

Dear Parents,

**Good Afternoon. This week I want to concentrate on something our students need to learn. I am writing this letter about skills that students should be developing as we progress through this school year.**

1. **Our students need to learn to self-advocate.** When they need assistance, I want them to go to their teacher and ask for help, and be specific about what they need. This is particularly important for the Jr. High students as we prepare them for High School. It is however taught at a very young age, all the way down at preschool. This is an important life skill.
2. **Writing assignments in their assignment notebooks.** As I go from classroom to classroom I see that teachers are very deliberate about what work is due the next day. It is up on their white boards and I see EVERY single teacher giving the learners time to write down their assignments in their notebooks.
3. **Using their designated Study Hall or study time in school to get their work finished!** Jr. High students have a Study Hall once a week. They have been asked to use it wisely, by not talking and working hard during that time. We have some students who are choosing not to use that time wisely AND they think that talking is okay in there, not so. Please remind your student that Study Hall is just that, a quiet time just for them to focus and not distract others. It is meant to give them time to get work done while they have access to a teacher who could help them should they have any questions. We created this period in response to parents' requests. I have seen some students really use it to their advantage, so we want to encourage responsibility here! Please discuss the silent rule for this time tonight. Remember we are moving into all of the fun sports that come up for students. Wouldn't it be great if on game night your student could say, "I honestly have no homework tonight!" Wednesday is Study Hall day for Jr. High.  
**Parents: Please talk about this at the dinner table tonight.**
4. **Studying for tests.** At the younger grades are you studying with your child? Perhaps quizzing them to get ready for tests and quizzes? At the older grades, do you know your child's method of study? I know for a fact that parents are still quizzing their children to help prepare them. Please keep that up parents! Students still need YOU to be involved in quizzing them and preparing them for important tests and quizzes.
5. **Knowing how to set up their paper or their word document** in the proper way for their teachers. I hear Preschool and Kinder singing songs to the kids about writing their names on their papers. I hear some teachers asking for name, subject, date, and student #. I see that all teachers want the rough edges off of the notebook paper before they hand it in to them. Can your child articulate how their teacher wants them to set up their paper? Where do they turn their work in? Ask them and listen for their response.
6. **Knowing where and when to turn work in.** These are basic routines that every single teacher has put into place at the beginning of the school year. I see labeled bins in every classroom, no matter what the age of student.

Learning the routines of each classroom teacher is one of the most important things students learn at the beginning of the school year. By October these are skills that should be firmly in place. Ask your children about these procedures and routines at home and see how they respond. I think that you will

see that each classroom has their specific routines that they follow. As I observe in each classroom, I see objectives and schedules up on the boards. I see bins marked with each subject area or grade level for homework. I observe students putting papers either in specific folders or in those bins when finished. We are diligently working to develop responsible students and they truly are working at developing their skills. Please hold a discussion on classroom procedures with your child tonight. See what knowledge and procedures they share with you. Do you feel they understand expectations? Do THEY feel as if they can go to their teacher to ask questions? This ability to ask questions and not be afraid to do so is extremely important to student success. Talk about all of this and communicate directly with their teacher if they are shy about asking questions or feel afraid. We want ALL of our students to feel comfortable and excited about their learning!

Blessings,

Mrs. DeMar



Annunciation School Newsletter  
October 11, 2023  
Annunciationbvm.org

This Friday, October 13, is our monthly Dress Down Day for charity. Students may pay \$1.00 for the opportunity to dress down. (Following rules in the handbook.) Last month, 8<sup>th</sup> grade donated \$184.00 to the Lupus Foundation. Seventh grade will choose the charity this month.



## Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher conferences for grades K – 8 are scheduled to take place on Thursday, November 2. Yesterday your oldest child was given a yellow conference time request sheet to give to you. Please ask him/her for it if you did not receive it. Please mark your time block preference and return it to school ASAP. Conference times are assigned based on when you return your sheet.

