



ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

450 FRANKLIN AVENUE • GARDEN CITY, NY 11530 • (516) 747-2730

Teaching Minds. Guiding Hearts.

April 16th, 2021

Good Afternoon All!

As I mentioned in previous communications, we've made some changes to our normal *Week in Review* newsletter. Since the 2018-19 school year, we've been providing the WIR newsletter to you to highlight weekly events both specific to our classrooms and in general at the school level. This has also been in our bulletin so our parish could be informed as well. Though it was very well received, I found that the process of creating the WIR - collecting photos, asking for explanations from teachers, and formatting the newsletter - was becoming unsustainable based on the amount of time it takes away from other priorities during the school day. Therefore, we will begin a new Friday communication process starting today.

First, you will still receive a communication (like this one) highlighting some major events and also taking a look ahead at what's to come. Second, you will receive a "Month in Review" newsletter with the exact same format that you're used to from the WIR. We'll be focusing on the "best of the best" that our teachers share with us throughout the month. We know many of you looked forward to the WIR, as I did, but we feel that this is the best decision moving forward.

This past week was a great transition back into the routine. Our students and teachers were successful in starting the last portion of our school year with positivity. Our enrollment, both through "word-of-mouth" advertising and the unfortunate closing of local DRVC schools, continues to climb daily for next school year. We're excited to begin a new chapter of growth in the long history of St. Joseph School, and we look forward to being a beacon of Catholic virtues and academic excellence in Garden City for many more years to come.

We're continuing our virtual Parent Coffee meetings, and this week's 4th and 5th grade parents shared a lot of great insight and feedback. As always, we thrive on this kind of communication, and we appreciate having parents participate in creating a vision for our future. An invite just recently went out to Middle School parents for our final Parent Coffee of the year, which will take place on April 29th.

Next week, the 4th and 6th grades will be taking the ELA NYS exams through the computer. There is nothing that the students can do to prepare more than they already have. After such a difficult year during which we were all asked to do so much, our only expectation is that our students try their very best. We expect our students to do well, particularly because the vast majority of them have been learning in person since September. Our Math computer-based exams will take place in May.

Another thing to look forward to is our virtual Scholastic Book Fair! It will run from Monday, April 26th to Friday, May 7th.

We're looking forward to a strong end to the year. We're already finalizing many school-wide events for parents (ex: Spring Soiree, Golf/Tennis Outing), student events (ex: 7th and 8th grade dance, Field Day, class picnics, in-person Early Childhood and 8th grade graduation ceremonies) and family events (ex: Mother or Special Person/Son and Father or Special Person/Daughter dances). We are confident that these events will be safe and successful, and pray for greater normalcy as we approach the start of the 2021-2022 school year in September.

That's all for now, please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Thanks, and enjoy the weekend!

Mr. Colombari
Principal, St. Joseph School

