



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."

January 29, 2021

Dear OLS Families,

January is definitely leaving us in the cold! We are looking forward to February, which begins with the national celebration of Catholic Schools Week, a time to celebrate the contributions and academic achievements made by our Catholic Schools. There are almost 5,000 elementary Catholic schools in our country, and the statistics show we are highly successful in our mission to educate children mind, body and soul. Our high school graduation rates are higher than our public school counterparts, and we also save the nation almost \$22 billion dollars annually since the average cost to educate a child in public school is approximately \$12,756.00 a year. We are proud of our academics, our values and commitment to service to others. Thank you for choosing our Catholic school!

The celebration of Catholic Schools Week begins on Monday 2/1/21 with a \$1.00 Dress Down Day fundraiser for the Mount Carmel Guild, and ends with a Trivia Game hosted by our Superintendent, Dr. Vincent DePaul Schmidt. Please see the attached schedule of events, which doesn't include some of the little activities the teachers will include during the week. And please don't forget about our Virtual Book Fair - the link can be found on the school website. Even with the restrictions placed on us by the pandemic, we will make it a celebratory week for the students.

Many parents use "My School Bucks" to manage the online payments for the lunch program. This week we found that our system had not been updated since November, and many people (including me!) did not have the correct balance reflected in their account. The issue has been resolved, so the balances you now see are

accurate. Thank you to those who noticed the problem and advised us, we appreciate your attention to detail!

Grades 2 through 8 completed the STAR Assessments this week. The kids were terrific, and I want to send a thank you to our “Remote Parents” for your help with getting these completed from home. The parent report reflecting the fall and winter results will be sent out in the next few weeks. I will let you know when to expect them.

We have been very fortunate with “regular” illnesses this year. Maybe it is the masks or the social distancing, but we have not seen as many colds, strep throat or ear infections as in previous years. As we begin this wintery stretch, please continue to monitor your child for COVID like symptoms, and if they do have a cold or stuffy nose, please use remote learning. Children with COVID do tend to have milder cold-like symptoms, and I prefer to err on the side of caution. Mrs. Foley is always available to speak with you if you have any questions about whether to send your child in or keep them home. Keeping everyone healthy is our main priority, and I am grateful to you for your cooperation with this.

I hope you have been following the PTA’s events calendar – they have been busy! Tonight is the “Classic Sub Shop Dine Out” so stop by and grab some subs for an easy dinner. We still have a few Super Bowl Pool boxes left if you are interested in taking a chance to win some big money! Check the school website www.olsschool.us for more details. Thank you to everyone who has helped organize these events, and to everyone who has participated in making them successful. I am truly grateful to you!

Remember to send in your 2021-2022 registration packet for next year as soon as you can – thank you to everyone who has already returned their forms. The Financial Aid application is available on FACTS until February 15th, so make sure you apply before the deadline.

I hope you enjoy the weekend, you stay warm, and you are safe.

Be well,

Mrs. Maureen Tuohy, Principal