

# The Sentinel Express ~ April 29, 2020

## *Principal's Message*

This week I am pleased to provide another important update regarding our eLearning program and our plans for bringing the 2019-2020 academic year to a successful conclusion.

As previously announced, the final day of school will be Friday, June 12.

Although many of the events designed to celebrate the success of our students and another year of learning will take place in new and different ways, we will mirror to the extent possible our traditional end of year calendar.

Recognizing that our students, parents, faculty, and staff continue to work exceedingly hard during the transition to eLearning and that our focus remains on “essential” skills and concepts, May 29 will be a day on which we will pivot as a community in order to tend to the spiritual, social and emotional well-being of our students. Although there will be no new academic instruction after May 29, the faculty and staff will be hosting a series of events and activities designed to further support the growth of our students as we bring the year to a close.

During the final week of school, we will have three Professional Development Days during which the faculty will complete report cards for the third trimester and other classroom paperwork associated with the end of the year. (You may recall that the diocese has approved the use of up to five professional development days to be scheduled as needed to provide our community an opportunity to pause during eLearning and to allow the teachers to be able to focus on sustaining their efforts. As we have not yet used any of these days, we will include three of them during our final week.)

The schedule for the last two weeks of school follows below.

*Friday, May 29*

- Eagle Day

- Final Day for Pre-Kindergarten
- Last Day of Academic Assessment/Testing
- Last Day for Submission of Academic Work

*Monday, June 1*

- Spiritual/Social/Emotional Learning Day

*Tuesday, June 2*

- Spiritual/Social/Emotional Learning Day

*Wednesday, June 3*

- Spiritual/Social/Emotional Learning Day

*Thursday, June 4*

- Spiritual/Social/Emotional Learning Day

*Friday, June 5*

- Eagle Day
- Final Day for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

*Monday, June 8*

- Professional Development Day

*Tuesday, June 9*

- Professional Development Day

*Wednesday, June 10*

- Professional Development Day

*Thursday, June 11*

- Eagle Day
- Final Day for Kindergarten

*Friday, June 12*

- Final Day for Grades 1-7

***What will happen with 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation? How will we celebrate the success of our graduates?***

Friday, June 5 will be the final day for our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and a time at which we will acknowledge their successful completion of our program. Discussions continue to take place as to the question of whether we will be able to host an in-person graduation event during the summer. We are very hopeful that this will be the case for our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who have worked so hard and have been looking forward to the traditions that surround graduation day. Nevertheless, it is important that we continue to adhere to the direction provided by the State of Virginia and the guidance of the Diocese of Arlington in this regard.

For planning purposes, it is our intention to make a decision around the middle of May as to whether to move forward with potential plans for an in-person event or to design completely virtual celebrations for our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. In either case, it is important that we recognize and honor our graduates and, as such, we are already looking at creative ways of continuing some of our wonderful traditions in a virtual environment. I look forward to sharing updates about our plans for graduation festivities in the weeks ahead and as additional details become available.

***Will the teachers be sending interim reports for the third trimester?***

In consideration of the frequent communication between faculty and parents, the school will not be distributing interim reports for the third trimester. Parents are encouraged to continue to monitor their son/daughter's progress through the feedback provided by the teachers and via PowerSchool. The faculty will continue to reach out to parents if they have a concern regarding an individual student's path of learning or level of work completion.

***And what about those Stewardship Shares? Can we count time spent supporting our children in the learning process?***

In recognition of the tremendous commitment of each family in support of eLearning, I am pleased to announce that the requirement of Stewardship Shares for the 2019-2020 academic year has been lifted. There is no need to provide any updates regarding the shares that you have earned this past year. Rather, know of our gratitude for all that

you continue to do in partnership with us to maintain continuity of learning and in support of the mission of All Saints!

***With God all things are Possible!***

***Faculty/Staff Changes for 2020-2021***

*After many years of dedicated service, the following faculty & staff will be retiring in June.*

Mrs. Joyce D'Eugenio (Administrative Assistant) – Mrs. D'Eugenio has worked in the office as administrative assistant for the past three decades. During that time, she has served as our registrar, coordinated tuition assistance applications for families in our community, managed databases and completed countless forms and reports. We thank her for her tremendous dedication and for all that she has done for our school and the families we serve.

(Note: Recognizing the challenging circumstances related to the closure and complexity of our eLearning environment, Mrs. D'Eugenio has graciously offered to continue in her role until such time as a replacement can be identified, hired and trained.)

Mrs. Kathy Izquierdo (Kindergarten Teacher) – For the past 11 years, Mrs. Izquierdo has taught kindergarten and created a sense of community for the “top dogs” in her classroom. With a great love of Catholicism, she helped to provide our young students with a strong foundation, not only in math and literacy, but most importantly in their faith.

*Here are five additional changes taking place among our faculty/staff at the close of the year.*

Mrs. Delaney Caimano (2<sup>nd</sup> Grade) – Mrs. Caimano is pleased to announce that she is expecting the birth of her third child in July. For this reason and in order to care for her new baby, she has decided not to return for the 2020-2021 school year. Although a member of our faculty for only one year, Mrs. Caimano transitioned quickly into our program after her years teaching at St. Mary in Alexandria. We congratulate both her and her husband on the blessing of their new child!

