

Open House
Tuesday
7:00 p.m. GH
Grades PK-2
Parents Only

Sweetwater Episcopal Academy

www.sweetwaterepiscopal.org

Soundings

August 31, 2010 Volume 17 Number 2

Homeroom
Parents' Meeting
Thursday
September 2
8:30 a.m.
Gray Hall



Stroup's Scoop

We teach children

When I was in college, I remember taking a test in an education course that asked, "What do we teach?" I wrote a beautiful paragraph on the lessons taught in a classroom. Unfortunately, the professor was looking for a one-word answer: "Children". While I do not remember the class or the professor, I still remember that our mission is "We teach children".

We teach them reading, math, writing, science, social studies, physical education, art, music, religion, Spanish, and technology skills. We teach them to make good choices and to be leaders. We teach them to be caring and kind to others at SEA, in their families, in our community and the world.

Last week in Chapel I was proud to recognize several SEA students for their personal donations to families in Haiti, ASPCA, Kids Against Hunger, and Nets for Life.

We teach the whole child and our children are learning what we teach.

Welcome to the Kind Zone

Religion—Chaplain Molly



A couple of weeks ago, a new acquaintance of mine was asking about my job. "You mean you teach every SEA student once a week?" she asked, "isn't that a lot? And what do 1st graders need to know of Religion anyways?"

It's a good question. Religion sometimes seems distant from everyday life, the life of driving children, cooking dinner, working to support a family, helping encourage good study skills, you know the drill. Yet at SEA, we do not just teach children, we also form children so that they can be the people that we all want them to be: kind, compassionate, team players, showing responsibility, thinking of others. Religion has a lot to do with this. I'm not talking about all the belief systems that make up religious traditions, instead I'm thinking about the words that Jesus spoke, that true religion was to care for the widows, orphans, and those in distress.

Although a 1st grader can't quite comprehend how to care for a widow, they can learn how to be kind to others. Maybe caring for orphans is a bit above them, but they can learn how to be compassionate to their classmates who are sad. The other thing that Religion class does for SEA students is to give them a place to talk about the things that are confusing or the things that worry them. Sometimes classes are devoted to discussions about events that happened at lunch, or questions that come about exactly who and what is a guardian angel.

Studies show that children have an innate religious sense that continues to grow and develop if it is encouraged. SEA is a place where these questions are taken seriously.

From the Desk of Lynda Delius

The Curriculum



Welcome to 2010-2011 SEA school year. In the coming weeks I will be writing about SEA's outstanding curriculum with a focus on different subject areas and special interests. You will find that our curriculum will be both fun and challenging for your child. The curriculum is accelerated, diverse, comprehensive, and advanced. Each student will be exposed to the core curriculum of math, language, reading/literature, writing/spelling, social studies, and science as well as media/technology, Spanish, art, music, P.E. and religion. It is our goal that each student will have the right to learn and to be provided with opportunities and challenges that will develop their intelligence so that he/she will reach his/her potential. SEA strives to create classrooms that implement problem solving, cooperative, interactive, and differentiated instruction. This year will bring new friendships and new learning opportunities. Please feel free to contact me any time if you have any curriculum questions.

Want To Earn \$500 Towards Your Child's Tuition?

Just a reminder that SEA rewards its best form of advertising - you! Our happy SEA families are the best ambassadors and we have a "Refer-A-Family" program that gives you \$500 towards tuition when you refer a family that signs a contract to attend SEA. Sweetwater Episcopal Academy screens and accepts students throughout the year (provided there is space in a class), so be sure to spread the word about your love for SEA to your friends, family and/or co-workers. For forms and more information, contact Tracy Buzzell at tbuzzell@sweetwaterepiscopal.org or at ext. 139.

Rainbow Awards

Cade Armstrong Aavni Gupta
Mrs. Brown Makenna Jackson
Cameron Caggiano Jacob Koehler
Olivia Chalfin Mr. Masem
Connor deArcos Fiona McCracken
Mrs. Delius Kelly Sevor
Matthew Fogle Logan Shassian
Daniel Frew Joseph Walker
Keiley Gregory Sophia Walls

Room Parent Meeting

For parents who signed up to be their child's home-room classroom parent. This meeting will get you up to speed on all the upcoming events for the school year. We'll help you with planning and give you lots of ideas! We would love to see you there!

Thursday, September 2
8:30 a.m. in Gray Hall

Right after morning drop-off

SEA is Using Schoolworld

Our teachers have created fabulous new web pages using *SchoolWorld*. We will no longer use *Homework Now*. To access these new web pages please go to the SEA website:

www.sweetwaterepiscopal.org

Click on the "Quick Links" drop down menu and then click on "Teacher Web Pages" A list of the teachers will appear and you just click on any teacher to see their new web page. Homework and information about what students are doing in class will be posted on these pages.

FAMILY MATTERS CLASS

The ECR *Family Matters Class* is starting the Bob Barnes "Parenting 101" series on Sunday, September 12th. It is a great 8 week DVD series which gives practical advise on parenting and bringing up children in a Christian environment. We will watch a session of the DVD each Sunday which always leads to great conversations. We meet each Sunday morning (except the 1st Sunday of the month) from 9:15 to 10:15 in the Church Choir Room near the SEA office. We'd love to have you join our group for fun and learning. We look forward to seeing you on Sunday mornings!
Brenda & Rick Lange

SEA School Calendar 2010-2011

Tuesday, August 31

Group (Class) Pictures for Yearbook

Open House for Gr. PK-2—7:00 p.m.



Thursday, September 2

Room Parent Meeting 8:30—Gray Hall

Monday, September 6

Holiday—Labor Day

NO SCHOOL

Wednesday, September 8

Boy Scout Parent Meeting

7:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 9

Parents' Club Meeting 8:30—GH

Wednesday, September 22

International Peace Day—Wear White!

YES Team Representatives Announced



Thursday, September 23

Spirit Day and Bake Sale

Sponsored by: 4th Grade

Be sure to wear your Spirit Shirts!

Friday, September 24

Parent-Teacher Conferences

NO School for Students

Child Care Available during conferences



Bicycle Safety Unit in P.E.



Students in Pre-K through

second grade will be participating

in a bicycle safety unit. This unit begins next week, **Tuesday, September 7 through Friday, September 10**, and then the swimming unit Sept 13- Sept 30. I would like to ask that you send in your child's bike helmet to school (labeled with student's name) before next Tuesday. For sanitary reasons, they must have their own helmet to ride. If you can leave your child's bike for the week at school, I am in need of some volunteers to loan us bikes of different sizes, with training wheels and without. Please email Mrs. Nycz if you can loan a bike for the entire week:

mnycz@sweetwaterepiscopal.org

Hot Lunch Menu Calendars

Hot Lunch calendars will be posted the last day of each month. We will send the menu via Flash Mail as well as post the new Hot Lunch calendar on our website. Be sure to check out the new Menu tonight.