



Welcome, 2021! We've been waiting for you.

As we begin the new semester, we have some exciting new things taking place on campus. Well, we think they are exciting. Take that for what it is worth since we are educators and textbooks are exciting to us!

As of the writing of this letter, athletics will take place this semester. We do not have information on games or competitions yet, but we will begin practicing within the guidelines set forth by the NIAA and the State of Nevada. It is very important for you to understand these are the guidelines we must follow. Many of you participate in club sports or outside athletics; the regulations governing those events are much different (much more relaxed) than the regulations we are being asked to follow. As we become aware of gameplay, possible fan attendance, and the procedures we will use, we will update you. This is a HUGE win for our kids. It is also a major undertaking for us to be compliant. We ask you to be patient with us as we navigate this.

Fun. Fun is something we tried to have, but couldn't quite muster to our normal level first semester. Our kids need fun. We have organized a program through Theology classes for students to play - yes, play - in organized groups throughout the second semester. Every event has been carefully prepared with COVID regulations and will take place during the specific Theology periods. Our hope is to give students another avenue to get to know one another, a way for them to start TALKING again, and something to look forward to during the school day. The first play events will take place at the beginning of February!

Mental health. Our students' mental health and well-being is always our top priority. We endeavor daily to grow them spiritually and academically, to help the WHOLE person mature as they go through high school. This year we need more. We have to do better. Through the introduction of several of our parents, we have partnered with Dr. Steve Nicholas to host a program called Living Ideation. Our faculty and staff will go through the first training for this

program on January 8, 2021. Then, we will open the program to parents in our school (a virtual option first hopefully followed by physical options) to register free of charge to learn about how we can re-engage our teenagers in LIFE. We are very lucky at Bishop Manogue to KNOW - truly know - the majority of our students and to interact with them regularly. We (parents and educators as partners) still need to do more - they need us right now, more than they ever have. This program is one more step we can take and it is refreshing. It is not a negative, look at the dark, make-the-kid-do-something program. It is a program that begins with the adults - truly geared toward parents - and translates down to our kids. I highly recommend everyone to take advantage of this opportunity. More information and registration dates will be posted in the Weekly Wire.

Okay, 2021. We are ready. With all of the challenges our country is facing, we continue to believe the school and our school community can be a beacon of faith, hope, and love for our students. We will continue to pray for our country, our state, our community, and most of all our students and staff. Here's to a semester of new solutions, new opportunities, and continuing to support one another as we work through this pandemic. God Bless you all and cheers to a beautiful 2021.

With Love,

Bri