The Luminary Mass has been rescheduled to **Thursday, October 19 at 7:00 p.m.**

**If you would be willing to volunteer to bring in cookies for the reception** in the gym following the Mass, please text Julie Cibulskis at 630//363-7073.



Student Council is busy planning a Fun Night for students in grades 4, 5, and 6 on Friday, October 27 from 5:00 – 6:30 and a dance for students in grades 7 and 8 on the same night from 7:00 – 9:00. More information will be in next week's newsletter.

Home and School is hosting a Trunk or Treat event on Saturday, October 21.

You can find more information about this fun event at the end of the newsletter. However, in order to make it work, Home and School is looking for volunteers to help. Please use this link if you can volunteer.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EABA829A6FACE9-45071801-trunk>



Don't forget, pizza orders for this week are due by tomorrow at noon. If you would like to volunteer in the upper building for Pizza Friday, please use this link.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EABA829A6FACE9-45070245-pizza>

Just a reminder that all volunteers at school must be current with their Safe Environment requirements. If you are planning to help at a party, drive for a field trip, etc. and do not know if all of your requirements are up to date, please contact Ms. Beth Clark, at

[bclark@rockforddiocese.org](mailto:bclark@rockforddiocese.org) to find out what you may be missing. This is especially important if you are planning to help at a Halloween party. Thank you.

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From Mrs. DeMar:



Last year you asked if I could tell you sooner what the attire for The Christmas Concert will be this school year. Here it is- nice and early!



Christmas Concert: Dec 13<sup>th</sup>, 1:30 and 6:30 p.m. in the gym.  
Attire: Students are to wear their Christmas dress up clothes.

Examples:

Girls: Christmas dresses, (Nothing low cut, nothing too short)  
Skirts and blouses, bows in the hair are fine,  
Dark flats or low heels please.

Boys:

Black or dark dress pants, belts are to be worn if the pants have loops.  
long sleeved shirts tucked in, red or green tie, black shoes.

**NO HIGH TOP GYM SHOES FOR BOYS OR GIRLS**

Our kids will look forward to performing for you as always!!! It's hard to think about Christmas, but it will be here before you know it!

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The Knights of Columbus will be holding a Pancake Breakfast in the gym on October 15 from 8:00 a.m. until noon. A family breakfast is still \$15.00. All proceeds benefit the Fr. George Glover Scholarship Fund.



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Afternoon Patrol Schedule – Week of October 16

Jillian Becker, Chris Lopez, and Lily Whipple



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Please scroll for important information about:

Tradition of Excellence

Trunk or Treat

Pumpkinpalooza

Veterans Day

Portillo's Dine Out Fundraiser



## Empowering God's Children® Safe Environment Program

### Information Sheet & Optional Opt-Out Form

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Oct. 2, 2023

To assist in the monumental mission of protecting children from abuse, the Annunciation BVM is partnering with you to present a safe environment lesson to your youth within the youth program. It is our cherished role as adults to fully protect children. In addition, we must also teach children about their safety rights and boundaries, so that they have tools to protect themselves. This year, your child will experience one of the following age-appropriate lessons:

#### **Empowering God's Children Program Information:**

A program for children presented by Lesson Leaders, each lesson includes an age-appropriate video component along with engaging learning activities. The material is designed to better equip your child to know their safety rights, recognize their boundaries, and to empower them to protect themselves when safe adults are not immediately available—and ultimately be safer from people who might want to harm them.

