

SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Dear Parents,

Principal's Letter

April 30, 2010

I wish to thank all the faculty, staff, advisory school board, Home & School Association officers, sub committee chairs and members, the Steering Committee, the hospitality committee, Westphalia Knights of Columbus Council and all others who worked so long and hard on our Self Study for accreditation and in preparation for the Visiting Team earlier this week.

The Visiting Team was impressed by the religious academic and extra curricular achievements of our students, the positive involvement of our parents and other parishioners in the community life of our school and our beautiful and inviting campus. The Visiting Team affirmed our Self Study and offered additional areas we can grow in as we work as a Catholic community to improve our school. The Visiting Team recommends our school for continued accreditation on the state level.

The task of the Steering Committee now is to purpose an acceptable Plan of Action for the next five academic years which will address all the recommendations made by our Self Study and the Visiting Team. Our Self Study, the Visiting Team report and the Plan of Action will be submitted to the Diocesan Accreditation Board for its' review and approval. If approved by the Diocesan Board all documents are then sent to the Missouri Nonpublic School Accrediting Association for approval and actual accreditation. This accrediting association is a member of the National Federation of Nonpublic School State Accrediting Associations.

A special thanks to Mrs. Susan Winkelman for serving as chair of the Steering Committee and fellow members advisory school board president Scott Berhorst and our pastor Father Mark Smith. They spent countless hours preparing the Self Study and for the Visiting Team's on campus visit with me. We will spend more hours before the middle of June preparing the Plan of Action.

Covenant Letters for St. Joseph School parish families are due in the parish office by Friday, April 30th. If you have not return yours, please do so early next week.

Scrip will be sold before/after Saturday, May 1st and Sunday, May 2nd.

May 2nd – 8th is American Education Week during which we share our support for the fine efforts of our faculty and staff.

Grade 3A & 3B will be on a field trip on Monday, May 3rd. They will visit the Highway Patrol, Highway Department Sign Shop and the Library in Jefferson City.

School Masses this week are being planned by the 3B class on Tuesday, May 4th and the 4th grade on Thursday, May 6th. The May Crowning of Mary will occur during the May 6th Mass.

Grade 2 will be on a field trip on Tuesday, May 4th. They will visit Temple Beth El, Runge Nature Center, St. Joseph Cathedral, Carmelite Monastery and Daisy Delight.

2009-2010 yearbook orders are due on Tuesday, May 4th in the school business office. Make checks payable to St. Joseph School on note yearbook in the memo section. Order forms have been sent home and extras are available in the school business office.

PAL Track Meets are scheduled for grades 5 & 6 on Tuesday, May 4th at 4:30 pm at Helias High School, Jefferson City and on Wednesday, May 5th at 4:00 pm at Lewis & Clark Middle School, Jefferson City.

Grade 1A & 1B will have a field trip on Wednesday, May 5th and they will visit Diamond Pet Food, Meta MFA, Mid-America Bank and Sinquefield Reserve in Folk.

The 6th grade will participate in the **Diocesan Vocation Day** at St. Joseph Cathedral on Wednesday, May 5th. Our students were selected to lead the singing at the Bishop's Mass during this event.

There will be a 3:20 pm **Faculty Meeting** on Wednesday, May 5th in the cafeteria.

Deacon James Skahan will attend the Diocesan Principal meeting in Columbia on Thursday, May 6th. This is the annual end of the school year meeting.

Students are to dress as their career choice on **Career Day, Friday, May 7th**. Career Day is being sponsored by the student council.

May and June birthdays will be celebrated on Friday, May 7th with a prayer service at 2:45 pm in the gym. Students with May and June birthdays may dress-up on Thursday, May 6th.

The student council is sponsoring a **Last Bash dance** for area Catholic school students in grades 6-8 on Friday, May 7th between 7:00-10:00 pm in the school gym. Admission is \$3.00. Drinks will be available for sale. High Impact will provide the music.

First Friday adoration is scheduled from 9:30 am until Benediction at 1:30 pm on May 7th.

The school is asking all school families to return any unused blue notes from home pads which are in good condition. We are trying to save money by not ordering more pads for next year. If you have any notes from home pads that are in good condition please send to school by Monday, May 10th.

Coach Renkemeyer sent information home about **Field Day on Tuesday, May 11th**. She is asking for parents to assist with the numerous games and events for the students. You can volunteer for only part or for the entire day. Your assistance is needed and appreciated. Please return forms by Monday, May 3rd.

Anyone interested in receiving a **DVD of the school spring musical** may place an order with Mrs. Melissa Spainhower. The price is \$5.00 each. Checks should be made payable to St. Joseph School. If you still want a DVD please send your order to school by Monday, May 3rd.

Eighth grade graduation is scheduled for Monday, May 10th at 7:00 pm. A reception will follow Mass in the school cafeteria.

Information regarding next school year (fees, calendar, supply list, etc.) will be sent home next week. Please keep all this information. The first day of school for the 2010-2011 school year is Wednesday, August 18th. (Open house is scheduled for Sunday, August 15th following the 9:00 am Mass.)

Fourth quarter Progress reports will be mailed on Wednesday, May 19th. If your child read for the Six-flags reading program and turned their form in, their ticket will also be included with their Progress report.

Congratulations to the St. Joseph Bellarmine Speech League members who participated in the annual Diocesan Speech Meet at St. Joseph Cathedral on April 24th. All members of the team received Gold ribbons for perfect scores from all judges. The members were 8th grader Erin Boeckmann-serious speech; 7th grader Kate Massman-humorous speech; 6th graders Morgan Berhorst and Kaily Bock-humorous duet. Congratulations also to their speech coach Mrs. Carol Heckman. St. Joseph was the only school when the entire team received gold ribbons in the Diocese.

The school recently received a check from the General Mills Box-Tops for Education program in the amount of \$569.50. Thank you for saving box-tops. Please continue to save them for the next redemption date in the fall.

I remain,

Yours in our Risen Lord,

Deacon James E. Skahan
Principal