



Weekly Newsletter - 9.28.2022

[Visit our Website](#)

[Volunteer Opportunities](#)

Upcoming Events

Thursday, September 29th: Spirit Day!

Tuesday, October 4th: October Birthdays Non-Uniform Day
Pet Blessing on the Plaza @ 3:25pm

Friday, October 7th: Jog-a-thon!!

Preschool & Kindergarten Open House

Are you a current preschool family starting to think about kindergarten next fall? Or do you have friends starting to think about preschool or kindergarten? Please join us/and or spread the word about our Open House on **Thursday, October 20th, at 6:30 pm**. It's an excellent opportunity to learn more about our preschool and kindergarten programs.

To register, please email [Tammy Matusak](mailto:Tammy.Matusak).

Pet Blessing

In celebration of St. Francis of Assisi feast day, we will be having a pet blessing for all our St. C's pets! Please join us on Tuesday, October 4th after school at 3:25pm on the plaza. Bring your cat or dog, fish or frog, or any friend you have to get blessed.

For the safety of others, please be sure your animal is socialized. All pets are to be leashed/contained, and please advise your child/ren to approach all animals with caution.

Help Feed our Four-Legged Friends | Pet Food & Supply Drive

Get those tails wagging, and let's help feed our four-legged friends. During the week of October 3rd-7th, students may drop off items outside their classroom, and donation buckets will be available at drop-off and pick-up.

We will be collecting:

- Dog Food
 - Cat Food
 - Pet Shampoo
 - Collars and Leashes
 - Pet Treats
-

This month, in alignment with PurposeFull People and Character Strong, we are continuing to focus on the character trait **RESPECT**. Students are enjoying engaging activities and discussions around this trait, and having the opportunity to earn Tiger Paws when demonstrating this trait during the school day. We are also continuing to use our Second Step Curriculum, as well, which focuses primarily on empathy training.

This year is off to an incredibly positive start, and we are excited to see the positive effects our SEL work is having on students and on the student body as a whole! Thank you for modeling and reinforcing the character trait of **RESPECT** at home.

Volunteer Requirements: Safe Environment Program

All volunteers in our school or in our parish must take part in the Safe Environment Program in three ways through the VIRTUS program. In order to be a Safe Environment approved volunteer you need to:

- Register at www.virtusonline.org
- Read and Approve Policies
- Complete a Background Check
- Take the Introductory Class, *Protecting God's Children*

If you need to take the *Protecting God's Children* class, there are a couple of upcoming classes in the area. There is a class on Saturday, October 1st at 2:00 pm at St. Brendan in Bothell and a class on Thursday, October 6th at 6:30 pm at St. John in Seattle. There are very few Safe Environment classes in the area so it is a good idea to sign up for a class soon if you have not already.

If you have any questions about Safe Environment requirements please contact Charlotte Van Hollebeke at cvanhollebeke@stcatherineschool.net.

Carpool Safety Reminder

Students may NOT be dropped off on the surrounding streets. Parking is not allowed in the front of school during school hours. Students may not arrive on campus before 8:10 as there is no supervision until that time. Children must remain in the vehicle until school staff is present in the parking lot (staff will be wearing a neon vest). Students must always exit the vehicle on the right side, out of the traffic lane.

Students should line up in their designated spots (Preschool Cubs and Tigers in front of their portable, Preschool Lions in front of their building, K-2 on the white lines next the brick building, 3-6 in the plaza, and 7-8 in front of their portable). The play structure in the plaza is closed before school.



WAY TO GO TIGERS!

Our Tigers have reached the \$30,000 goal!!! If each student can raise \$250 or more, we will beat our \$55,000 record! 9 days to go! [Click on this link to donate today!](#)

Jog-A-Thon is one of St. Catherine's top fundraisers. Our students will raise funds by asking for pages from family and friends, and running around the Jog-A-Thon course on October 7th!

Packets were sent home with students - If you did not receive one, please let us know and we will send the information to you.

