



Cardinal Shehan School

May 2008

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Dear Cardinal Shehan School Family,

I would like to thank the entire community for the outpouring of sympathy for the Redman family and the Cardinal Shehan family. Your prayers and support are a testament to the love and family here at Cardinal Shehan School. I am writing this newsletter in Mrs. Redman's absence so if you have questions or concerns; please feel free to contact me.

May is the month dedicated to Mary, our Mother. Later in the month, we will begin the prayer of the rosary, which is the definitive peace prayer, as well as examining the impact of Mary's life on ours. Please join us for our **May Crowning** on Friday, May 30, at 9:00 a.m. We will process from school to the Prayer Garden between CSS and St. Matthew Church and crown the statue of Mary. This veneration of Mary follows a long and strong tradition at CSS. Pre-K3, Pre-K4, and Fifth Grade students and teachers have planned and prepared for this occasion and all are looking forward to participating in this homage to Mary.

Cardinal Shehan School will have a Recreation, Education, and Fun (REF) program this summer. Students can be enrolled in the full day program which is academics in the morning and afternoon recreation activities or the mornings only option which is the academic portion. The mornings only will satisfy the summer school requirement, if needed for your student. The program is five weeks long and daily from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. for full day or until 12 p.m. for morning only. Cardinal Shehan teachers will serve as instructors and the program will be rigorous and rewarding, and should well-prepare your child for the next grade. Registration and more information is available from the school office.

Ms. Hardison will again be offering her YATTAS camp here at Cardinal Shehan. Please see the table in the lobby, Ms. Hardison, or the school website for more information.

There is ALWAYS so much to share with you! Please take special note of the year end events and mark your calendars!

Home School Association News

Thank you to all the parents that attended the final Home School meeting of the year. The new officers were presented for the upcoming school year. Your Home School Officers are:

President: Ms. Valerie Grays, mother of Justin (5th grade), Jaaron (4th grade), and Varia (PK3) Alston

Vice President: Ms. Kendra Whye, mother of Allison Whye (4th grade)

Secretary: Ms. Yolanda Winkler, mother of Kristiana Dyson (1st Grade)

Treasurer: Ms. Lisa Hicks, mother of Carlos Artson (3rd grade)

Thank you to these wonderful women for their willingness to serve Cardinal Shehan School!!!
If you attended the meeting, the Tag day for your student is Friday, May 2. All students that are able to come out of uniform are bringing a notice home on May 1.

Spring Production

Pride is in rehearsals! Almost every student in Grades 5 through 8 is participating! Please plan to join us this weekend! Show times are 7:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Ticket order forms were sent home on Wednesday, April 30. Tickets are available at the office and are \$7 if purchased before 4 p.m. on Friday, May 2 or \$9 after that and at the door. We will have a refreshment stand in the lobby and will be selling food before, during, and after both shows.



Race for Education will occur on **May 9!** We are so very excited about our third *Race!* We are very grateful for the support that you have shown with the labels. Everyday more pink mailers are returned. Families and friends who attended in previous years have had a wonderful experience and this year we want to make it even more welcoming. This is our only fundraiser in which our students actively participate, so they can feel that they are actually making a difference and helping their school. Different grade levels race at different times during the day. The students who have return labels will be brought out by class/wing to participate. In order for this to be successful, we are looking for parent/family members to volunteer to help out during the day. Please let Mrs. Byrd know if you can come for the day or even part of the day. We are also inviting you to walk with your student! What a great way to spend time with him/her.

Eighth Grade Events Reminder

Graduation Pictures, May 13; Last day of classes, June 2; All Day Retreat, June 3 at Beachmont Christian Camp; Farewell Liturgy, June 4, 9:00 a.m.; Trip to Hershey Park, June 5; Graduation at St. Matthew, June 6, at 7 p.m. Please refer to the April 14 letter from Mrs. Dates regarding these events.

CSS Summer Reading Book Fair

Our first annual Scholastic summer reading book fair will be held May 19 – 23. Students will attend the book fair during library and language arts class time. The teachers have provided Ms. Claiborne summer reading information so many of these titles will be available for purchase. Cardinal Shehan also receives a portion of the proceeds, which will be used by the teachers to purchase Scholastic materials for the classrooms. More information can be found on the book fair link on the CSS home page.