Lesson 1: *Physical Boundaries: Safe and Unsafe Touching Rules*

Lesson 2: *Safe Adults, Safe Touches and Special Safe Adults*

Lesson 3: *Boundaries: You Have Rights!*

Lesson 4: *Secrets, Surprises and Promises*

Lesson 5: *Being a Safe Friend*

Lesson 6: *Boundaries: Feelings and Facts*

Research shows that child sexual abuse prevention is most effective when there is a partnership between parents and Lesson Leaders, when material is reiterated in a school setting, and when the training is interactive and activity based. As the primary educators of your children, parents and guardians are encouraged to review these materials ahead of time. Please review the lessons on your own to start these vital safety conversations at home. Two additional resources may be available to you for review through this location upon request: *The Teaching Boundaries and Safety Guide*, and *The Lesson Leader Orientation and Certification Module*. Thank you for your partnership with us to protect youth.

#### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

Date(s) of in-program training: Week of October 16, 2023

Makeup training dates: \_\_\_\_\_

For questions, or to obtain access to the specific lesson and related activities, please communicate with:  
(Name / Position / Contact information) \_\_\_\_\_

**Please note:** Parents and Guardians may "opt out" youth from formal in-program safety lessons. Please complete, detach and submit the form below only if you plan on offering the safe environment education at home and do not want your child to receive information via their youth program about ways to protect themselves. Your coordinator will reach out to you regarding relevant accommodations.

#### **TO OPT-OUT THE CHILD FROM THE SAFETY LESSON, RETURN THIS PORTION TO:**

(Name / Location) \_\_\_\_\_ BY (Date) \_\_\_\_\_

I, (printed name of parent or guardian) \_\_\_\_\_, have reviewed the actual safety lessons and DO NOT give permission for this location to present the *Empowering God's Children* Safety Lesson to my child (printed name of child) \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please join us for Annunciation First Annual



# TRUNK OR TREAT

**Saturday October 21<sup>st</sup>**

**1pm-3pm**

**School Parking Lot**

**1840 Church Rd, Aurora IL 60505**

**FOOD, FUN, PRIZES**

**Car decorating competition at 2 pm**

**Admission: \$5 - Families of 1 kid**

**\$10 -Families of 2 or more kids**





# Pumpkinpalooza!

Student Council is sponsoring a school-wide competition to promote school and Halloween Spirit!

**Decorate a pumpkin!** Use paint and other accessories to decorate a pumpkin. Be creative! You may make any style of pumpkin that you choose. It could be cute, funny, scary, an animal, whatever! Please just keep them appropriate for a Catholic grade school. Pumpkins must be decorated. They cannot be carved.

**Pumpkins should be brought to the upper building before school on Thursday, October 26.**

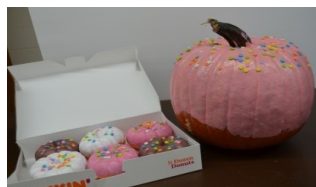
**They will be put on display in the gym. All classes will view the pumpkins during the school day and students can vote for their favorites by putting a quarter in the bag in front of each pumpkin.**

**Students may bring as many quarters as they want and vote as many times as they like.**

**We will have some quarters available to exchange for dollars if necessary.**

**Every classroom will have two winners. Winners will be announced the following week.**

**All pumpkins should be taken home after school.**





## Veterans Day Assembly

Student Council is hosting a special Veterans Day Assembly on Friday, November 10, 2023. All students are encouraged to invite any family members, special friends, etc. who are veterans, to attend this assembly and be recognized by the student body.

Veterans are invited to come to school at 8:45 a.m. and enjoy coffee and doughnuts. The assembly will begin at 9:00 in the gym.

Veterans will sit in chairs with the students who invited them. They will be asked to stand and give their Name, Branch of Service, Years Served, Assignment in the Service and Who Invited Them.

We hope to have many veterans join us on this day.

If your child would like to invite someone to come to this assembly, please complete the form below and return it to school by November 2nd. Space will be limited in the gym, but if the veteran would like to have someone accompany him/her, he/she may do that.

