

# HOME/SCHOOL CONNECTION

SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Ms. Abigail Akano - Principal

Mrs. Patricia Maldonado - Assistant Principal

## WELCOME TO THE 2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR!



Welcome to a brand new school year! The education of your child is truly a partnership between school and home. We look forward to developing, maintaining and strengthening the relationships we have with you so that together we can provide your child the best learning opportunities possible.

At Sacred Heart School we strive everyday to "Educate The Whole Child." To that end, we will work to develop the spiritual, emotional, and academic aspects of the children placed in our care.

Spiritually, the students at SHS will learn that Jesus is our ultimate model. The faculty will strive to teach as Jesus did - with love, patience and compassion. Each month we will work on infusing a different value into our lives. Work with us to incorporate these values.

Emotionally, the teachers at SHS work to gear teaching and learning to meet the children where they are. We will understand their weaknesses and acknowledge their strengths.

Our instructional goals this year are to continue the rich tradition of academic excellence and increase student success and achievement in literacy, math, and religion.

## Stay Involved In School

It's a downward trend. As children start kindergarten, parents are quite involved with their education. We attend parent-teacher conferences, cheer on our children at school concerts and events, and hang up schoolwork in the family art gallery on the refrigerator.

But sometimes we distance ourselves from school as our children grow older. Kids seem to be doing well without as much of our involvement. They're supposed to be independent. Right?

Kids need their parents to stay actively involved in their education throughout middle and high school. Parents can easily stay involved in small ways that will make a big difference.

For example:

Maintain ongoing communication with your child's teacher(s). Call to check in every other month—before trouble appears.

Volunteer to help out in small ways. Check with the teacher or the school's volunteer coordinator.

Attend all conferences. If you can't make it on the designated date, arrange to meet at another time.

Read the same book your child is assigned in English class, and talk about it together.

September Values  
Infusion Theme:

GENEROSITY

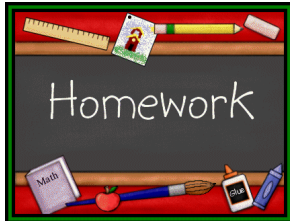
Value Question: How can I GIVE of myself to others?

Scripture: Sirach 4:1,4

"My son, rob not the poor man of his livelihood: force not the eyes of the needy to turn away..."

A beggar in distress do not reject; Avert not your face from the poor."

## Homework Routine



Become familiar with the amount of homework that will be assigned to your child. Decide together on a time and place to complete homework. Generally, it's best to let kids have a break after school before settling into doing more "school work." Allow some "downtime" for active play, a healthy snack, time to visit with friends or mom and dad. Discourage video games and television, as

kids need to be active, not passive, after school.

Where should kids do homework? Let your child help decide! Sometimes children are more comfortable standing up at the kitchen counter or lying on the floor in the living room than sitting at a table or a desk. The important thing is that they get it done and don't see "homework time" as something to dread.

When your child has homework questions that you aren't sure you can answer, think about who else in your child's life might be a good resource. An older sibling? A grandparent? The parent of a friend who knows a lot about the topic of the homework?

Be available to your child during homework time but be careful not to do the work for him/her.

## After-School Chats

### Worth Quoting

**"Life doesn't require that we be the best, only that we try our best."**

H. Jackson Brown Jr.

"What's in your backpack?" greet your child with this question, and you'll discover a lot about what she does in class.

- Set aside time each day to go through her papers. Try to do it first thing after school when her day is fresh in her mind

- Look over your youngster's work together. Help her feel proud by making a specific comment about something she's done. For instance, if she shows you a picture she drew in art class, you might say, "The gray sky and big waves look just like our rainy day at the beach."

- Have her talk through math problems or science experiments to show you what she's learned. She might explain how she finds the perimeter of a triangle or why ants dig tunnels, for example.

## Boys Vs. Girls

To the question: If you had a choice, which one of these things would you do? Play a new computer game, read a really good book or watch television?

Only 16.78% of boys in all age groups would prefer to read a book, whereas 42.44% of girls would prefer to read a book rather than watch television.

