



Saint Margaret of Cortona School

452 West 260th Street Bronx, NY 10471 Tel: 718-549-8580 Fax: 718-884-3298

MARGARET MEMO

Week of September 12, 2011

INFORMATION ~ ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ IMPORTANT DATES

From the Principal's Desk...

Welcome Back! It has been said several times but it bears repeating...it is wonderful to have the school full of children after a long summer break. A school is not a school without the children.

I thank you for choosing Catholic Education and St. Margaret of Cortona for providing that Catholic Education. Those parents who have chosen Catholic Education realize that the investment will take a long time to provide dividends but that those returns are immeasurable.

The first newsletter is chock full of important information and I urge you to spend time reviewing the entire content.

Much more to come in the weeks ahead. God bless all of you and May He watch over us throughout the new school year.

EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK:

- Monday, September 12th: First Full Day of School for All Students (PK - 8)
- Friday, September 16th: Student Council Elections. All Handbook Signature Pages due back to school office
- Saturday, September 17th from 11AM until 3PM: Mass for the Handicapped

LOOKING AHEAD...

- Monday, September 19th: Paul Effman Music Band Assembly at 2:15PM
- Friday, September 23rd: Band forms due back to school

SCHOOL NEWS ~

Weekly Parent Newsletter - The Margaret Memo

Each week a newsletter containing news and information for parents/guardians will be e-mailed home. The newsletter will include forms and/or flyers, that may need to be returned to school. Each family is required to provide an active e-mail address that will be used to deliver the newsletter. The newsletter and all documentation will be sent as a "PDF" file. The Adobe Acrobat Reader is a free program (download-able from www.adobe.com) that allows for secure viewing of these types of documents. Two e-mail addresses may be provided for delivery of the newsletter.

Notification System - IRIS Form

St. Margaret's School uses the IRIS System (Immediate Response Information System) to notify

parents and families of important school-related issues such as school closings due to poor weather, emergencies and other matters that parents must be made aware of. Parents are required to keep this information current and accurate in the school office. When you receive a call, text and/or e-mail from the school using IRIS, please do not call the school to find out the information. Listen to and/or read the message.

Handbook and Signature Pages

Parent/Student Handbooks have been sent home. Please review the handbook carefully with all of your children, sign the appropriate release forms and return the to school by this Friday, September 16th.

Attendance

At Back To School Night I spoke about documentation that is required for all attendance. New York State Education Law requires schools to verify all students' daily attendance in writing. When a student is late for school, absent or leaves the school early, it MUST be documented by a parent/guardian in writing. Failure to do so results in unexcused/illegal absences that MUST be reported to New York State.

Therefore, I need to make the following requirement: parents must write a note any time their child is late (even for just a few minutes), absent or leaves school early explaining the reason for the lateness/absence/early dismissal. This document is kept on file for the entire school year and one additional year with all the attendance records. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Hot Lunch

Parents may enroll their children (grades K - 8 only) in the Hot Lunch Program. A form was mailed home. Meals and/or milk are purchased in advance. If you wish your child to eat the hot lunch, please fill out the form and send it in to the school office with payment. Thank you.

Students forgetting lunch will be given something to eat but must pay for the meal the next school day. Meals are \$1.50 each.

School-Based Fundraisers

Our Home/School Association does a wonderful job of providing programs for our students. Each year they organize large-scale fundraisers to support these programs. However, we also have on-going opportunities for families to support the school on a smaller scale. These funds are designated for *The St. Margaret Fund* and are used to help those in our school who may need assistance at dire times. The programs are:

Box Tops for Education - cut out box tops from groceries and send them in to your child's teacher

Funding Factory - drop off your empty toner and ink cartridges as well as old cell phones. St. Margaret's receives points and cash. More information included with newsletter.

Target - register your Red Card at Target and a portion of your sale will be donated to the school

Stop & Shop APlus School Rewards - register your Stop & Shop Card and a portion of your purchase will be donated to St. Margaret's School (code - 16759). More information coming home with newsletter.

These are simple ways you can help our school and students. Thank you for all you do for our students and school.

Volunteers

The involvement of our parents is vital to the success of our students. Staying interested in your child's progress and being aware of the events in their lives shows them that you care.

St. Margaret's fosters that involvement by offering numerous opportunities to become involved. One of the requests I make each year is to solicit volunteers for lunch/recess duty. This is an important time of the day and we need help each day of the week. If you can offer a half hour or an hour one or more days a week, it is greatly appreciated. Unfortunately, when we do not have enough supervision it becomes impossible to take the children outside or even to the gym. Please consider offering a few minutes each week. Thank you.

PARISH NEWS ~

Mass for the Handicapped

On Saturday, September 17th, St. Margaret's will hold its' annual Mass for the Handicapped from 11AM until 3PM.. This is a beautiful parish event that brings smiles to those who have little opportunity to attend Mass. In order for the day to be successful the committee has asked for assistance. The committee is in need of Altar Servers and Food Servers (preferably 7th & 8th Graders) and adults to help move attendees into the gymnasium on Saturday. If you are interested and can help out for any portion of the day, please contact the Rectory at 718-549-8580.

