



# Parent Newsletter

June 15, 2018

***Making the decision to have children is momentous. It is to decide to, forever, have your heart go walking outside your body.***

***...Elizabeth Stone***

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that the year has finally come to an end. I have enjoyed working with you and your children, as we struggled to reinvent ourselves and sustain the rich history of this school. We have had our challenges, victories, and defeats. Probably the most disappointing was the Bishop's decision that we become a TK-5 school next year. We will truly miss our middle-schoolers; they are so engaging as they mature from child to adolescent. Even when they try your patience, they can bring a smile to your face with their whimsical "logic".

Another aspect of this downsizing was that we had to say good-bye to some of our dear colleagues. Some have decided to take positions elsewhere, and we wish them the best of luck. And some have decided to retire. We will miss Mrs. Solomonson, but she will be busy with the many organizations she so enjoys. What can I say about Mrs. Cash? There are no words to express our gratitude for her ten years of service and devotion to this school. But, she, too, is going to be busy, helping her husband in his business. We pray that they, both, will be happy in their new pursuits.

When I think about these changes, I liken them to the remodeling of a wonderful old house. We love the character and the house's "old bones", but the kitchen and bathrooms *have* to be updated. We are keeping our old bones: the spirit of St. Joseph will be preserved. But the instructional program, and some of the faces will change, just as they have done over the past 119 years.

Among our victories was our inclusion in the Archdiocesan Dual Language Immersion Network for next year. The new staff has been hired, and they will begin their intensive training at the end of this month. We are fortunate to have six other schools with which to work and from which to learn. We are really excited, and a little anxious, about this rigorous undertaking. Pray for us as we begin our work together later this month for the upcoming year.

Finally, I hope you know what a pleasure it has been for me to be the principal of this school. I have gotten to know your children, and they are very special. They are youthful and curious; their enthusiasm for life, is unbounded. They are bright, engaging, and their friendship is genuine and sincere. They are very precious, and you should be very proud of them.

Enjoy a restful, restorative summer. Be happy. Be prayerful. Be well. I will see you on August 22nd. God bless all of you!

*Diane Gehner, Principal*