Boys preferred to be watching TV (80.8% at 11-12), meeting friends (56.0% at

age 11-12) or using the computer (49.0% at age 11).

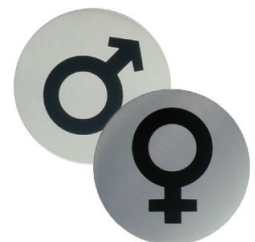
Girls were more involved with reading magazines (53.8% at ages 13-14), writing for pleasure, (16.4% at ages 11-12) reading books, homework (75.8% of girls at ages 15-16 as opposed to 62.7% of boys) and pets (54.4% at ages 11-12).

More boys than girls selected sport, science fiction and hobbies as their pre-

ferred choice of reading matter. 93% of boys aged 7-11 enjoyed reading adventure stories. Girls are more likely to be influenced by their friends in their choice of books and boys by their teachers.

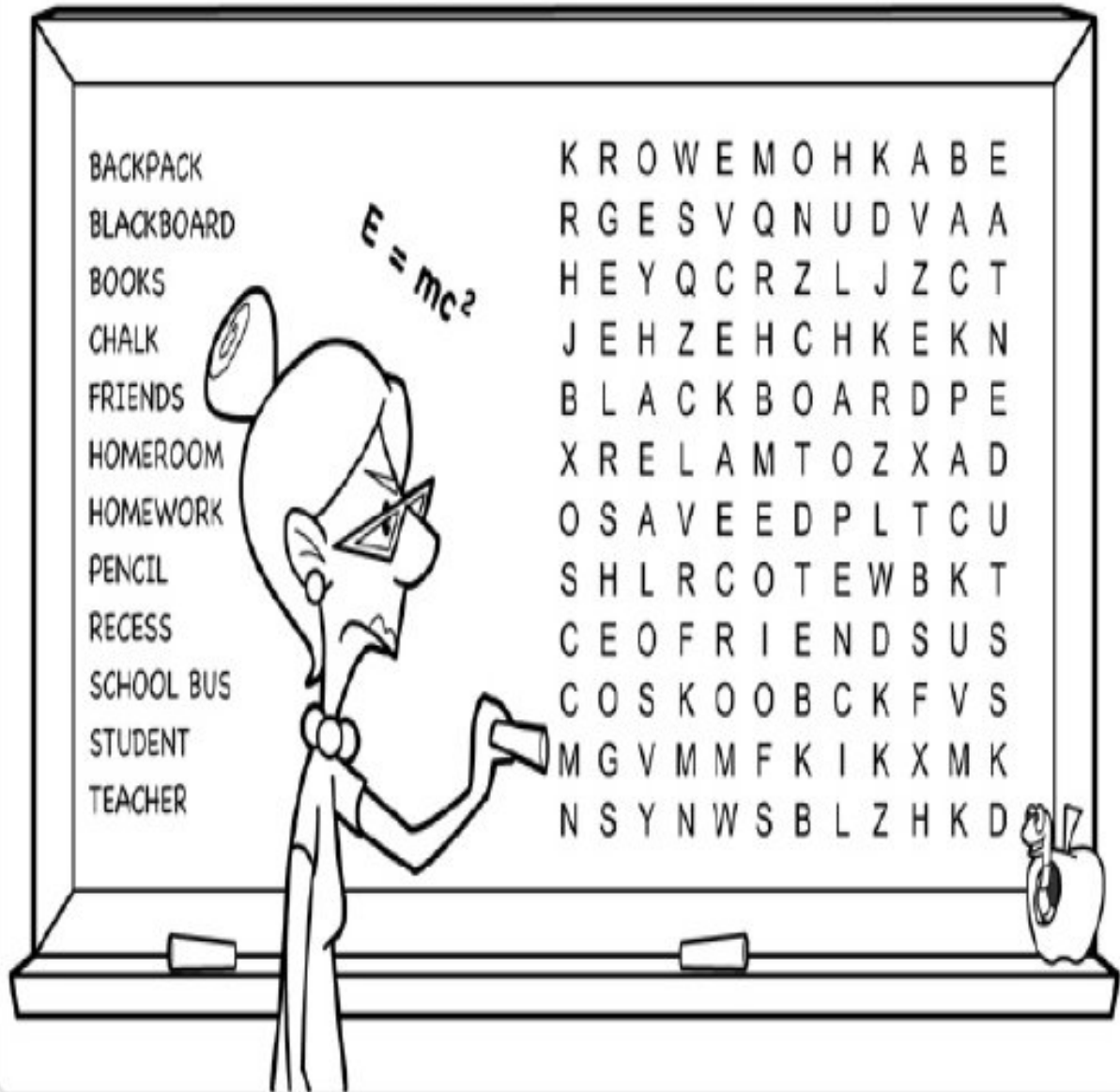
Boys' stronger preference for non-fiction revealed itself ...when provided with a list of genres from which to select. 28% of boys chose non-fiction as one of their top three genres, but only 13% of girls did so.

