



Sacred Heart Catholic School
Principal's Pen
10.25.2018

Value of the Month: RESPECT

With Fall in the air and Halloween just around the corner, LIFE here at Sacred Heart School is moving full steam ahead. MAP Testing has been completed and Progress Reports have gone home. We are more than halfway through the 1st Quarter as our 8th graders prep for their High School Entrance Exam, Nov. 3rd at Burke Catholic.

As you can imagine, we were all pretty shocked in September when it was announced that the replacement of the convent roof would begin almost immediately. Although plans had been underway for several months, we had no idea when the work would begin. Within just a few days of the start of school, work was begun. We had to relocate the Pre-K and Kindergarten classrooms on a moments notice. Fortunately, this has worked out quite well and believe it or not, replacement of the convent roof has been completed. Everyone worked hard to keep disruption to a minimum. I want to say a special thank you to our Pastor, Fr. Thomas Byrnes for securing the money needed to get the convent roof fixed as well as the Library ceiling. As a bonus the painters painted the Pre-K Classroom for us. It looks as good as new.

Today there are two things I need to address with all of our school parents... **Summer Paperwork and New Safe Environment Protocols.** During the summer everyone was asked to complete the summer paperwork and return the necessary forms. The most important form is the "I Have Read the Handbook" form indicating that you have read the handbook and agree to the terms for attendance at SHS. The other most important form is the **Income Survey** which I need in order to complete the BEDS Report. This confidential survey was to be completed by each family and returned by mid-September. By filling out this survey our school has the potential to receive State Funding for Title I, II and IV services to our school. Because of last year's overwhelming response SHS was eligible to receive thousands of dollars and will be provided programs, manipulatives, Chrome books and other valuable resources this year. This year we have only received 40 forms back. I am attaching a copy of the Income Survey for your completion and return. If you have not completed this form please take a few minutes to comply.

Now that we have a new Volunteer Lunch Program in place this year, we have to take a fresh look at the **Safe Environment Protocols.** If you plan to volunteer in any capacity (Lunch Monitor, Class Parent or even participate in your child's field trip) you will have to complete the Safer Spaces Certification process. This includes a Background Check with an online component. I am attaching a Background Check Form to this letter. Please complete this form and return it to my office, then within 5 days you must log onto the Archdiocesan website www.archny.org click on the Education tab on top and scroll down to Safe Environment. Click on Safe Environment and select the Online Safer Spaces training link. Upon completion of this process you will receive a certificate which must be kept on file in the office. It is good for several years.

Reminders:

Today our HSA is sending home your family “**Hershey’s Chocolate Shop Box**”. This pre-packaged box of candy is our only mandatory fundraiser and each family is asked to sell one box @ \$60 per box and return the money in the envelope provided. If you are an Office worker, Firefighter or Police Officer would you consider taking a box or 2 to the office and sell it there? We have the potential to raise over \$3000 for the school. **The deadline for sales is November 7th**. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Box Tops are collected all throughout the year. There is a fall Drive and a Spring Drive. **The Fall Drive ends October 31st**. Keep sending your Box Tops in.

IRIS Alert IF you have not returned your IRIS Alert Form you will not be getting an Iris Alert when it snows. I have updated many but not all.



Dates to Remember:

Monday, Oct. 29th Academic Conference Day **School Closed**
Thursday, Nov. 1st All Saints Day 9:00 Mass
Friday, Nov. 2nd First Friday 9:00 Mass Early Dismissal
Saturday, Nov. 3rd Catholic HS Entrance Exam @ Burke Catholic
Wednesday, Nov. 7th 2nd Grade Reconciliation at 7:00PM
Friday, Nov. 9th Grandparents Day 9:00 -11:00 am
Monday, Nov. 12th Veterans’ Day **School Closed**