



April 25, 2019

Dear Families,

Happy Easter! I hope that you had a beautiful Easter Sunday. What a glorious day! It was a wonderful weekend of faith and fellowship. The parish Easter Egg was a hit and attended by many of our families. Thank you to the following students who helped hide eggs: Page Bradley, Abby Goddard, Samantha Moesch, Mia McCall, Nora Newell, Bella Starmach, Delaney Starmach, and Liz Weitz.

Our faculty attended the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) Conference in Chicago on Tuesday and Wednesday. The keynote speaker was Ann Garrido and she gave an inspirational speech on Embracing Grace in the 21st Century Church. The teachers and I went to a variety of professional development sessions over the two days which included topics such as Instant Recess ideas to promote movement breaks within the day; Interpreting, Analyzing, and Acting on Data from the ACRE test of Catholic Faith; Sessions on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) and integrating literature; Sparking Change in Student Engagement with Whole Class Gamification; Understanding and Teaching to the Adolescent Brain; From Good to Great: Five Strategies to Improve Classroom Teaching, and more related to teaching the subject areas, classroom management, and integrating technology. We look forward to meeting as a faculty and a professional learning community to discuss the ideas, what we learned, and how we plan to impact our programs and school with our knowledge.

Hopefully, you have the May Crowning and VIP/Grandparent Day on your calendar. Next Thursday, May 2, our All School Mass will be celebrated in conjunction with the crowning of our Blessed Mother. After Mass, refreshments will take place on the mezzanine followed by a *Where the Wild Things Are* music performance. All classes will be taking part in this special celebration.

Tomorrow we will join the Village of Winfield as they dedicate a new tree for Arbor Day at the Winfield Train Station. A few of our classes will be presenting in poem and song to commemorate the day and enhance the celebration. First and second grade will be sharing a poem. Student Council's Executive Board will also be reading a poem, and preschool and Kindergarten will be singing a song. As a reminder, tomorrow is a regular uniform day.

The panoramic pictures arrived and were sent home with students today. If you ordered one, please be on the lookout for it.

Please keep our second graders close in prayer as they make their First Eucharist on Saturday morning. What a joyous, special, and holy time for them as they are welcomed to the table of the Lord!

Have a wonderful and blessed weekend,

Joanne