



## DIOCESE OF TRENTON

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*Department of Catholic Schools • Office of Curriculum & Instruction*

October 2024

Dear Parents & Guardians:

Each year, the elementary schools of the Diocese of Trenton administer the Renaissance Star Assessments during three assessment windows. The assessments are given in the fall, in the winter, and in the spring. The assessments from Renaissance, like many other standardized assessments, measure academic proficiency. In addition to proficiency, however, these assessments also track the academic growth of a student during the course of one school year as well as over the period of a student's career from grade two through grade eight.

It is most important then, that students be prepared to take these assessments. While students cannot "study" for these assessments as they might for a test in one of their classes, there are things that a student can do to prepare. The first thing to do in preparation for the assessment is to have a good night's sleep before taking the assessment. Next, a student should be sure to eat a good breakfast before coming to school. Finally, each student needs to understand that these assessments are important because they not only show us how a student is progressing, but they also indicate to our schools how they can improve and how they can best serve our students.

As we begin to administer these assessments, I would ask you to encourage your children to take them seriously and to do the best that they can. In the end, the data that we gather will benefit our students and it will improve the quality of education that our schools have to offer.

Our Lady, Seat of Wisdom, pray for our students!

With sincere regards,

Daniel T. O'Connell  
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction