

Happy Friday Everyone!

We have finished our first full week of school. This week we held a prayer service for 9/11. The kids were wonderful. Our guest speaker, Deacon Mike, lead our service. Teachers helped light candles for remembrance, and we sang and prayed for peace for the families who lost a loved one, families who are still battling illness from this event, and for families struggling to simply put their lives back together after 9/11. For the students it is a historical event, but for adults, it is a part of our lives. We hope next year to hold our service outside, but the gym worked well during the rain.

As we move through September, we are looking ahead to one of our biggest fundraisers and celebrations for the school - The Black and Gold Gala! Please see the information below on how you can help, join in the fun, donate, purchase and sponsor tables, and all the other fun stuff to know!

BLACK & GOLD GALA UPDATE:

What an exciting time! We are a little over a month away from this year's Black & Gold Gala. This is a great event to attend with friends and family. If you want to reserve a table with friends and/or family at the Black & Gold, get the forms into the Main Office soon. List the names of the table attendees on the back of the form. Also, look for an email Sign-Up Genius soon that will ask you a few questions about how you are using your Black & Gold tickets.

Parents, please be on the lookout from a letter in your child's folder from Ms. Stainsby about theme baskets each grade level will be collecting. Also, each class will be working on a special project that will be silent auctioned at the Black & Gold. More info on that soon.

We are getting close to finalizing contracts with a caterer, music and entertainment. Friends from the Tonawanda Bowling Center will be donating the beer for the event. We have had some student interest in helping with creating decorations for the event after school. Parents, if you or your child has interest in coordinating a few days to create some decor, please contact Joe Zgoda to coordinate that effort (email: joe@zgodadesign.com or text: 716-998-6021).

As for the night of the event, the dress attire can be however you feel comfortable. Most people will dress up to the theme of the event (this year it is The Great Gatsby: A Taste of the Roaring Twenties) or a suit, while others just choose to wear a collared shirt and jeans. The event is 21 and older.

Stay tuned for more updates and info about the Black and Gold in next week's email. Thank you.

Black and Gold Planning Committee opportunities - a great event starts with GREAT PEOPLE! St. Andrew's Black and Gold Committee is seeking volunteers to work on the committee and help plan the event. There are many ways to get involved and NO EXPERIENCE is necessary! If you have previously signed up at Back to School night, we have your name already. You may re-sign up for a particular sub-committee, or just count on us to call on you for help where ever needed.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4BA4A623A1F85-black2>

Black and Gold Attendance -

"Participating Partner" parents have already paid for two tickets - and we want to make sure you are coming! If you received the \$80 FACTS charge in August - we have set seats aside for you. However, we want to confirm that you will be there so that we can be sure to have enough food and drinks for all of our guests!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4ba4a623a1f85-black1>

Invite others to join us: We are aiming for a record number of attendees this year, so please spread the word. Family and friends are welcome and the more guests we have the more fun it is for all! If you have friends who would like to join us who are NOT St. Andrew's Parents, tickets and full tables can be purchased on our website: <http://standrewscds.net/blackandgold/sample-page/>

Handbook - The school handbook is on our website. We ask that you please read through and print and sign the last page. The information is important, includes the dress code, discipline, drop-off and pick up, and much more.

Gym Uniforms - There has been much confusion on the gym uniform. All students in grades 2-8 must CHANGE for gym. This includes dress down days. They cannot come to school in athletic wear and not change. They get sweaty and may be a little smelly. Students in grades 5-8 are also asked to bring deodorant in their gym bag. First grade does not need to change for gym, but may bring a pair of shorts for under jumpers or wear their black gym shorts and a PE t-shirt. As many first graders are still figuring out how to use buckles, zippers, and keep it all neat and together, many have opted to wear a gym uniform to school, but please note it is not required. Kindergarten does not change for gym.

Dress Down Dress Code - There has also been confusion on dress down attire. Leggings are NOT allowed, unless a shirt or skirt is covering the child's bottom. Skin tight clothing is NOT permitted. Shorts must be fingertip length - even athletic shorts. If they ride up when you are walking and you must pull them down constantly then they are too short. DO NOT WEAR THEM. If it is a dress down day due to 80 degree or more temperatures, students wearing sweatshirts will be asked to remove them.

Dress Code - We will be ordering the t-shirts for PK4 and PE. Once these shirts are in, students will be expected to be in uniform. Sweat shirts that are not NJHS, St. Andrews, or the current year's 8th grade sweatshirt will not be allowed. Please make sure your child is ready for the colder months.

Band and Choir - Please make sure you turn in your permission slips by Wednesday, September 19th!

CTGP - Parents, if you received a CTGP form and are a member of a parish, PLEASE fill out the form and have it signed by your parish priest by Wednesday at the latest. The parishes all help to support their parishioners who attend Catholic schools when their parish doesn't have a school. The support is financial and a huge help to our school. It is a part of our school budget and is so important. Please take a moment this weekend to have it filled out. Thank you!

As always if you have any questions please feel free to reach out -

General attendance, parent portal, general information - Mrs. Justine, school secretary
justine.krzeminski@standrewscds.net 877-0422

FACTS, tuition questions - Ed Hans, business office
edhans@standrewscds.net, 873-6716

Questions/concerns/other information - Mrs. P,
Principal colleen.politowski@standrewscds.net 877-0422

Peace,
Mrs. P