



The 301 Times

A weekly newsletter for Room 301 students and parents

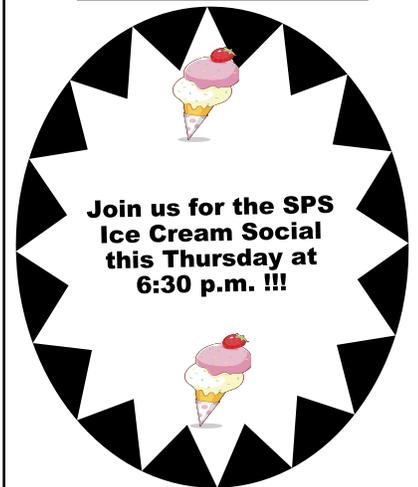
Dear Room 301 Parents and Students,

Hello and welcome to the 2017-2018 school year at St. Paul School! I can't believe this is my tenth year here at St. Paul; I have officially been here at SPS longer than I was at my former school! Time really seems to go more and more quickly each year. I am very excited to get this new school year underway and look forward to a great year of learning, laughing, and growing in faith with all of you. This welcome newsletter will fill you in on some things you can look forward to this year as 6th grade parents and students. **Students, note that this newsletter is for you, too—you are officially in middle school—read it and all SPS materials that are sent home.** This is the year that you will begin to take even more responsibility for your education, and you need to know what's going on so you can be prepared. Parents, I want to express my gratitude to you in advance for sharing your children with me. A love for teaching is something God gave me a heavy dose of and I truly enjoy my job, which is only possible because you entrust your children to me—thank you!! Finally, I'd like to share with you, my philosophy on education: *My philosophy on Catholic education is based on my belief that with God in our lives, all things are possible. As a teacher in a Catholic school, it is my job to create an environment in which all children are challenged and guided to reach the potential that God has given them. This means cultivating a Christ-centered classroom built on mutual respect and open communication with the mission of the Church in mind at all times. With God's help, I will instill in my students a faith built on rock and a lifelong love for learning.*

Sincerely, Mrs. Stephanie Smith

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Meet the Teacher Night

Parents: "Meet the Teacher" is scheduled for Wednesday, August 30. This night is just for you! We generally gather in FKH where Principal Laura Heatwole will kick off the evening, followed by various other speakers. Next, there are two short sessions in the classrooms where your child's teacher(s) will share important info, as well as answer any questions you might have. This is a great way to open the lines of communication between home and school right from the start. More details will come home soon!

I hope to see you all there!



Dress Code Sale!

Stop on by and check out the great deals at our SPS Dress Code Sale! Pants, shorts, shirts, sweaters, and more are on sale now, and the deals can't be beat!!



*The dress code room will be open during the Ice Cream Social on Thursday, August 24th!!

Don't miss out on the chance to purchase new and gently used items for this school year!



Calendar Corner

*Tentative Dates—more info to come

Thur, Aug. 24—Ice Cream Social
6:30 p.m.

Mon, Aug. 28—School begins!
8:25 a.m.!

Flagpole prayer service 9 a.m.—join us!

Wed, Aug. 30—Meet the Teacher

Thur, Aug. 31—Mass 9 a.m.

Sept. 1-4—Labor Day Weekend—
No School

Wed, Sept. 13—Picture Day:)

Fri, Sept. 15—Constitution Day —
Student Council Convention

Later this year...

April 14—SPS Dinner/Auction

May 10-14—8th grade Washington,
D.C. trip



CAUTION: Construction Zone

Don't be surprised when you walk into your new classroom and notice that it is not completely ready yet. This is *our* classroom and the most important people (YOU!) haven't arrived yet. I want your input and look forward to completing Room 301 with your help during the first week of school.

We will build our
classroom together!

The SPS Student Council Needs YOU!!



Interested in helping SPS in a special way? Student Council might be for you! Two reps from each grade 5-8 are needed, and it's a great opportunity to lead our school in prayer, works of charity, and school spirit. The SPS Student Council E-Board is open to 7th and 8th graders, and there will be a meeting for all interested students when school starts. (Note: The SC president must be an 8th grader.) So, ask yourself..."Is this a service opportunity I might enjoy?" More info to come!

Meet Your Teacher: Mrs. Smith



Hello and welcome to this new school year! I'm Mrs. Smith and in addition to 6th grade world history, reading, English, and theology, I also teach 7th grade geography and 8th grade American history here at St. Paul School.

I am a Central Michigan University graduate (Fire up, Chips!) where I earned two bachelor's degrees, one in education and one in social studies. My minor there was language arts, and I later got my master's degree in education from Marygrove College. I was blessed to teach 5th and 6th grade for Carman-Ainsworth Community Schools in Flint for nine years before making the move to St. Paul, where I can fully live and share my faith every day. This will be my tenth year here already—time sure does fly! My job here at SPS is an answer to prayer and is truly my dream job—middle school and social studies—what could be better?!?

When I'm not at school, I love being home with my family. My husband, Brent, and I have five children whose ages span from sixteen years old to seven(!) years old. Although this summer was filled with packing as my family prepared to move closer to our extended family in Westphalia, I did make time for visiting family and friends, reading, and sneaking away for a few vacations. The highlight of my summer was a trip to Shanksville, PA, Gettysburg, and Washington, D.C. earlier this month. I love St. Paul School and have a passion for our Catholic faith. My door is always open, as I feel we are a team with our kids' best interests at heart. May God bless our year together. Please keep our class and St. Paul School in your prayers throughout this year!

Things to Look Forward to...

Here are just a few of the great things coming your way this year in the 6th grade:

- *Theme...Witness the Difference!
- *Current Events—What in the World?
- *MapQuest Geo Races
- *Writer's Workshop
- *Battleship Review
- *Saint Searches
- *Where in the Bible?
- *PAWR-ful Reading Projects
- *Cool Read Alouds



I know you must have tons of questions. More information will be headed your way about these and other plans I have to make this year full of faith, fun, and learning. I hope you're as excited as I am!