Religious Education Starts

Our school hosts parish children in our Religious Education Program. Classes are held Wednesday afternoons in our classrooms. Classes begin this Wednesday, September 14th.

Soccer

St. Margaret's Soccer will begin on Saturday, September 17, 2011. Divisions are as follows:

Pre-K/K

Boys and girls 1-4 and 5-8.

Players will be assigned to teams based on attendance each week. A registration form is attached. Please complete the form and send it along with the \$20.00 fee in an envelope marked: **Kerry Bader/Soccer**. Forms must be received by Friday, September 16.

HSA NEWS ~

Back To School Fun Day!

On Saturday, September 10th, our Home/School Association hosted our first **Back To School**

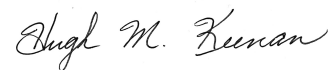
Fun Day. And by the looks of things, it was a tremendous success. The weather was absolutely gorgeous! Music, food and fun were to be found everywhere! I want to thank the HSA Board and members for all their tireless efforts in making the day so spectacular.

Tuition Raffle

Our latest HSA Fundraiser has begun! The **Tuition Raffle** is an opportunity to win the equivalent of one month's tuition (one child, parishioner rate). A copy of the flyer is attached.

The Home/School Association has also created a Calendar of Events listing when our various fund raisers will be held. Keep this in a safe place and refer to it often.

God's blessings to you all.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hugh M. Keenan".

Hugh M. Keenan, Principal

SWEET FUN IS BACK!



We will be making DELICIOUS Fall themed treats!

We hope you can join us!

This invitation is open to all children in grades K thru 8!

On every Monday from September 19th to November 21st
(except 10/10, 10/31-no school)
(9/19, 9/26, 10/3, 10/17, 10/24, 11/7, 11/14, 11/21), the children will make or decorate a different type of dessert.

WHEN: Monday afternoons, 2:45-3:45pm. The students will go directly to the cooking class following dismissal. They will be dismissed out the front door on 260th St.

WHERE: Children will meet in the school's lobby then proceed to the classroom (either Ms. T or Ms. P)

WHO: Ms. Peterson and Ms. Tomasulo

COSTS: **\$100** - students not enrolled in aftercare
\$85 - students who attend aftercare regularly on Mondays



(This includes cost of materials for each class)
Monies are due by Friday, September 16th, 2011.
Please make checks payable to St. Margaret of Cortona School.



✂-----

I give my child _____ in grade _____ permission to attend Sweet Fun! I understand that he/she will be picked up promptly at **3:45 pm** after each class. Students not picked up by 3:55 will be placed in the afterschool program and charged accordingly.

Parent / Guardian signature _____ Telephone _____

St. Margaret's Athletic Association

St. Margaret's Soccer Club

St. Margaret's Soccer will begin the season on September 17, 2011. Games/matches will be played at the field at the Stables in Van Cortlandt Park. Grades pre-k and k will play non-competitive games. Grades 1-8 will play either games or World Cup Soccer depending on the number of participants.

Divisions as follows:

Pre-K and K 9:30am-10:15am Girls 1-4 and 5-8 9:15-10:15am

Boys 1-4- & 5-8 10:15-11:5am

Dates of games: 9/17; 9/24; 10/1; 10/15; 10/22.

The St. Margaret's Soccer Club is a non-competitive, recreational sports program. Participants will become familiar with the rules of soccer as they participate in exercise and form friendships. Volunteers are needed and welcome!

Please return the form below to the attention of Kerry Bader c/o Tommy by 9/16.

Player's Name: _____ Grade: _____

Name of Parent/Guardian: _____

Contact number for parent/guardian: _____

Email address: _____

I, the parent guardian of the aboved name player, agree to hold harmless St. Margaret's School, St. Margaret's Parish, the Archdiocese of New York, the organizers, coaches and assistants of the St. Margaret's Soccer Club in case of injury to my child.




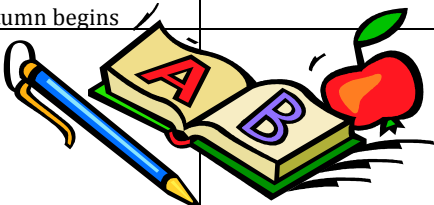
Parent/Guardian Name (Print)

Parent Guardian Signature

Fee per player is \$20.00. Checks should be made payable to St. Margaret of Cortona.

St. Margaret of Cortona School

September 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 New Family Open House, 10AM New Parent Orientation, 7PM	2	3 
4	5 Labor Day	6 Opening Faculty Meeting - Teachers ONLY Report	7 First Day of School Kindergarten - 8 th Grade students report at 7:55AM	8 Full Day: K-8 Hot Lunch, Before & After School PK Orientation 9:30 - 11:30	9 Full Day K - 8 PK 8:30- 11:30AM	10 HSA Back To School Fun Day , 11AM - 3PM
11 Grandparents Day	12 Full Day PK - 8	13	14	15	16 Student Council Elections	17
18 	19 Band Assembly	20	21	22	23 Band forms due back to school Autumn begins	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 	

Calendar subject to change with notice.

