

APRIL

SAINT MICHAEL SCHOOL

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PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

"God has made everything beautiful for its own time." ECCLESIASTES 3:11

Happy Spring! Easter is a beautiful season gifted to us from the Maker of all things beautiful. Let us be especially mindful of God's goodness. Easter gives us the opportunity to once again be thankful to God for all the abundant blessings that we have received through the risen Lord. We especially need to be grateful for the gifts of love, joy, forgiveness and eternal life with Jesus in heaven. Let us open our hearts to Christ's peace and allow the love of God to be resurrected, reborn, and renewed in our lives.

April has arrived and will prove to be a rather busy month full of activity. It is hard to believe that we are in the final months of the school year. Preparations have been made for administering our Kindergarten First Grade Readiness test, ITBS/Cognitive Abilities Test (Grades 2-8), DIBELS testing (K-3), field trips, parent/grandparent luncheons, Junior High & Elementary Reading Competitions, Math 24 Challenge, Sports Banquet, First Holy Communion, Diocesan Spelling Bee, and graduations. As we approach the final months of the school year, let us continue to remain focused and committed to doing our very best. **Students may feel they are finished with school, but I assure you, school is not finished with them. Please encourage your child(ren) to remain dedicated to their studies, put forth their best efforts, and make every effort to be in attendance.**

DIOCESAN FORENSICS COMPETITION

Congratulations to the following students who placed at the Prince Gallitzin Forensics meet on Friday, March 16th: Nathan Little (2nd Impromptu), Haley Gray (2nd Drama), Derek Domicica (3rd Informative), Tia Bradley and Faye Butterbaugh (4th Duo Drama), and Sydney Greene and Kallie Gailey (1st Duo Drama).

We congratulate the following students who placed at the Diocesan Junior High Forensics Tournament that was held on Tuesday, March 27th: Tia Bradley and Faye Butterbaugh (1st Duo Drama), Kallie Gailey and Sydney Greene (5th Duo Drama), Derek Domicica (3rd Informative), Nathan Little (5th Impromptu), and Haley Gray (2nd Drama).

We thank Mrs. Sarah Adams and Miss Amber Adams for assisting Miss Steinbugl in preparing our students for competition. We are grateful to Mrs. DJ Gray, Mrs. Crystal Wherry, Ms. Jennifer Erculiani, Ms. Renee Hoffman, Ms. Kelly Beegle, Miss Corissa McCalister, Miss Leona Horner, and Miss Taylor Nesmith for volunteering as judges.

IOWA TESTS OF BASIC SKILLS

Students in second through eighth grade will be taking the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills. This assessment will give the students an opportunity to demonstrate what they know and if any intervention is needed to assist with their learning. The testing will take place from April 9th - 13th. **It is very important that the children are present throughout this week; get plenty of rest, and nourishment.**

CHIPOTLE

Join us for dinner! We will be participating in a “Chipotle” dinner fundraising event on **Wednesday, April 18th from 5pm – 9pm**. Make dinner a selfless act by participating in this dining to donate opportunity to benefit the students of Saint Michael School! **Chipotle gift cards** can be purchased through our **SCRIP Gift Card Program**. **We must generate at least \$300.00 in sales for proceeds to be donated to Saint Michael School.** Thank you and we hope you will join us!

SPELLING BEE

Our annual Spelling Bee will be held on **Thursday, April 19th at 1:00 PM** in OLOLCH. **All parents are welcome to attend.** Students from grades 4 – 6 will participate in the competition to determine who will represent Saint Michael’s at the Diocesan Spelling Bee on **May 3rd at Lock Haven Catholic**. We wish the best of luck to the following Spelling Club members: Joshua Corcoran, Trevor Fahr, Hudson Farabaugh, Austin Gray, Levi Baker, Tommy Corcoran, Allie Dziabo, Hannah McMahan, Alena Nagle, and Alivia Nagle. Many thanks to Mrs. Stevens who has given so many hours of her time to prepare our students for the Spelling Bee.

READING COMPETITION

Many students in 5th through 8th grades will participate in the spring Interscholastic Reading Competition at the Forest Hills Middle/High School.

The Jr. High Interscholastic Reading Competition will take place on Tuesday, April 3rd. Members of the team include: Zachary Cocho, Jack Corcoran, Kallie Gailey, Sydney Greene, Mason Hogue, Erin Talko, Maya Baker, Nicholas Clark, Haley Gray, JoAnna Hoover, and Jude Koehle.

The Elementary Reading Competition will be held on Thursday, April 5th. Our elementary team includes the following members: Colleen Barnett, Josh Corcoran, Trevor Fahr, Alec Kubat, Abby Lee, Mark Mento, Alaina Toth, Braden Wherry, Austin

Gray, and Declan Schrock. Our two teams have been working very hard and we wish them much luck and success.

