

January 23, 2020

+Dear Friends,

Welcome to CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2020 and what a week we have planned! I dare to say that there is something for everyone. To be sure that we're doing it the right way, we are starting by asking God's blessing at the 9 o'clock mass on Sunday morning. Please join us at Church and then in the school cafeteria for breakfast. Our OPEN HOUSE begins at 10:30 (please gather in the auditorium) with guided tours led by members of "The Bridge". New families will be in for a thrill since these young folks know every nook and cranny – and are bound to share it all!

The week is quite full of special programs and events. For the students, Monday is GAME DAY complete with physical activities in the gym and homemade math games (thanks to the 6<sup>th</sup> graders) in the auditorium. The children can wear their favorite "team" shirt and sneakers with the uniform for the day. Hopefully many adults will also join us for the annual BLOOD DRIVE from 2:15 to 8:15 in the cafeteria. There is an urgent need for blood right now, so we're praying for a great crowd once again.

Tuesday has our students using their creativity as they add CRAZY ties, hats and socks to the uniform! During the day the classes have been paired to spend time reading aloud with each other – a most important skill for all.

Wednesday is probably the students' most favorite. It begins with "BRAIN CHALLENGE" - an interactive game with academic and physical challenges. Kindergarten to fourth grade participate from 8:15 – 9:10 and fifth to eighth play from 9:20 – 10:20. The sound coming from the auditorium indicates how much fun everyone has! Of course, it doesn't stop there since the classes again "buddy" up for the rest of the day. They share McDonald's for lunch, play some games and work on projects.

On Thursday we are having OPEN HOUSE from 9-11 in the morning, hopefully welcoming many new families to our school. In the afternoon we are having the "CITY OF RAYS" – a community that our young students have created for all of us.

Friday draws our celebration to a close. As we began this special week, so shall we end it – by joining in grateful prayer at the mass at 8:45. Our eighth graders will lead us in prayer and our Parents' Club once again will be giving the children a healthy breakfast snack after mass. There will be just enough time for the students in the Talent Show to perform before we dismiss at 11:30. (Not to worry – the TALENT SHOW will be performed for all at 7:00 PM. It's well worth coming to the evening performance to witness the amazing talent of our young people!!)

Friday is also "WEAR RED DAY" to support the American Heart Association. Faculty and students are asked to wear red for a donation to the Association. It would be wonderful if our students could add red to the uniform and donate two dollars or more. Thanks in advance for your continued support.

Finally, we want to congratulate our Second Graders who will be making their FIRST RECONCILIATION on Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup>. And adults, please don't miss out on the fun of the PRE-SUPER BOWL PARTY that

evening at 7:00 in the auditorium. There are still some “boxes” available for anyone who is interested. Please contact Don Poland at 516-698-5689. God bless and let’s enjoy Catholic Schools Week.

Joyfully,

*Sister Ruthanne*