

Mary, Queen of Peace

Saturday, February 3, 2018

Mary, Queen of Peace Families and Friends:

Blessings! This past Wednesday, we honored the feast day of Saint John Bosco. During his priestly ministry he tirelessly reached out to the young. He spent time connecting to them to bring them closer to Jesus Christ. At Mary, Queen of Peace, there are daily examples of teachers and staff living out Saint John Bosco's example. Members of the faculty spend time getting to know your children to bring them closer to Jesus Christ. To honor all our educators, Mrs. Betty Ciolek was named teacher of the year, and Mrs. Martha Kreans was inducted into the teacher hall of fame.

Please join the school community on Wednesday morning, at 9:15, for the celebration of the Eucharist. The sixth graders will serve as the ministers on February 7th.

It was uplifting to see how the community came together to celebrate Catholic School's Week. Home and School's support was very much appreciated. The 8th graders did an excellent job in presenting their essays and visitors were impressed with our school. On Wednesday, the teacher's enjoyed the lunch from Hanneke's and eighth graders were fun to watch as they took over the school. Linc enjoyed sharing the spotlight with two other canines: Chris Farley and Lulu. The eighth graders also stole the show defeating the teachers in Thursday's volleyball game. The teachers did show great unity by sporting matching t-shirts created by Mr. Adam Winewright. The family luncheon did capture the importance of our school's mission by recognizing the parents as the primary Catechists in their children's lives.

Our middle school and special teachers along with the Foundations Team showed unity by coming together last Tuesday evening to promote Mary, Queen of Peace. During last week's open house, visitors had a chance to see evidence of our

outstanding curriculum and learn about our hidden gems. The faculty looked great as they wore their matching blue sports shirts. We are grateful for Mrs. Beth Radefeld, who generously provided the shirts. Parents, students, and alumni were also present to share their love for our fine school. Colorful flyers are available in the school office if you would like to share information with family and friends.

Please remember that the Spring Conferences, originally schedule on Thursday, February 8th and Friday, February 9th have been changed to “schedule as needed”. A parent or teacher may request a conference at any time. Friday, February 9th will remain a half-day so the faculty can participate in professional learning. Some teachers will focus on safety and others will discuss inclusion. The main objective of any professional learning opportunity is to sustain growth, not to address any crises.

Morning drop is becoming a potential safety hazard. Remember to avoid dropping off your children in front of the school. There are too many vehicles moving in several directions simultaneously as children are getting out of cars. Follow the procedure of dropping off children on the back parking lot between 7:30 to 7:50. Your cooperation in appreciated.

Unfortunately, Black Frat and vaping will continue to be part of our conversation. Black Frat is a young man who portrays himself as a party planner as he targets our youth. For the exchange of inappropriate pictures, he promises to meet individuals at mixers, sporting events, malls or any agreed location. He is suspected of selling drugs, alcohol, and vaping paraphernalia to our youth. Because of its small size, the latter is very difficult to detect. Vaping paraphernalia resembles everyday ballpoint pens or USB memory sticks. Therefore, clean out your child’s room and belongings on a regular bases. The teachers have been instructed to conduct “spring cleaning” with their students often. Everyone should also spend time reading pages 96-97 of the handbook. The policy reads “Students violating” school policy “will be subject to suspension and/or withdraw for cause

from school". The handbook also states "with good reason, school officials may request that a student display the contents of pockets, purse, backpack, locker, desk or other possessions". Most importantly, remember to turn to prayer and scripture for guidance and strength. Matthew 6:34 reads "So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of own. Today's trouble is enough for today". At times well-intended adults become too sensitive and worry about offending a child's feelings. Rather than being prayerful and direct we may tend to soften our words to the point they become ineffective. We need to invest in our children's future by addressing matters today. You are great group of parents who have my full support.

In yesterdays' folder, you received a flyer for an up coming Trivia Night to support the One Classroom Foundation. Our own Mr. Will Ruzicka has coordinated this event. Save the date, March 24, to enjoy a fun-filled evening supporting our Inclusion program.

Please remember that students who are running a fever or experiencing vomiting need to stay home for twenty-four hours after being fever free. Being fever free means without the administration of Tylenol or Ibuprofen. Also, remember to call the school to report any absence. We appreciate your cooperation and diligence.

As you prepare for Valentine's Day and tackle your everyday needs, please consider purchasing SHOP Scrip Cards. We are grateful to our regular costumers and encourage everyone to stop by the school office to purchase SHOP Scrip cards. Annie Finke and Jo Wingbermuehle are always happy to assist those who purchase SHOP Scrip cards.

Your families are in my constant prayers and thoughts. Please continue to embrace Greg and Karen Ward. Soon they will return to home with their adopted son, Sam. Remember you are always welcome to join me on Wednesday mornings at 7:50 for a decade of the Rosary.

The faculty and I truly appreciate your support and trust.

Prayerful,

Michael Nieman Mary, Queen of Peace – Principal

“God of mercy, You called Saint John Bosco to be a father and teacher of the young. Grant that inspired by his ardent charity we may serve You alone and never tire of bringing others to Your Kingdom. Amen.”