

February 7, 2019

Dear Parents,

In celebration of our community and our students as a part of Catholic Schools Week, we had visits from two special organizations last week. The St. Francis High School Jazz and Rock Band played for us on Tuesday. Our gym was filled with music which inspired and rocked the house. Also that day, members from the police and the fire department came for lunch and joined two students from each class. They spoke about their responsibilities in keeping our community safe. Students also had the opportunity to ask questions. The quality of their questions and insights was impressive! We are so blessed to have the support of our community. They remind us of the importance of each person. Romans 12:4-5 says, "For as in one body, we have many members and the members do not all have the same function, so we though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another."

Congratulations to the following eighth grade students who will be moving on to the Regional Science Fair held in March: Annia Blasi, Benjamin Borner, Anthony Cabrera, Claudia Cortez, Gavin Hamilton, Bridget Jakabcsin, Zachary Maslona, Caroline Nogle, Nicholas Sachse, and Joey Spencer. Each of these students received a gold level ribbon at the All School Mass on Tuesday to recognize their outstanding work and effort on their science fair projects. I am so very proud of all our eighth grade students.

This week we have continued our celebration of Catholic Schools Week, due to the unusually cold weather last week, with a few activities. Our Talent Show sponsored by our Student Council was indeed a display of the many talented students in our school. Talents included: several vocal soloists, a magician act, ballet, tap, and jazz dancers, a gymnast, skaters, and an electric guitarist. The performances were certainly a joy for all to behold.

The Knights of Columbus Annual Spelling Bee contest for grades fourth – eighth grade was held today. The following students represented their class: Augustine Cin, Isabelle Humes, Giovanna DiGiovanni, Eliana Mains, Aidan Dailey, Nathan Moesch, Melanie Dawson, Natalie Doyle, Annia Blasi, and Ben Borner. Our school winners were Annia Blasi, Isabelle Humes, and Aidan Dailey. They will be moving on to the Regional Spelling Bee. Congratulations on a job well done! Thank you to our judges, Mrs. Garlic, Mrs. Rosin, and Mrs. Scala. Mrs. Seay opened the Spelling Bee and welcomed and introduced our guests. Bernie Madden served as the moderator; Jackie Madden was our pronouncer; and Alan Kalitzky was the recorder. We are thankful to all!

As you may know, February is National Children's Dental Health Month. Your child will be receiving a toothbrush and a travel size tube of toothpaste compliments of The Chicago Dental Society. One of our parents, Dr. Weitz, mother of Katherine, Henry, and Liz will be making a presentation to Preschool and Kindergarten about the importance of dental health later this month. Thank you!!

Thanks to the Invest in Kids Act, there are more opportunities for families to find the education that best fits their child's needs, regardless of cost. This law is only possible with the support of Illinois lawmakers. I encourage you join me in thanking our lawmakers for making private school scholarships a priority. Please see information in the posting about the Illinois state tax credit you can claim for making a gift to Catholic Education.

The Gala is almost here. The 80s themed event with a live band will be held on Saturday in our school gym. We would love for everyone to be there and join in on the fun! To register for the Gala, an event

not to be missed, as well as our biggest fundraiser of the year, please clicks on this link: 80's Gala Registration Page and purchase your tickets at the bottom of the page. The link should take you directly to the 80 Gala Registration and Sponsorship Page. See the posting for the ticket form. You may also send the completed form with payment to the office by Friday. On line bidding is available via the following link <https://sjbgala2019.ggo.bid/>

Fifth grade students from our school and the parish will be assisting with Mass on Saturday at 5:00 PM. Please join me if you can. Mr. and Mrs. Redar will be sitting on the left side of church near the front; fifth grade families are welcome to sit with them. The Gala begins at 7:00 PM in our gym, just enough time to change into your 80's garb. I hope to see you there!

Please be on the look-out for registration information. It was sent home today with your youngest child in grade k-8 or only child in preschool.

Wishing you a blessed week,

Joanne