



ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

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

Teaching Minds. Guiding Hearts.

5/14/2021

Dear St. Joseph School and Parish Community,

It's really starting to feel like summer is just around the corner! We've been blessed with beautiful weather and it looks like more to come. We're also looking forward to a variety of events that are still to come here at the school.

This past week, we were able to enjoy two student-led presentations. First, our Middle School Drama Club presented *The Lion King* to a small live audience of Kindergarteners and 5th grade students, as well as siblings of students in the production. They had the opportunity for another live performance on Friday, this time for parents and family members. To think we started the year not knowing if there would even be a play, we were beyond thrilled to give our students and families this opportunity while still focusing on safety. The student performers were absolutely incredible! A big thanks to our director, Miss Williams, for preparing the students so well.

Also, the 5th grade presented our final Prayer Service of the year. The service's focus was on the Feast of the Ascension (which we celebrated on Thursday) and asked us to self-reflect: Are we living the way Jesus has asked us to live? We really appreciated the students' message and positive energy they brought to the community.

There's more excitement this coming week, with our K through 4th grade Field Day happening as planned on Wednesday, our 5th grade representing us at the parish mass on Friday, and our Spring Soiree and auction coming up on Saturday. All of these events are only possible because we, as a community, have focused on following safety protocols closely and remaining consistent. Slowly but surely, our goal is to return to as close to normal as possible. Thank you to all of you for making that possible!

We also have a few updates on upcoming/end-of-year dates. First, just a reminder that St. Joseph School **will be closed on Friday, May 28th**, which will give our students and faculty a 4-day-weekend for Memorial Day. Also, we have confirmed (and made the changes on our

digital calendar, which you can find on our website) that our last day of school for grades 1 through 7 **will be Friday, June 18th**. June 16th will be our last full day, while June 17th and 18th will be 11 AM dismissals.

Last, I realize that the news of my departure next year may have raised some questions, not only about the principal position itself but also about the future of the school. Please know that we, as the St. Joseph School community, **have never been in a better place!** With our enrolling booming, strong support from our Pastor and parent leaders, and nearly all faculty and staff members returning to their roles for next year, you can expect the same positive energy and success moving forward. The SJS Mission – to provide a program focused on faith, compassion, respect, service, and witness to Jesus’s love – has not changed, and certainly will not change with the appointment of a new principal. As I have said, we will continue to update you with any progress in regard to a new principal being chosen, as Monsignor Swiader works with a search committee made up of parish and Diocesan Education Department representatives.

I want to personally thank all of those that have reached out to me in support. Know that St. Joseph School will always be my second home – I’ve learned so much here, and only because of these last four years of growth and collaboration do I feel prepared to take on my new role at the DRVC Education Department. So, again, thank you!

Looking forward to communicating with you again next week as the school year, which began with much uncertainty, winds down with the excitement and positive energy that our community is all about!

Warm Regards,

Mr. Brian Colomban
Principal, St. Joseph School