Elementary Lunch

SEPTEMBER 2011

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			1 IT'S A WRAP Deli Ham and Cheese Wrap Healthy Coleslaw	2 CHICKEN DUNKERS Crispy Chicken Nuggets Choice of Dipping Sauce Asian Lo Mein Salad Steamed Broccoli Crowns
5 LABOR DAY Savory Beef Ravioli French Cut Green Beans	6 TRAYLESS TUESDAYS BURGER BLAST Charbroiled Beef Burger on a Soft Whole Wheat Bun Straight Cut Potatoes	7 MELT DOWN Melted Mozzarella Sticks with Marinara Sauce Normandy Vegetables	8 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL WELCOME BACK! Crispy Chicken Patty on a Soft Whole Wheat Bun Braised Collard Greens	9 PIZZA PARTY Oven Baked Pizza Bagel Rachael Ray's Yum-O! Marinated Tomato Salad
12 CHICKEN DUNKERS Crispy Chicken Nuggets Choice of Dipping Sauce Fiesta Corn	13 TRAYLESS TUESDAYS BURGER BLAST Charbroiled Beef Burger on a Soft Whole Wheat Bun Oven Roasted Potato Wedges	14 IT'S A WRAP Deli Turkey and Cheese Wrap Normandy Vinaigrette	15 THE CLASSICS Herb Roasted Chicken Warm Dinner Roll Oven Roasted Potatoes	16 PIZZA PARTY French Bread Pizza Green Garden Salad Choice of Dressings
19 Crispy Chicken Patty on a Soft Whole Wheat Bun Normandy Vegetables	20 TRAYLESS TUESDAYS BURGER BLAST Charbroiled' Beef Burger on a Soft Whole Wheat Bun Straight Cut Potatoes	21 CHICKEN DUNKERS Crispy Chicken Tender Strips Choice of Dipping Sauce Green Bean Trio	22 NA CHO' PARTY Southwest Style Beef Baked! Tostitos® Scoops!® Fiesta Corn	23 PIZZA PARTY Oven Baked Pizza Bagel Very Vegetable Salad Choice of Dressings
26 MELT DOWN Melted Mozzarella Sticks with Marinara Sauce Steamed Spinach	27 TRAYLESS TUESDAYS BURGER BLAST Charbroiled' Beef Burger on a Soft Whole Wheat Bun Oven Roasted Potatoes	28 IT'S A WRAP Deli Turkey and Cheese Wrap Green Garden Salad Choice of Dressings	29 ROSH HASHANAH CHICKEN DUNKERS Crispy Chicken Nuggets Choice of Dipping Sauce Carrot and Green Bean Blend	30 ROSH HASHANAH PIZZA PARTY Oven Baked Pizza Bagel Normandy Vinaigrette



SchoolFood
FOOD THAT WORKS



Daily: milk (1% low fat, fat free and fat free chocolate), fruit, Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, Cheese sandwiches
Dipping sauce choices: mustard, duck, honey mustard, BBQ, tomato, tartar, salsa, specialty
SchoolFood proudly serves Pride of New York products



VEGAN OFFERING

Menu subject to change



Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to the start of a new school year and another year of A+ School Rewards. Starting October 6, 2011 through March 29, 2012, St. Margaret of Cortona will have the opportunity to earn cash through Stop & Shop A+ School Rewards Program.

All you have to do is:

Log on to www.stopandshop.com/aplus to register online

OR

Dial 1-877-275-2758 to register your card over the phone

After you register your card, each shopping trip at Stop & Shop using your Stop & Shop Card earns CASH for our school! Each month, the amount of CASH awarded will be updated on the Stop & Shop website. You can track the amount of points you earn for our school by checking your grocery receipt and online when you create an account at www.stopandshop.com. Our school will receive a check at the end of the program. The money can be used for any of our school's educational needs.

Remember, even if you registered your card last year, you must re-register this year for our school to receive credit. Attending to this simple process makes a HUGE difference to our school. We need your support.

Please be sure to register your card to benefit St. Margaret of Cortona School using ID #16759.

Also, don't forget to encourage your friends and relatives to do the same. It could mean the world to our children.



TUITION RAFFLE

At \$25 a chance you could win one month free tuition for one child. A value of \$420.

DRAWING WILL BE ON: October 2nd at Family Mass

Thank you for supporting St. Margaret's and the H.S.A.

*This will be deducted from your account. You will not be receiving a check or cash.

Please make checks payable to: St. Margaret's HSA

Parent _____

Child _____

Grade _____

Phone Number _____



ARE YOU READY

to have FUN while hiking,
camping, exploring,
swimming and
learning new skills?

Calling all boys ages 6 to 10



PACK 24
Riverdale Presbyterian Church
4765 Henry Hudson Pkwy



OPEN HOUSE

Thursday,
September 15, 2011
6:30 PM

Please Contact:

Cubmaster Tom Breslin (347) 234-6170
pack24bronx@gmail.com

**PARENT OR GUARDIAN MUST ACCOMPANY BOY
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AS CUB LEADERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