Our last "Training" run will be held on Tuesday 10/4 at Maple Leaf park. [Here is a sign-up](#) if you are interested. Parents and siblings are welcome to train together. ONLY students will participate in the run on 10/7.

Thank you to those that have signed-up to volunteer at the event! It's going to be a success! [Please see the sign-up genius.](#)

Interested in sponsoring the Jog-A-Thon? Own a business or organization? Sponsoring the Jog-A-Thon is a great tax deductible way to support your local school and community. Donating is easy via credit card or paypal. Please click on "donate to the main fundraising page" [in this link](#). Please make checks payable to St. Catherine School Parent Club.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

Brooks Running, Safeway, QFC, Fred Meyer, Ballard Town & Country, Village Kids Dentistry, Great Western Security, Cheryl Gennaios, Darcie Well - Real Estate Gals, Prime Electric

Questions? Reach out to [Lauren Garfield](#), [Maria Finlayson](#), & [Madelyn Sheldon](#)

Calling All Bakers!

We are thrilled to be able to have in-person events with food items again. Accordingly, we have a need for home bakers to make cookies, muffins and other sweet treats for events. This is a really easy way to get volunteer hours from the comfort of your own home and at your convenience. If you would like to be added to the baking list, please email Katie Brewer at: katieking7@aol.com.

CYO Basketball

Basketball is back and registration for grades 4th - 8th is now open! Please use the link provided below to register:

[Seattle CYO Athletics \(teamsideline.com\)](http://teamsideline.com)

More information on our Intramural program for grades 1st-3rd will follow soon.

If you are interested in helping as a coach or an assistant coach, please email Carol Ramirez: karolra24@yahoo.com

LAST CALL!! St. Catherine Athletic Bag



Order your bag today! All orders must be received by September 30th and take 3-4 weeks to be delivered after September 30th. Bags are \$46.00 charged to your School Admin Account and include student name and shoulder strap. Please fill out [the order form](#) and email the completed form to [Tammy Matusak](#) to place your order.

After School & Middle School Elective Activities

Are you a skilled artist, cook, baker, graphic designer, coder or other hobbyist? And want to share your talents with our students? We are looking for parents, or grandparents, that would like to offer and teach an after school class or a middle school elective. If this is something you are interested in, please contact [Amanda Lucero](#) in the school office.

US Map Thank You!

Thank you to our parents and students for their hard work painting the US Map on Sunday. It really beautifies our campus and the kids are having a lot of fun with it!

St. Catherine NPH is back!

Each year the NPH (*Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos*) Club raises money to support our Godchild Yhon, a boy in Bolivia. All the money raised helps Yhon pay for food, clothing, housing, and education. We also learn about the many children around the world who benefit from NPH, their life stories and cultures.

- Who can join? 3rd through 8th graders
- When are the meetings? 8:00 am 1 day a month in the 1st grade classroom
- What will we do? Create treats and items to sell at school to raise money for Yhon

If you want to join, fill out the form from your homeroom teacher.

For more information please email [Ms. O'Donnell](#), [Mrs. Arthur](#), [Ms. Katsandres](#), or check out the website: www.nphusa.org

Speech Team

Exciting news for our middle schoolers! Are you looking to develop public speaking skills in a fun, supportive environment? Come join the Middle School Speech Club! Students (grades 6-8) who are interested can attend the Intro to Speech Club meeting on Wednesday 10/05/2022 from 2:30-3:30pm at the Learning Commons. Parents are encouraged to join as we need all the help from our Speech parents to run the team and help with coaching and judging. We will have a general overview of Speech Club, including speech categories, registration, upcoming Speech Tournaments (dates TBD), and parents responsibilities.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email Inoka Wijesekera at inoka.dw1@gmail.com or Heather Pigman at hpigman@msn.com

Yearbook 2022-2023

Attention Parents! The Yearbook staff needs your help. Please send any pictures you take throughout the school year to yearbook@stcatherineschool.net to be included in the yearbook. We are particularly interested in things that happen outside of school that our staff doesn't get a chance to photograph like CYO sports, back to school photos, and eventually events like Ski Bus and Speech Team. Thank you for your help!

