and play reflect continuous spiritual, emotional, social, cognitive, and physical growth and development.
- Our families are recognized as central to the well being of the child.
- Our staff is valued for their dedication and commitment to the children and families of St. Therese Nursery School community.
- We believe learning is a journey, not a destination.

## Last but not least! A big thank you! Save the date!

August 1st usually marks the end of summer for educators. During the month of August teachers are eager to set up their classroom as a child is on Christmas morning to head downstairs to a room full of toys! The staff of STNS spends countless hours both in their classrooms setting up, reorganizing, and cleaning and out of their classroom writing curriculum and hunting down bargains!

Long before the school year begins the teachers at STNS can be found in the school preparing for a new group of children and families. Teaching is a vocation and our staff

demonstrates that time and time again celebrating the unique qualities of each child and guiding families during this crucial developmental age. I pray that God will continue to watch over them as they guide these children on the beginning of their learning journey!



The four year olds will be going on a field trip to Rose's Orchard on

Friday, October 2nd

12:45 p.m.

\*Raindate:

Monday, October 5th

\*Anyone attending on Fridays will attend the field trip. More information will be sent home and every child is accompanied by an adult who will pick up the child at 11:30 a.m. dismissal and meet us at Rose's Orchard for the trip! Pray for good weather!