

+Dear QOA Families,

I hope you had the chance to enjoy the beautiful springtime weather as we did, while it lasted. I encouraged the teachers to take the students outside for learning in the fresh air. I believe both teachers and students relished in God's creation. The little ones collected their own colorful assortment of leaves. Learning takes place in many creative and engaging ways here at QOA.

I am most grateful to the teachers for their continued dedication and hard work on behalf of your wonderful children. At a recent Zoom principals' meeting, Dr. McLaughlin, our Archdiocesan Secretary of Education, relayed that parents have written to him expressing their admiration for Archdiocesan educators during this pandemic. He communicated that several parents hailed the teachers as heroes and appreciate their selfless efforts in teaching during these unprecedented times. We are blessed here at Queen of Angels with a terrific team of enthusiastic, caring, and committed educators who consistently put into practice the latest best practices in the field of education. I am inspired by our QOA Team and thank God for blessing me with this assignment. May the good Lord and His Blessed Mother continue to bless all our efforts.

I reiterate what Dr. McLaughlin conveyed in his recent letter thanking Parents for working hard to keep our schools open and safe. I once again add my note of thanks, Parents, for completing the weekly health check, for informing me of possible COVID exposures, and for quarantining when necessary as suggested by the CDC. Parents, you are well aware of our protocols here at QOA. To remain open all year long, we need all our families to follow these protocols outside of school. I understand that this is wearisome, but the reality is that this is a dangerous pandemic, and we cannot let our guard down. Therefore, I implore you please to do as health officials remind us: require that your children wear masks before, at, and after sporting events, in the neighborhood, and at any time they are in places with people not of your household.

As you know, here at QOA, we have our Health and Safety Plan protocols which require faculty/staff and students to wear properly-fitted masks and maintain social distancing consistently. With this measure in place, it becomes difficult to hear students occasionally telling their teachers and me that they enjoyed sleepovers and participated in social gatherings and sporting events in which no one wore a mask. It takes only a few noncompliant families to bring the virus into our school. Therefore, Parents, we depend upon you and trust that you will continue to follow the Archdiocesan Catholic Schools Onward Plan, the QOA Health and Safety Plan, the CDC, PA Department of Health, and Montgomery County Board of Health guidelines. It is everyone's goal and **HOPE** to continue in-person instruction as long as possible, please God, all the way until June 11, 2021. Your cooperation in fulfilling this goal is appreciated greatly. Keep up your efforts; it will be well worth it!

In Mary's Immaculate Heart, I am,  
*Sister Mary*