

The Sentinel ~ October 21, 2020

Principal's Message

This week I wish to provide a couple of important updates regarding our math program.

On Monday of this week in-person learners who are enrolled in the **Advanced Math Program** began attending class in Room #3 of the original wing of the school from which Miss Tohill has been offering virtual instruction rather than in the same room with the Regular Math class. With an in-person class size of no greater than six students per session, we are confident that we will be able to adhere to the strategies we have established to ensure the health and safety of our students. For example, there will be no mixing of student groups and social distancing protocols will remain in place. Additionally, Miss Tohill will sanitize student desks and chairs between each of the Advanced Math classes. I am grateful to Mrs. Bill and Miss Tohill for their continued efforts and for their commitment to providing high quality instruction for their students.

Secondly, I am pleased to announce that we are now piloting **Freckle**, an online math program, in the middle school. Freckle is hosted by Renaissance Learning, the same company that sponsors Accelerated Reader. The software is designed to provide differentiation of learning and there is flexibility as to how teachers can implement it in the classroom, i.e. adaptive practice based on individual student performance on a pre-test or targeted practice for the entire class as assigned by the teacher. Additionally, the "Facts Practice" feature provides quick reinforcement of basic math facts, an area that we continue to target with our students. The program is research-based in design and there is compelling data that shows significant learning gains for students who have used the software. We look forward to reviewing the results of the middle school pilot and will provide updates in the near future regarding the possible adoption of this program in the elementary grade levels.

Looking ahead to next week, I want to confirm that each of the homeroom teachers, in partnership with the Room Liaisons, is planning a special classroom activity on the afternoon of Thursday, October 29. Although we are unable to host the traditional **Penny Bazaar** that day, the teachers will be setting aside time for the students to enjoy a special movie or activity and treat.

With our Feast Day occurring on Sunday, November 1, we will celebrate **All Saints Day** in the classrooms on Monday, November 2. We look forward to the many wonderful ways that students will share what they have learned about the lives of the saints!

All Things Work for Good for Those Who Love God!

Assistant Principal's Message – Guidelines for Virtual Learning

We are always growing and evolving to help create the most effective and positive learning space for our students, both virtually and in person. While most students have embraced the new technology and the protocols that come with it, there have been occasional behavioral challenges. If a student is not following directions in the virtual format, during at home learning, their teacher will re-direct and remind them of the appropriate behavior and give them a chance to change their behavior and make a more appropriate choice. If a student does not correct their behavior after redirection and warnings, the teacher has the option of placing that student in the waiting room and then letting them back in after two minutes with the expectation that the behavior will change. Examples of behaviors include:

1. Student display names are changed and do not include their first and last name (with the exception of when a teacher has directed students to change their name, i.e. Spanish class).

2. Students are not back from break on time.
3. Students are not focused and/or paying attention and are not responsive to redirection to participate in class.
4. Students are consistently out of their seats.
5. Students do not have their camera in the on position, even after requesting multiple times.

The protocol will be:

1. Warning and redirection issued (1 to 2), depending on the situation and age of student.
2. Student notified by teacher that they will be put into the waiting room and are to wait to be readmitted
3. Students will come back into the Zoom call ready to learn and change any inappropriate behaviors.
4. The teacher will privately talk to the student and follow-up with the parent if needed.
5. Meeting with the parent, teacher and administration if the behavior continues.

Please do not hesitate to let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you and God bless.

Mrs. Stephanie Horgan
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School Nurse's Message

As your School Nurse here at All Saints, I want to say "Thank You" for all your help in making the first 8 weeks of school a success! Your children have been amazing in acclimating to the new procedures this school year. There may be many new changes but All Saints has remained centered in Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit; as the students, teachers and parents committed to a new style of learning for 2020-2021. The dedication to keeping safety a priority has really paid off. Now, as a new coronavirus surge is upon the U.S., we need to continue our diligence in risk mitigation to protect ourselves and each other. The holidays are not far off and we would like to remind our community to stay safe while traveling and visiting other areas in the US. Remember to continue handwashing, keeping distance and wearing a mask inside closed areas (planes, trains, etc.).

I recently attended a Webinar hosted by a panel of Yale University researchers who conducted the first-ever large-scale assessment of COVID-19 Transmission in child care, the results of which have been published through the American Academy of Pediatrics. There were over 57,000 child care providers in all 50 states who participated. Overall, the Yale Researchers found no evidence of child care being a significant contributor to COVID-19 transmission to adults and a lack of association between school closures and transmission rates. The exposure to child care during the early months of the U.S. pandemic was not associated with elevated risk for COVID-19 transmission to providers. These findings are attributable to the considerable infection mitigation efforts implemented in the child care programs.

