



OUR LADY OF SORROWS
PRE K-8 CATHOLIC SCHOOL

"Our Lady of Sorrows Elementary School provides an atmosphere rooted in the Catholic faith, dedicated to individual academic excellence while preparing life-long learners and responsible Christian adults."

May 1, 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome to May! With the start of a new month I am definitely looking forward to better weather and getting outside more, and I am sure you are as well. As May begins, we continue to teach and learn through Remote Learning until at least Friday, May 15th, 2020. Governor Murphy has indicated he will have a decision by Monday, May 4th regarding the continuation of Remote Learning or of a return to our traditional school environment. I will make sure this information is communicated to you as soon as the Governor's decision has been reached and the Diocese of Trenton has indicated the plan for the remainder of the school year.

I have included two attachments with this communication, both from our Superintendent, Mrs. JoAnn Tier. The first letter provides information regarding the upcoming reaccreditation our school (and every school in the Diocese of Trenton) will undertake beginning in the fall. Your input during this process is integral to the growth and development of our school, and I look forward to working together during the year-long process. The second letter pertains to grading practices during this third trimester. After much discussion and input from faculty and principals, it has been decided we will continue to use the grading system we already have in place. The work the students have been assigned and are completing is valuable, varied, and continues to assess their knowledge and understanding of the material. Their work is worthy of our grading standards, and with the ability for the teachers to communicate daily with the students, it should be given the weight it deserves.

Today I think about our 2nd graders who should be making their First Holy Communion tomorrow. My prayers are with them, and I look forward to sharing that special day with them as soon as we are able to set the new date. Unfortunately, our school calendar has been cleared through most of May, postponing or cancelling so many events and activities due to Covid-19. I look forward to when we can begin enjoying life outside of our homes and be together again. I want to thank everyone who took the time to plan and coordinate these events, your work has not gone unnoticed. There will be a time to reschedule and plan, we just have to be patient and know this pandemic will come to an end.

I would like to close this communication with wonderful news – a new PTA Executive Board has been chosen! Every two years the Executive Board changes, and I am pleased to announce the names of those who have accepted the nominations for the following positions:

PTA Executive Board 2020-2022

President: Nydia Santiago

Co Vice-Presidents: Jessica DaBronzo and Annmarie Siville

Treasurer: Tricia Kerins

Recording Secretary: Nicole Scharibone

Corresponding Secretary: Samantha Mull

Legislative: Jennifer Rhodes

Please join me in congratulating these women as they undertake the extremely important task of leading our PTA. Their leadership term begins July 1, 2020, and I look forward to working together as we continue the work of making Our Lady of Sorrows a great place to be a kid, as well as a parent. I also take this opportunity to thank the outgoing Executive Board for their dedication, time, and countless contributions, and we will celebrate your accomplishments as soon as we are able to reconvene.

I pray you and your family are safe and healthy. Thank you for your continued support and input throughout this Remote Learning environment. I appreciate the feedback I have received from parents regarding every facet of this process. We have learned so much since March, and I believe that teaching and learning will have changed for the better because of this experience. As always, reach out to me at mtuohy@olsschool.us if you have anything you would like to share. Enjoy the weekend!

Be well and stay safe,

Mrs. Maureen Tuohy