Sources:  
The Knowsley Reading Project Using Trained Helpers Effectively,  
Contemporary Juvenile Reading Habits,  
Kim Reynolds





# Back to School Word Search!



## Educating The Whole Child

Sacred Heart School  
95 West 168th Street/  
1248 Nelson Avenue  
Bronx, NY 10452

Phone: 718-293-4288  
Fax: 718-293-4886  
www.shhighbridge.org



## Mission Statement:

Sacred Heart School shares the commitment of all Catholic schools to “the development of the whole person.” Its primary mission is to make sure each child has learning experiences that instill positive attitudes and provide knowledge and skills necessary for their intellectual, emotional, spiritual and physical development. Sacred Heart is determined to create an academically challenging environment that encourages students be excellent, to be respectful of others, and to be responsible members of the community.

## Getting To Know Us:

Ms. Abigail Akano - Principal: aakano@shhighbridge.org  
Mrs. Patricia Maldonado - Assistant Principal: pmaldonado@shhighbridge.org  
Fr. Joseph Franco - Pastor/Administrator: jfranco@shhighbridge.org  
Ms. Jessica Chin - Director of Development: jchin@shhighbridge.org  
Ms. Carmen Valenzuela - Pre-K: cvalenzuela@shhighbridge.org  
Mrs. Maritza Minnucci - Kindergarten: mminnucci@shhighbridge.org  
Mrs. Iraida Fernandez - 1st grade: ifernandez@shhighbridge.org  
Ms. Gina Renaldo- 1st grade: grenaldo@shhighbridge.org  
Ms. Mariangie Chapparro - 2nd grade: mchapparro@shhighbridge.org  
Ms. Sabrina Rocchio - 2nd grade: srochio@shhighbridge.org  
Ms. Lucille Lawson - 3rd grade: llawson@shhighbridge.org  
Ms. Wdanuska Columna - 3rd grade: wcolumna@shhighbridge.org  
Ms. Jasmine Laracuenta - 4th grade: jlaracunete@shhighbridge.org  
Ms. Jill Murray - 4th grade: jmurray@shhighbridge.org  
Ms. Su-Elene Cuevas - 5th grade: scuevas@shhighbridge.org  
Mr. Christopher Lupinacci - 5th grade: clupinacci@shhighbridge.org  
Ms. Vanessa Bianco - 6th grade: vbianco@shhighbridge.org  
Mrs. Ruth DeJimenez - 6th grade: rdejimenze@shhighbridge.org  
Ms. Felicia Mercado-Piñeras - 7th grade: fmercado@shhighbridge.org  
Mrs. Constance Usera - 7th grade: cusera@shhighbridge.org  
Mr. Timothy O'Reilly - 8th grade: toreilly@shhighbridge.org  
Mr. Jose Rivera - 8th grade: jrivera@shhighbridge.org  
Ms. Priscilla De Los Santos - Phys. Ed.: pdellosantos@shhighbridge.org  
Mr. William Moakler - Art Education: wmaokler@shhighbridge.org

### SAVE THE DATE(S) - UPCOMING CALENDAR EVENTS:

9/26: TACHS Prep Begins  
9/27: Candy Sale #1  
10/4: Class Pictures  
10/7: Noon Dismissal  
10/11: ITBS Testing Begins

