

October 11, 2020

Dear Saint Joseph Catholic School Community,

Items in this newsletter: Thoughts for the Week; Early Dismissal; MAP testing Results; Dress Down Day – Bullying Prevention; Spirit Night; and Parent Teacher Conferences.

Thoughts for the Week: Have you seen that joke about not being able to go to bed because “someone is wrong on the Internet”?

It sounds funny, but sometimes we spend far too much energy trying to convince others we are right. On the Internet, we call people who cannot let go of an argument “trolls.” But this behavior often happens in face-to-face communications too. Sometimes, even if we walk away, the unsettling bad vibrations from such an encounter can last for days—or longer.

When Jesus said, “Blessed are the peacemakers,” he meant more than preventing war. Peacemaking is avoiding needless conflict or domination of others in the name of power or pride. Jesus, by his own example, calls us to gentleness, submission, and empathy, not to one-upmanship. Next time try giving up your need to be right. Agree to disagree, shake hands, and walk away. ~ Joyce Joyce Donahue, MA, MPS, serves as the catechetical associate in the Diocese of Joliet's Religious Education Office.

Early Dismissal: Tomorrow, October 12th, is a 2:00 dismissal.

MAP Testing: MAP results will go home tomorrow, October 12th. Please let your child's teacher know if you have any questions.

Dress Down Day- Bullying Prevention: October is National Bullying Prevention month. Student Council is hosting a dress down day to build awareness about bullying and its effects on the community. All students are encouraged to wear blue tomorrow, Monday, October 12, 2020, to raise awareness about bullying prevention. We all play a role in stopping bullying in our school and community. This is a free dress down day. We hope to see all students in blue tomorrow.

Spirit Night: We will host our first Spirit Night of the year on Thursday, October 15! Please mark your calendars for our **all-day** fundraiser at Marco's Pizza on Rosewood Drive. While it will be different from our traditional Spirit Nights in the past, students in the homeroom with the highest sales will receive a FREE pizza party for their class! Please mention St. Joseph Catholic School and your homeroom teacher's name when placing your order. Also, be sure to save the dates for our future Spirit Nights at Marco's Pizza on November 19 and December 17. Thanks for supporting our fantastic school! Please see the attached flyer for all the details.

Parent Teacher Conferences: Friday, October 30th is Parent/Teacher Conference Day. There will be no school for students. All conferences will be virtual.

Pre-K -4th grade families - Parents are encouraged to attend a conference with their child's teacher. Teachers will reach out to some parents for whom a conference is required.

5th and 6th grade families - Conferences are optional for students who currently have all As and Bs. Conferences are required for any student who has a grade of C or lower. The student is required to be part of the conference.

Please use this link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C48AFAC23ABFC1-parent> to register for your 15-minute virtual conference. The schedule is set up on a 20-minute rotation – 15 minutes for the conference and 5 minutes for the teacher to prepare for the next conference. The link will close at 12 Noon on Wednesday, October 28th.

If you would like to meet with a teacher other than your child's homeroom teacher, please also use the link to schedule an appointment.

It is the little things we do that show how God is in us, with us, and working through us - "Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves"~ Philippians 2:3. Have a blessed week!

Sincerely,

Donavan F. Yarnall, Ed. S
Principal
dyarnall@stjosdevine.com