

December 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians:

We are breaking with tradition this year – while registration for the next school year will begin in the spring as usual, because of Illinois' new tax credit scholarship program, we are required to request a pre-registration from our current families. Since families who wish to apply for tax credit scholarships will need to indicate their school choice when submitting a scholarship application (that process is expected to start in January), we are asking you to complete the **Intent to Return Form** included in this packet. We will use this form to confirm your school choice with the Scholarship Granting Organization that will administer the tax credit scholarships.

Therefore, I would like to share with you at this time next year's tuition schedule. Due to our continued sound management of school finances and with the generosity of our parents and friends, **our School Board has approved next year's tuition increase of only 3%**, bringing the 2018-19 one-child K-8 tuition rate to \$6,040. Additionally, **there will NOT be an increase in next year's fees and fundraising requirements**. This modest 3% increase was approved by the School Board at the November 2017 meeting. We remain sensitive to financial pressures we all face, and worked hard to keep this tuition increase as low as possible while still covering the mandatory increases in salaries, benefits, and other operational costs. St. Therese is also committed to remaining affordable for families representing a wide range of socio-economic and cultural backgrounds, which we believe is an essential part of our children's diverse educational experience.

All current families are asked to complete the Intent to Return Form and return it to the school by Wednesday, December 20. If you plan to apply for a tax credit scholarship, it is important that you return this form by the due date. We hope that all families interested in a tuition scholarship will be able to do so.

The full Tuition Schedule, including a breakdown of all tuition costs and fees for the 2018-19 year is included in this packet, and can also be found on the Admissions tab of our website at www.sttheresechicago.org. Fees such as the graduation fee, athletic fee, and 5th grade Chromebook fee are also noted on the Tuition Schedule.

Please keep in mind that we will conduct the formal re-registration process during our regular timeframe in the spring. At that time, you will be asked to complete the official registration form and other required paperwork, as well as submit your registration fee for the 2018-19 school year.

The St. Therese Chinese Catholic School community has much to continue to be proud of – high student achievement, school-wide accolades, and recognition locally and internationally as a model of excellence in elementary education. Thank you for your continued partnership in making St. Therese the best it can be.

Sincerely,

Ms. Phyllis Cavallone
Principal

PS – We know that this registration activity is much earlier than is typical and you may have questions. **We will be addressing this topic at the next School and Family Association meeting on Thursday, December 14th at 6:15pm.**