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Name of Veteran attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Print

Invited by: \_\_\_\_\_

Branch of Service:    Army    Navy    Air Force    Marines    Coast Guard

Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_



## Pictures Requested

Dear Annunciation Parish and School Families,

In addition to our Veterans Day Assembly we would like to invite everyone to submit pictures of the veterans in their family with the veteran's name, rank and one short sentence about the picture, if they would like. Please print and submit the picture(s) to the school office or email the picture(s) to [nlitow@annunciationbvm.org](mailto:nlitow@annunciationbvm.org). We will be hanging the pictures on the walls at school for students and visitors to look at through Veterans Day.

We would like to recognize an alumni of Annunciation as the first picture to be hung every year.

Boatswain's Mate Second Class Rory Rena  
U.S. Coast Guard



You're invited to a  
**Portillo's®**  
**FUNDRAISER**



Join us at Portillo's for a fundraiser to support:

## Annunciation BVM

When:

**October 24, 2023**

**5:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

at the Portillo's located at:

**531 N. Randall Rd.**

**Batavia, IL**

20% of sales will benefit your organization. Order online or in app for pickup using code **PORTILLOS22** before checkout in the "Apply Offer" field, or show this flyer or a digital version to cashier when ordering at the restaurant. Valid on drive thru, pickup, curbside, and in restaurant orders.

**Portillo's®**  
**FOR GOOD**

[portillos.com/community](https://portillos.com/community)

For online/app orders to qualify for the fundraiser, orders must be placed for pickup only, from the participating restaurant, on the fundraiser date and during the listed fundraiser hours. Gift card purchases, delivery orders, and orders placed on the third party websites are excluded from the fundraiser. Online ordering subject to availability. \$200 minimum fundraising sales required for the organization to receive donation. Cannot be combined with other offer codes.

**WE'RE HIRING! APPLY AT [PORTILLOS.COM/CAREERS](https://portillos.com/careers)**

# ***“Tradition of Excellence”***

**Bring your Raffle Ticket and money to  
turn in on:**

**Wednesday, October 11,**

**Thursday, October 12,**

**Friday, October 13, 2023**

**We will sell and collect Raffle Tickets  
before, and after school on the dates above.**

**Don't Miss Your Chance to  
Win BIG!**

**Don't Miss Your Chance to  
Win BIG!**

# Have you Sent your RSVP?



**WE want to see you at the big event!**

**We are asking for your help with the  
class baskets.**





To make it easier Wish Lists were made on Amazon!

Wish Lists are under Alicia DeKing and can be sent directly to her house.

Any contribution helps. Cash will be used to purchase items or gift cards.

## Want to help?

- Purchase your raffle ticket.
- RVSP to the dinner and Silent Auction.
- Sell more raffle tickets.
- Ask someone to sign up for Sponsorship.
- Ask to Volunteer.

Thank you for all your help and support!



Home and School is partnering with Schaefer Greenhouses to put on a fundraiser to support Annunciation School. Please consider purchasing a poinsettia for a co-worker, friend, and/or family member. Please help spread the word. Your support is greatly appreciated! Be sure to place your order by OCTOBER 30TH. Make checks payable to Annunciation Home and School.

Quantity

Total

\_\_\_\_\_ Poinsettia 5-7 flowers \$21.95 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Poinsettia 7-9 flowers \$36.95 \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Total due \_\_\_\_\_



**Rosary High School Presents:**

# **TRICK-OR-TREAT!**

## **COMMUNITY EVENT**

**WEAR YOUR HALLOWEEN COSTUME, BRING AN  
EMPTY BAG (FOR CANDY) AND COME  
TRICK-OR-TREAT AROUND ROSARY HIGH SCHOOL**

*Children 5th grade and younger welcome!*

**Saturday October 28th  
12:30-2:30pm**

**Rosary High School  
901 N. Edgelawn Dr.  
Aurora, IL 60506**



**Questions?  
Contact Mrs. Sarah Hoying at  
[shoying@rosaryhs.com](mailto:shoying@rosaryhs.com)**

**ROSARY  
Royals**

*Sponsored by the Rosary National Honor Society and Student Council*