

CCS PTO NEWSLETTER

Providing Support to Parents and Teachers at Corpus Christi Catholic School



Lenten Fish Fry Tradition Continues

The Fish Fry Fundraiser is in full swing! The six-week-long event is a Friday night mecca for parents, students and church parishioners. Now in its eighth year, the CCS Fish Fry is known for its perfectly fried fish—thanks to the volunteer dads who have affectionately become known as the “Fry Daddies,” and Danny Nguyen of P & L Seafood who provides the special batter.

It’s undeniably the fish that attracts around 600 people to the event every week, but adding new menu items like Hang Nguyen’s gumbo and Jason Spark’s macaroni & cheese have certainly helped.

The macaroni & cheese is so popular that it sells out within the first hour every Friday. You’ve got to arrive early if you’re hoping to get a serving of the popular side.

Father Zoghby has added adult-only seating in the Family Room to accommodate the large crowds this year. The seating in the atrium is also reserved for adults.

There are two fish fries remaining. Money raised from the event will be used to improve the field behind the school as well as technology in the classrooms. To volunteer, contact volunteer coordinator, Tracey Netto at tbn1105@hotmail.com.

BOARD MEMBERS

Melissa Overstreet
PTO President

Scarlett Moulder
Vice President

Sandi Zoghby
Treasurer

Leslie Youkey
Secretary

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Tracey Netto
Volunteer Coordinator

Cheree Wimmer
Hospitality Chair

Alison Dennis
Teacher Liaison

Jenna Wood
Marketing Coordinator

Stephanie Bastek
Head Room Mom

Scrip Fundraising is Powerful Tool

If you've been to a PTO event this year, chances are you've seen or heard something about the Scrip program. The concept is simple. Schools purchase gift cards from participating retailers at a discount. Then, parents purchase the gift cards from the school at face value. The school keeps the difference in price, and parents spend the Scrip gift cards at the retailer where it's worth the full face value.

The Scrip program offers "profit sharing" to participating families. After a family earns \$100 profit for the school, the additional profits earned is split 50/50 between the family and the school. The profit is given back to the family in the form of a check.

Currently, we have 93 Corpus Christi families enrolled in Scrip. The



program raises anywhere from \$10,000 to \$12,000 each year.

Scrip orders can be placed any weekday, and will be filled from inventory that is in stock. If there is not any inventory in stock, the order

will be processed the following Monday. Orders are filled on Wednesdays and can either be sent home to parents in their child's daily folder, or you can stop by the Scrip office to pick up your order during set hours.

IMPORTANT DATES

March 9	5:30-8PM	Fish Fry 4
March 16	5:30-8 PM	Fish Fry 5
March 23	5:30-8 PM	Fish Fry 6 & Easter Crafts for pre-K through 5th grade
April 11	All Day	Briquettes Spirit Night (Schillinger Rd)
April 17	6-7 PM	Q4 Meeting (Focus on IOWA Test Scores)
April 21	8:30 AM-12 PM	PTO Campus-Wide Spring Cleaning
May 5	3-7 PM	Derby Fundraiser
May 24	2-6 PM	Used Uniform & Book Sale

Understanding Learning Differences



Learning difficulties are more common than many people think. Increasing awareness among parents and educators can help a student with learning differences thrive academically and socially.

Students with dyslexia, ADHD and other kinds of learning issues are as smart as their peers. In fact, some believe they display exceptional strengths that can enrich all our lives. Without the right support, many fall behind academically and struggle socially.

Signs that your child may have a learning problem include:

- Reads at lower level than peers
- Has difficulty understanding math concepts
- Has bad handwriting
- Often loses homework
- Has trouble sitting still
- Doesn't want to go to school
- Has a hard time making friends

If your child displays any of these signs you should first make an appointment to discuss your concerns with their teacher. The teacher will give you insight on how your child is performing compared to other kids their age, and point you in the right direction to seek additional help. In order to qualify for some resources, specific evaluations are required. The teacher, with the help of resource teachers, will be able to guide you through the correct process so that your child receives adequate help.

If your child has been diagnosed with a learning disorder, it is important that you have your child reevaluated every three years. This will enable you to show that your child has displayed consistent learning difficulties and ensure they receive proper assistance throughout their entire education.

LEARNING DIFFERENCES RESOURCES

Occupational Therapist **Claire Hanna** therapyclaire@gmail.com

Speech Therapist **Paula Dinkel** pldinkel@bellsouth.net

BlueBird Pediatric Therapy — offers help for diagnosed special needs like ADD/ADHD, Dyslexia, Visual & Auditory Processing Disorders, Speech Delays, etc.

Read-Write: The Learning Center — specializes in serving students with language-based learning disabilities.

Parents Urged to Monitor Internet Activity

It's safe to assume that nearly every child at CCS has access to the Internet. Although Internet affords our children valuable information and entertainment, it also exposes them to certain dangers. Paul Weathersby, a Senior Forensic Examiner for the FBI, presented on those risks at our Q3 PTO meeting, and shared information on how to protect your children.

Educating your children on the risks associated with using the Internet is paramount when establishing online safety. You must understand those risks in order to be able to communicate them effectively. You can go to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children for specific information on the

risks and benefits. Weathersby stressed that it is important to maintain an open dialogue with children so that they feel comfortable talking to their parents about information they find on the Internet that makes them feel scared or uncomfortable.

Once you know the risks and benefits, you can begin to set guidelines for using the Internet. Clear rules help children understand what might be a dangerous situation. An example of a clear rule would be, "Don't provide personal information such as full name and address."

Kids don't always follow rules, even when they are clear. Therefore, Weathersby also recommends the use of filtering technology

like Disney Circle. With Internet filters, Parents can set up various filters to block material according to their family's preferences. This technology is not perfect, so Weathersby recommends unscheduled checks of your children's devices. This could consist of simply walking by and asking your child to show you their device, and should also include checking the browser history to see what websites they are visiting.

If your child encounters offensive material or risky situations on the Internet, you should first document all the activity. Then, report it to your local law enforcement or the local FBI office so that they can properly investigate the incident.



Corpus Christi Yard Sign Order Form



Only \$12

Order yours **TODAY!**

Child's Name (First & Last): _____ Homeroom: _____

Parent's Email Address: _____

Quantity: _____

TOTAL COST: _____

Cash OR Check
(Make check out to CCS PTO)

**Orders Due
March 12th!**

**Sign pick-up is
March 19th at school.**