Mrs. Jacqueline Cottingham (Middle School Science) – After having taught in our middle school program for the past five years, Mrs. Cottingham will be relocating to Texas with her family during the summer. We thank her for all that she did in support of our science program, highlighted by the success of our students through the years at the Arlington Diocese Science Fair.

Mrs. Eileen Heiny (1<sup>st</sup> Grade Assistant) – For the past two years, Mrs. Heiny has worked as an assistant in first grade, providing wonderful support for students in Mrs. Nichols' classroom. Additionally, she has been an important part of the team that supervises students in the cafeteria and which, over the course of this past year, successfully introduced the PBIS model. Mrs. Heiny will be entering nursing school in the fall and looks forward to beginning a new career in the medical field.

Mrs. Irma Henman (Extended Day Assistant) – Mrs. Henman joined our staff this past year as a member of our Extended Day team. We thank her for her commitment and for all that she did to provide care and supervision for our students in the program.

Mrs. Terri Nichols (1<sup>st</sup> Grade) – During her 7 years teaching at All Saints, Mrs. Nichols has been instrumental in introducing our faculty to the Lucy Calkins reading program. Fascinated by the process of teaching students to read, Mrs. Nichols has been an enthusiastic supporter of the reader's workshop model which has helped to transform the learning process in our school through higher levels of engagement for our students.

*We are grateful for the dedication of each of these individuals and for the generosity with which they have shared their gifts over the course of many years. We wish each of them many blessings in their future endeavors!*

### ***FACTS Tuition Assistance Update***

In an effort to secure as much financial support as possible for our community, this week we are submitting applications on behalf of our school families for funding through the *Diocese of Arlington Scholarship Foundation* and the *St. Beatrice Special Tuition Assistance Program* (Note: Applications for these two distinct programs have been completed by school personnel and require no additional paperwork on the part of

individual families.)

Diocesan allocations related to all of these sources of tuition assistance will be confirmed in the weeks ahead. Once these recommendations are received, final decisions regarding tuition assistance for our families will be determined.

Notification of tuition assistance funding for those who have applied will take place in May. The FACTS re-enrollment process for 2020-2021 and selection of online tuition payment plans will also occur during May with June 10 being the deadline for payment in full with a 2% discount.

Should you have any questions about this process or if we can be of assistance in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

### ***Special Message from the PTO – Teacher Appreciation***

National Teacher Appreciation Week starts on May 4. This year Teacher Appreciation Week will not happen at school, but that doesn't mean we can't celebrate. This is the time to show our teachers just how much we appreciate all of their hard work and efforts in completely revising their curriculum and techniques overnight in order to keep students engaged through eLearning.

We invite students to send thank you cards on Monday (May 4) and spiritual bouquets on Wednesday (May 6). Suggestions can be found at the following link:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1lzIIV1aQ6rPikOm1i9huYyB5WRRtE7J2>

If you have any questions, please reach out to your room liaisons.

### **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

#### ***Yearbook Orders – Last Chance!***

The final deadline for ordering a copy of the 2019-2020 Yearbook is Friday, May 1.

For more information about the ordering process, please see the following link.

## [All Saints Catholic School 2019-2020 Yearbook Flyer](#)

### ***What are You Missing about All Saints?***

Don't forget we want to hear from YOU! "What are you missing about All Saints?"

We have received some great submissions and can't wait to share them with everyone. We have extended the deadline to give you more time. Remember to send us drawings, photos (no video, please), writings, even just a sentence or two telling us what you miss the most! We can't wait to hear from you!

New Deadline: Thursday, May 7th

Send to: [development@allsaintsva.org](mailto:development@allsaintsva.org)

### ***Race for Education Virtual Run (May 8)***

Students and families are invited to participate in the Race by running laps in their yards and/or neighborhoods – social distancing included! Parents are encouraged to log their child's distance over a one -hour time period and to submit their time to [raceforeducation@allsaintsva.org](mailto:raceforeducation@allsaintsva.org). We look forward to awarding virtual medals to the grade level winners who run the furthest distance!

Parents are also invited to forward photos to [development@allsaintsva.org](mailto:development@allsaintsva.org) so that we can share them with our community. Remember to show your school pride by wearing Spirit Wear on the day of the Race!

Parents, friends and families are encouraged to continue to send in their mailers in support of the event. Donations may be submitted through the mail or at the following link:

<https://allsaintsvaschool.org/parent-resources/pto/race-for-education/>

Thank you for continuing to support our community!

### ***A Look Ahead to Next Week***

Is there an update about school supplies for next year?

What are some of the activities that the faculty and staff are planning for the closing weeks of school?

Look for these details and more in next week's edition of *The Sentinel Express*!

**High School Link:**

[JP the Great - Keeping Up With the e-Wolves Flyer](#)