The novel coronavirus was not avoided entirely, i.e. "in counties with higher rates of coronavirus deaths — the study's marker of community spread — child care workers were more likely to contract the virus." This is another factor related to social circumstances that surrounds the decision-making process for the reopening of schools in the U.S. This past week, there were 70,000 new coronavirus cases, the most in a single day since July. Meanwhile, there is certainly a level of "pandemic fatigue" challenging us all to ignore the signs of another dangerous rise in transmission within our communities. I pray that being people of Faith, we ask God for the strength we need during these challenging times to continue to care for each other. I am extremely thankful for your support and communication concerning our school and your students. Please continue to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Mrs. Patrice Snowden RN
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Parent Survey – Closing Tomorrow at 9:00 p.m.!

Thank you to the many parents who have already completed the October Parent Survey. As a reminder, the survey will remain open 9:00 p.m. tomorrow.

The survey provides an opportunity for you to share feedback regarding your child's learning experience. Whether your child is participating in our In-Person, Blended or Virtual Learning Program, we want to hear from you. Please take a moment to share your thoughts!

[Parent Survey - October 2020](#)

Virtual Open House (November 5 @ 7:00 p.m.)

All Saints will host a Virtual Open House for prospective parents via Zoom on Thursday, November 5 beginning at 7:00 p.m. All parishioners and members of the community interested in learning more about our school are cordially invited to attend. Please share our story with friends, neighbors and colleagues and encourage them to join us for this online event. For more information, please contact Mrs. Nancy Weaver, Administrative Assistant, at (703) 393-1490.

Diocesan Prospective Teacher Information Meeting (November 18 @ 1:00 p.m.)

Are you interested in teaching for the Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Arlington? There are 44 schools within the Diocese offering instructional programs for all ages from pre-school through high school. Perhaps your certification has expired, or perhaps you are thinking of changing careers or returning to teaching after a period of absence. Do you have questions about qualifications to teach? Would you like to learn more about the mission of teaching in a Catholic School in a nurturing and caring, Christ-centered environment? Plan to attend the Information Program for Prospective Teachers on Wednesday, November 18 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. in Father Kelley Hall.

St. John Paul the Great Virtual Open House, live from October 25 - November 7

Get to know Saint John Paul the Great Catholic High School! JP's annual Fall Open House has gone virtual and will be jam-packed with great information for all families with elementary and middle school children! John Paul's Virtual Open House will be live from October 25 - November 7. Reserve your spot online at jpthegreat.org today!

Virtual JP5K & Fun Run, November 21 - 29

Come RUN with JP – Virtually! Register now and support the Special Services Programs at Saint John Paul the Great Catholic High School. Join an existing team, create a new team, become a fundraiser, or make a donation. Participants receive a JP5K 2020 t-shirt and electronic race bib. It's VIRTUAL! A virtual run/walk can be completed anytime and anywhere beginning Saturday, November 21st through Sunday, November 29th 2020. Then submit your time to the JP5K website. (Submit pictures too and challenge others to sign-up!) [Sign-up for JP5K and Fun Run](#)

Bioethics Seminar at St. John Paul the Great

Join Sister Terese Auer, O.P., author of Saint John Paul the Great Catholic High School's Bioethics Curriculum, for a six-week study of the foundational course: "The Human Person: A Philosophical Perspective." Attend all or some sessions, in-person or online, each held on Tuesday evenings from 7 - 8:30pm. [Bioethics Seminar RSVP](#)

Upcoming Events

Thursday, October 22

- School Mass (White Cohort/1B – 9:30 a.m.)
- Picture Day
- Deadline: October Parent Survey (9:00 p.m.)

Friday, October 23

- Used Uniform Pick-Up Day

Wednesday, October 28

- School Mass (Blue Cohort/1A/2A - 9:30 a.m.)

Thursday, October 29

- Dress Down Day (Autumn Colors)
- Penny Bazaar – Classroom Activity

Friday, October 30

- Holiday (Diocesan Professional Development Day)

Monday, November 2

- Change to Winter Uniforms
- All Saints Feast Day Celebration

Tuesday, November 3

- PTO Executive Committee Meeting (Zoom/7:00 p.m.)

Thursday, November 5

- School Mass (White Cohort/K2/1B/ - 9:30 a.m.)
- Virtual Open House (Zoom/7:00 p.m.)

Tuesday, November 10

- Coffee with the Principal (Zoom/9:00 a.m.)

Wednesday, November 11

- School Mass (Blue Cohort/K1/1A/2A - 9:30 a.m.)

Thursday, November 12

- Parent-Teacher Conferences (Zoom)
- Noon Dismissal

Friday, November 13

- Parent-Teacher Conferences (Zoom)

Sunday, November 15

- Discover Catholic Schools Week

Wednesday, November 18

- Diocesan Prospective Teachers Meeting (FKH/1:00-3:00 p.m.)

Thursday, November 19

- School Mass (White Cohort/K2/1B - 9:30 a.m.)
- Enrollment Management Team Meeting (Zoom/7:00 p.m.)

Monday, November 23

- School Mass (Blue Cohort/K1/1A/2A - 9:30 a.m.)

Tuesday, November 24

- End of Trimester I
- Noon Dismissal

Wednesday, November 25

- Holiday – Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 26

- Holiday – Thanksgiving

Friday, November 27

- Holiday - Thanksgiving