Yearbook questions? Send an email to Ms. Elsner (celsner@stcatherineschool.net).

Career Day

Career Day is coming back this school year on Friday, March 31st! We had a fantastic turnout of parents, grandparents, and community members come to school last spring to share their passion for their careers with our students. Whether retired or in the workforce, please consider coming this year to inspire our students.

Similar to last year, we will have opportunities for you to give a presentation or sit at a booth and answer questions from students. This will be a fun way to end a month of learning about careers, discernment, and interests to help our students become responsible leaders in the world.

This is a fulfilling and eventful way to earn volunteer hours for the school. If interested, mark your calendars and reach out to me closer to the date, or feel free to reach out now to get put on a list. More information will come in the new year.

[Mr. Ward](#)

Altar Servers

Greetings and welcome back to school! This year we are excited to announce that we will resume our Altar Serving training. It is open to kids in 5th grade and up who have made their First Holy Communion.

Please email MJ Price, our PA for Liturgy and Music, to sign up. His email is m.price@stbens.net. Training will be spread throughout the school year. We will contact you when it is your child's turn to be trained.

I'm looking forward to seeing more children participate in the celebration of the Mass. God bless. Fr. Dean

Non-Uniform & Spirit Day Calendar

"When is Spirit Day? When is the first non-uniform day? I bought free dress passes at last year's auction - when can my student use them?" All these answers and more can be found on the [Non-Uniform & Spirit Day Calendar](#).

2022-2023 School Calendar

Here are the key calendar dates for the 2022-2023 school year:

- 1st day of school: Tuesday, September 6th (noon dismissal)
- Fall Conferences: November 3rd-4th (November 2nd will be a noon dismissal)
- Thanksgiving break: November 24th-25th (November 23rd will be a noon dismissal)
- Christmas break: December 19th-30th
- New Year's Day Observed: January 2nd
- President's weekend/break: February 20th-21st
- Easter break: April 10th-14th
- Last day of school: Friday, June 16th (10:30am dismissal after the Moving Up Mass)

Printable PDF copies of the calendars, with lots more events and dates, are available here: [K-8 Calendar](#)
[Preschool Calendar](#)

Please note that dates on these calendars are subject to change and any changes will be communicated to families via the school newsletter as soon as possible.

Coding with Kids

LITTLE CODERS Grades K - 2

Tue, 3:15pm-4:15pm
October 11 - Dec 13
\$249 / 10-week session



Our Little Coders class is an opportunity for young children to develop their computational thinking skills, build their first programs, and have fun with new friends! The curriculum is designed specifically for early readers and takes into account cognitive abilities as well as the attention span typical for ages 5-7. We use age-appropriate online tools, including Lightbot, Kodable, and Scratch to introduce basic coding skills.

Students learn basic coding concepts, such as Loops and Conditions. They practice these concepts to build simple projects, including games, stories, and drawing and animating game characters. At the end of the course, students will be able to comfortably build simple scratch projects on their own.

Registrations at www.CodingWithKids.com/session/45926

SCRATCH: INTRO TO GAME DEVELOPMENT Grades 3 - 6

Mon, 3:15pm-4:15pm
October 10 - Dec 12
\$249 / 10-week session

Begin your coding journey by creating your own games! This course lays down the foundations for future coding success. Students learn basic coding concepts, such as Variables, Loops, and Conditionals and apply these concepts to create interest-based games, mazes, and animated stories. Projects and activities are all designed to allow students to use their creativity while learning coding.

Registrations at www.CodingWithKids.com/session/45927

St. Benedict School Parent Education

The Parent Education Program is happy to announce the FIRST event in our series for the 2022-23 school year: **Screenagers Next Chapter—Uncovering Skills for Stress Resilience.**

We hope you'll join us on Thursday, September 29th for an in-person film screening and discussion at St. Benedict School.

REGISTER TODAY at <https://StBensScreenagers.eventbrite.com>.

Immunizations Update

The Department of Health has updated the requirements for the 2022-2023 school year. Students in preschool or kindergarten who are four years old or older on September 1st are required to have the additional dose of DTaP, IPV, MMR and varicella vaccines before the first day of school.