Box Tops for Education

Cardinal Shehan collects Box Tops for Education all year long. We are however, offering an incentive. The homeroom that collects the most sheets of box tops by Friday, May 30 will receive a pizza lunch on Monday, June 2. We thank you in advance for your support.

Kindergarten Celebration

We are planning a Celebration to culminate the Kindergarten year. This special day, June 6, will also have a special schedule. Kindergarten students should arrive at school at 9:30 a.m. and report to their classrooms. The ceremony will begin at 10:00 a.m. and we expect to end no later than 11:30 a.m. Students will be dismissed at the end of the celebration. We will be sending home more information to all Kindergarten parents along with a request for you to RSVP. Family and friends are most welcome.

CONSULTANT'S CORNER

On April 15th Cardinal Shehan hosted Detective Sharisse Smith and Sergeant Gary Yamin as they gave an informative presentation on how to protect our children while they are online. Detective Smith and Sergeant Yamin work for the Baltimore City Police Department in the Criminal Intelligence Section of the Cyber & Electronic Crimes Unit. A point they repeatedly made was that we, as parents, need to be more aware of what our children are doing while online and with whom they are doing it.

Our young people usually do not realize that once information is "out there" on the internet, they can never pull it back. Most students believe that if they hit the "delete" button, the information is gone. It is NOT gone and child predators know how to get that information.

One way to protect our children is to look at their MYSPACE account. Your child must be 14 years old to have an account with MYSPACE. If they are younger than that and have a MY SPACE page, you can call MYSPACE and have the account closed.

Here are some other ways to minimize the risk while your child is online:

1. Keep the computer in a common area of your home, such as a dining room or family room. Allowing a child to have a computer connected to the internet in their bedroom is letting the stranger come into your home and talk to your child privately.
2. Encourage your children to think before they type. Teach them to ask themselves, "Is this message hurtful or rude?"
3. Insist that your children NEVER give out personal information or arrange to meet people in person that they have only met online. They should not answer e-mails from someone they do not know.
4. Encourage your kids to use gender-neutral screen names or nicknames
5. Urge your children to restrict access to profiles – explain to them that when they put their personal information on a public forum, they are putting themselves at risk.
6. Remind them to use privacy settings.
7. Urge your children not to respond to any rude or disrespectful messages. Have them show you such messages.

We are trying to schedule Detective Smith and Sergeant Yamin for another date so they can present to the students. If you have any concerns or questions, they invite you to call them at 443-984-7135 or 7136. Or you can e-mail them at CECU@Baltimorepolice.org

Thank You,
MaryAnn Niclas
School Consultant

I know how busy you are and we are so appreciative of your attention and involvement. Please let me know if you have any questions, comments, or concerns, for any reason.

*In Christ,
Mrs. Maggie Dates*

Calendar

- **May 2 & 3 – Spring Show**
- **May 5 – School closed**
- **May 6 – PK4 to Safety City**
- **May 7 – Grade 3 – World Fair**
- **May 9 – Race for Education**
- **May 12 – Chick-fil-a Night**
- **May 13 – 8th Grade Graduation pictures**
- **May 14 – Rain date for Race for Education; no band lessons or practice**
- **May 16 – Mega Party for the candy fundraiser; band lessons and practice**
- **May 19 – 23 – Summer Reading Book Fair**
- **May 20 – Gr. 5 to Theatreworks**
- **May 21 – Band concert at 9 a.m.**
- **May 23 – Field Day; 12:30 p.m. dismissal for students & professional development for staff**
- **May 26 – Memorial Day - School closed**
- **May 27 – Grade 3 Awards and Science Fair**
- **May 29 – Kindergarten & 1st grade trip to Washington D.C.; Grade 3 Spelling Bee**
- **May 30 – May Crowning, 9 a.m.**
- **June 3 – Move up Day for students in PK 3 – Grade 7; 8th Grade Retreat**
- **June 4 – Farewell Liturgy, 9 a.m. St. Matthew**
- **June 5 – 8th Grade to Hershey Park.**
- **June 6 – Kindergarten Celebration, 10:00 a.m.; Grade Eight Graduation, 7:00 p.m., St. Matthew Church.**
- **June 9 – Last of classes for students; 12:30 p.m. dismissal.**
- **June 10 – End of Year Carnival for students; 12:30 p.m. dismissal. LAST DAY OF SCHOOL.**