

## Safe Environment Lesson

Students in grades K—8 will have their Annual Safe Environment Lesson on Wednesday, October 12th during Religion Class.

I have attached a copy of the Safe Environment Lesson from October 3.



ST. BARNABAS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*Tradition and Excellence since 1913*

### Friday, October 21

PK3 and K—8  
PK4—Full Day



### Friday, October 28th

Noon Dismissal  
PK3 and K—8  
NO After School Today

**Riddle of the Week**

What gets wetter as it dries?

### Progress Reports

Sent home Thursday,  
October 13th  
Grades 1—8



### Upcoming Events

Picture Day  
October 20th

Halloween Celebrations  
Saturday, October 29th

12:00pm—Grades K—4

6:30pm—Grades 5—8

More Details To Follow

## Safe Environment Letter Grades K—8

October 3, 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The safety and well-being of all our children in our parish and school communities are our highest priorities. To serve the goal of creating a safe environment, every year in our schools and religious education programs, the children receive lessons in personal safety, as required by the *Bishops Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, which was adopted by the U.S. Bishops in 1992. This year, our Safe Environment Lesson will be held on Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup> during your child's religion class.

Our Catholic Tradition has always affirmed the dignity of the human person as created in the image and likeness of God. Every person with whom we come in contact deserves to be seen by us with the eyes of God. We know that ministry with children and youth, in particular, is a sacred trust. We, at St. Barnabas Elementary School, are committed to preserve, at all times and in all places, this sacred trust which is rooted in our faith in Jesus Christ.

This year, our Safe Environment lesson plans have been fully revised to better address each grade level, with a lesson that is age-appropriate and consistent with the moral teachings of the Catholic Church. These lessons are designed to promote respect for the dignity of the human person and virtuous living. These revised lessons were developed by the Safe Environment Office of the Archdiocese, in consultation with professional educators and child safety experts.

The full lesson plans for each grade level can be reviewed online at <http://www.archny.org/pastoral/safe-environment-program/childrens-curriculum/>. These lessons will cover such topics as internet safety, how to develop good boundaries in relationships, how to deal with uncomfortable or threatening situations, and how to get help from a trusted adult. Each year, parents/guardians will receive a short overview of the lesson that your child will receive during their Safe Environment instruction class period. This will enable you to reinforce the lessons your children have received, and to assure them of your support in their safety. Attached, please find your class specific overview.

If you do not wish for your child to participate in the safe Environment lesson, please send a note into the teacher before October 12<sup>th</sup>.

We thank you for the sacred trust you have given us in the care and protection of your children. May the collective vigilance and efforts of the entire Catholic community renew trust and confidence. We must trust Christ's promise: "for God all things are possible" (Matt. 19:26).

Should you have any questions on the Safe Environment program or lesson, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Morano  
Principal