Students with summer birthdays will have less time to get vaccinated before the start of school, so parents should plan ahead and schedule their child's vaccination appointment before the school year starts.

Please send updated records to Charlotte at cvanhollebeke@stcatherineschool.net.

Attendance Procedures

If your child/ren will be absent from school, please notify the school office at attendance@stcatherineschool.net, as well as your child's homeroom teacher, no later than 8:30am on the day of the absence. Advanced notification of the absence (2-3 days before) is also greatly appreciated.

The safety of our students is our number one priority and the office will call home to verify the student's absence if a parent/guardian has not called or emailed.

If you know your child will be tardy due to a medical/dental/personal appointment, the office must be notified for the tardy to be excused. A parent/guardian must accompany a tardy student in to the school office to sign them in for the day.

If your child/ren will be absent from school for 2 or more days of school, please complete a [pre-planned absence form](#) and send it to attendance@stcatherineschool.net at least 2 weeks prior to the absences.

Regular attendance is important to the success of our students. Normally, illness, medical appointments and family emergencies are the only acceptable form of excused absence.

Help our school get \$ back every time you shop at Amazon!

As a participant in the Amazon Affiliate and AmazonSmile programs, a percentage of your Amazon purchases come back to us if you designate "St Catherine" as your charity of choice. Simply [CLICK HERE](#) (this link is also on our website under the "Parents" tab on the far right) to sign in to your Amazon account and place your order as usual (if you haven't signed up for AmazonSmile yet, it's quick and easy). The school will automatically receive a portion of all sales on orders placed through this [unique link](#) which is a combination of the Affiliate and Smile programs.

Thank you!



You shop. Amazon gives.

Fred Meyer/QFC Community Rewards

Fred Meyer/QFC are part of a program called Community Rewards to give back to the community! Each year, Fred Meyer intends to donate \$2.5 million (up to \$625,000 per quarter) to local schools, non-profits, and charitable organizations. Customers can designate where these dollars get spent.

If you are a Fred Meyer customer head to Community Rewards and link your rewards card <https://www.fredmeyer.com/i/community/community-rewards>. When you shop with your rewards card, you'll help earn donation dollars to the charity of your choice. St. Catherine School organization code is AF109. You may select only one non-profit at a time. Also, note that this does NOT impact your quarterly Rewards or Fuel points. You'll still receive all those benefits on top of this program. Today we have 26 families linked to this program and we still receive rewards. Imagine our rewards if every school family took the time to register!



MASS SCHEDULE

ST. CATHERINE

SATURDAY	5PM
SUNDAY	*9:30AM
WEDNESDAY	9AM
FRIDAY	9AM

CONFESSION	SATURDAY 3:30 - 4:30PM
ADORATION AT ST. BENEDICT	1ST FRIDAY 6 - 7PM
ANOINTING OF THE SICK	1ST FRIDAY 9AM
	*Livestream Available



R O S A R I E S

WEDNESDAY	9:30AM
FRIDAY	9:30AM



OPEN FOR PRAYER

FRIDAY	10AM - 12PM
SATURDAY	3:30 - 4:30PM

Mission & Philosophy

St. Catherine of Siena Parish School is a welcoming, Christ-centered community, rooted in the Catholic faith and inspired by Gospel values. As an extension of the parish and with Jesus as our model, we are dedicated to lifelong growth in faith, love, and learning.

We recognize that the care and education of the child begins with the family and that parents are the primary educators of their children. In partnership with parents, we work to promote our students' achievement and spiritual growth. Together we are committed to developing responsible, ethical leaders who think critically, act justly, communicate effectively, and serve willingly.

Vision

We are committed to providing a faith-filled, inclusive, and welcoming learning environment for all our students. Through our rigorous academic programs, our students will gain the cognitive, technological, and social skills necessary to become ethical, innovative leaders who successfully navigate the complex challenges of today's world.



St. Catherine of Siena School | 8524 8th Avenue Northeast, Seattle, WA 98115

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