

APRIL PARENT NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

Yesterday we received word from Bishop Pates confirming what Governor Pritzker said last Friday, namely that in-person instruction will be suspended through the remainder of this academic year. This time of pandemic has brought about a new creativity in the ways we instruct our students and we will continue to modify Remote Learning as we go forward as best as possible.

While there is still no firm timeline as to when Illinois will even enter Phase 1 of the required process to reopen our state, we will do our best to continue providing our children with an education that will have them well prepared for their new grade level come August 19.

In the meantime, we will use a combination of videos and the printed word to keep you informed.

CONFIRMATION AND FIRST COMMUNION

As with so many other important milestones, we cannot re-schedule either of these sacraments for our eighth or second graders until social distancing restrictions are lifted.

We know how important both sacraments are to our children and their families and will certainly give you as much as advance notice as possible once circumstances warrant our ability to set dates for both.

It is also possible that the re-scheduling may not happen before fall.

SECRETARY'S DAY

Tomorrow is Secretary Day or, to be politically correct, Administrative Professionals Day. Please join me in expressing gratitude for the excellent assistance both Mrs. Lesnik and Mrs. Evers offer me, our faculty and staff, parents, and, especially, our students.

If you have an opportunity, I'm sure they would love to hear from you:

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SERVICE PROJECT – WE ARE CALLED

Despite all the disappointment we're dealing with by having our lives and normal routines turned upside down, we only need to watch the news to realize that there are many people throughout our country and the world who are much worse off than we are.

As Catholics, WE ARE CALLED, to care for our sister and brother and that expectation is one of the tenets of Catholic education. As we see news stories of high schools or colleges performing different forms of outreach, we are looking for ways for our school to also make an impact on the local Naperville community.

One of the possibilities being considered by our faculty is making 'happiness cards' to spread cheer among seniors living in area nursing homes. Most of them cannot have visitors and may even lack the technology skills to face time with friends and family members.

A card, note, or letter telling them that there is someone thinking about them and praying for them might be the best medicine they can receive right now and bring a welcome smile to their face.

Details will be forthcoming from the teachers.

SPIRIT DAY

Spirit Days will be held on all remaining Friday's of the school year. Stay in your routine, write in your journal every day, catch up on any missed schoolwork, and show your love for Saints Peter and Paul School on the last day of each week by wearing some spirit wear.

ASK MR. GLOWATY

One of the ongoing challenges our teachers are dealing with is striving to maintain a proper balance with schoolwork. Oftentimes we feel like Goldilocks in the story of The Three Bears. Some parents tell us the assigned work is TOO MUCH, others say it is TOO LITTLE, and another group says it is JUST RIGHT.

Even with in-person teaching, school can often be stressful for teachers, students, and parents. Now everyone is forced to adapt to a new learning style without the benefit of all of the outside diversions and activities that we have grown accustomed to and miss terribly.

To answer any questions or concerns that parents may have about any aspect of the remaining five and a half weeks of school, I am going to be hosting grade level ZOOM meetings over the next week.

The first one will be with eighth grade families tomorrow and the second will be held this Friday at 1:00 pm with third grade parents. An email invite will be sent to the third grade families tomorrow.

YEAR END TASKS

There have been several inquiries as to what our procedures will be with regards to students having access to the buildings to empty out their lockers as well as turn in their textbooks and Chrome books.

As there are basically five full weeks of school remaining, this decision does not need to be reached at this point.

When we get to the mid-May, we will have a clearer picture on completing these tasks in a manner consistent with appropriate social distancing requirements.

SUMMER SCHOOL

Several families have suggested we hold a summer school to help bridge any gaps students might have with Remote Learning. While there is likely more social benefit to such an idea, it is difficult to foresee that any such exercise could be planned for June as today Governor Pritzker announced that Illinois would likely not see its peak of Covid-19 cases until mid-May.

This topic is also being discussed amongst the principals of the diocese and will also be shared with Mrs. Weis, our incoming principal, who assumes her duties on July 1.

ATTENTION FOURTH GRADE PARENTS

Do you have questions about SSPP Athletics? Starting in 5th grade, our students have the opportunity to compete against other schools in the Joliet Diocese in sports such as cross country, basketball, track, and volleyball.

Justin Busche, our Athletic Director, will be hosting a Zoom meeting on Wednesday, May 6 at 7 PM.

There will be a 5-10 minute presentation covering everything from physicals, to the number of teams we have per grade, to the selection of coaches, evaluation procedures, etc.

You will then have the opportunity to ask questions following the presentation.

2020-21 TUITION RATES

At their meeting next Tuesday, April 28, our School Board will set the tuition rates for the coming year. That information will be forwarded to you the following day in time for you to begin the enrollment process.

CLASS OF 2020

Perhaps no grade level in a K-8 school has been impacted more by the coronavirus than the eighth grade. With each passing day, the likelihood of offering long-awaited special activities like May Crowning, Ribbons and Pins, the Washington DC trip, the Recognition Assembly, and even Graduation itself, in the manner they are normally held, is diminishing.

Our faculty remains committed to trying to give the Class of 2020 as proper and as special a sendoff as conditions allow. Last Friday they delivered special yard signs to each grader to let them know they are not forgotten in this time of social isolation.

Tomorrow afternoon at 4:00 p.m., Mrs. O'Malley, Mr. Nunez, Mrs. Moylan, and myself will Zoom with eighth grade parents to hear their thoughts and ideas as to what type of a virtual sendoff we can provide for our eighth graders.

THURSDAY MASS

As we have repeatedly stressed the importance of following a normal school routine, we have focused so much on academics that we have omitted one of the important activities from our school schedule, our weekly Thursday Mass.

Beginning this week and for the remainder of the school year we will forward you at 10:00 a.m. the daily Mass being celebrated by our parish priests.



BE A PART OF OUR FAMILY

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