



*He alone is my rock and my salvation.*  
Psalm 63:6

October 7, 2009

The mention of homework often brings a mixed reaction from both students and parents. While some readily accept its value as an important part of the total educational program, others may think of it as simply busywork. The many demands on the time of both adults and children make it vital that homework be understood by all as meaningful activity.

Teachers assign homework for a variety of reasons. The work may be intended to review and reinforce a concept presented in class or it may be a way for the teacher to check on the student's understanding and determine the need for further explanation. Sometimes the purpose of homework is to challenge the student's interest and encourage individual exploration of a topic. Independent learning builds self-esteem as young people discover that they can solve problems. Some assignments emphasize the relationship of a class activity to the real world. All assignments offer you, the parent, a glimpse into our classroom activities.

The Office of Catholic Education recommends the following time allotment for homework. This includes both written and studied assignments.

- ❖ Grades 1 and 2            30 minutes
- ❖ Grades 3 and 4           60 minutes
- ❖ Grades 5 and 6           90 minutes
- ❖ Grades 7 and 8           120 minutes

If you have questions about the difficulty or length of assignments, please talk with your child's teacher. Working together, we can determine how we can best fulfill your child's needs.

We are proud of Meaghan McKiernan and Richard Smith for representing St. Philip Neri in the Lansdale Catholic Sixth Grade Theology Bowl. Congratulations to Richard Smith for earning 2nd place!

#### **Communication Envelope Reminders:**

1. Tonight, October 7, all students in Grades K-8 are required to attend Our Lady of the Rosary at St. Philip Neri Church at 7:00 p.m. Attire: Church clothes except for Readers. All Readers please wear your school uniform.

2. Kid's Stuff Book payments and orders are past due!
3. Monday, October 12, is a Faculty-In-Service Day, no school!
4. Tech Club and Art & Literature Club is Tuesday, October 13.

**Things going home in today's Communication Envelope:**

- School Calendar and Church Calendar
- Scrip Order Forms – time to get an early start on those Christmas gifts!
- A letter from our School Nurse, Mrs. Angela Grammel
- Flyers from Student Council – D.E.A.R. Day, Ghostly Grams, Special Dress Down Day, Jump Rope-A-Thon Rules and Sponsor Sheet
- Fire Prevention Week Flyer
- Daisy Troop letter from Eileen Koch and Elizabeth Meade for Grades K & 1

May God bless you and your families,

Mrs. Patricia Schleeweiss