Mrs. Frank and Mrs. Shaw have been preparing the students for the reading competitions. Their enthusiasm and love of reading is evident as they work with the students. We are grateful to them for their time and interest.

CONGRATULATIONS

We congratulate the following students on earning **High Honors** for the third nine-week grading period: Sydney Greene, Mason Hogue, Haley Gray, JoAnna Hoover, Trevor Fahr, and Mark Mento. Students earning **Honors** for the third nine week grading period are: Tia Bradley, Faye Butterbaugh, Zach Cocho, Jack Corcoran, Derek Domicica, Aaron Duke, Kallie Gailey, Nathan Little, Erin Talko, Maya Baker, Nicholas Clark, Jude Koehle, Michael Poorman, Travis Adams, Colleen Barnett, Jimmy Beiswenger, Josh Corcoran, Alec Kubat, Abby Lee, Alaina Toth, Braden Wherry, Madison Cocho, Riley Diehl, Hudson Farabaugh, Austin Gray, Briette Hite, Jude Hudkins, Brenna Phister, Gage Spielvogle, Levi Baker, Tommy Corcoran, Allie Dziabo, Travis Kubat, Alivia Nagle, Alena Nagle, Jackson Rice, and John Seymour. Keep up the great job!

A NOTE OF APPRECIATION

A sincere “**Thank You**” to all our students who willingly volunteered to participate throughout the week for our parish Lenten Mission by altar serving, singing in the children’s choir, reading petitions, and being a part of the offertory procession. I also thank the parents for supporting our efforts to enrich the spiritual life of our youth and attending the mission with their children.

The following students served as faithful servants during our Lenten Mission, many of whom chose to serve for several evenings: Mason Hogue, Briette Hite, Alivia Nagle, Brenna Phister, Tommy and Will Corcoran, Bella Weiland, Braden and Mason Wherry, Colin Beiswenger, Allie Dziabo, Zoey Link, La’Ryah McGhee, Hannah McMahan, John and Vincent Seymour, Austin and Trevor Fahr, Ethan Eckenrode, Aubrey Strait, Nicholas Clark, Emma Freidhof, Alec and Travis Kubat, and Logan Krug.

CAFETERIA

This month we are inviting the parents and grandparents of students in **7th grade** to join their children (grandchildren) for lunch on **Monday, April 23rd**. Students will go to lunch at approximately **11:30 AM**.

CHILDHOOD ASSOCIATION

We thank Father Byrnes and all our faculty and staff members who willingly volunteered to participate in our “Pie in the Face” contest to commemorate **National PI Day!** We also thank the students for purchasing the pies for such a worthy cause.

Due to the generosity of our students and families we were able to donate **\$990.50** to the Missionary Childhood Association. Thank you all for being a positive change in the life of a child.

TUITION

It is hard to believe that we are approaching the end of the school year. With that in mind, please remember to keep your **tuition payments** current. Our policy in regard to outstanding balances applies to **all students** in grades **K-8**. **Until your account is brought up-to-date, your parent privileges to access PowerSchool will be inactivated, you will not receive mid-term grades for the fourth nine weeks (grades 4-8), your child’s participation in field trips will be suspended, final report cards will not be issued nor will student records be transferred to another school, and if your child is in kindergarten or eighth grade, they will not be permitted to participate in graduation ceremonies. Once payment arrangements are made and payments are received, privileges will be reinstated.**

We realize that choosing a Catholic education for your child involves sacrifice on part of the family. The choice is well worth the extra effort! Please be a responsible steward of this treasure so that Saint Michael School may satisfy the financial obligations that we have incurred educating your child(ren). If you are having financial difficulties, please bring this to our attention so that we can assist you now. Thank you.

FIRST COMMUNION

Our **First Communicants** and their **parents** will create a banner in preparation for their First Communion. The event will take place on **Saturday, April 14th** at **10 am** in the school hall. Banners will be displayed in the basilica through Pentecost Sunday. We are looking forward to sharing this special occasion in the faith life of your children.

Our second-grade students will be receiving their **First Holy Communion** on **Sunday, May 6th** at the **10:30 am Mass**. Let us pray that this special time of preparation and the reception of Holy Eucharist will deepen the faith of our children and bring blessings upon them.

MID-TERM WARNING NOTICES

Wednesday, April 25th, will mark the **mid-point** of the fourth marking period. Mid-term grades and/or warning notices will be sent home to the parents of students in grades 4 – 8 on **Monday, April 30th**.

MINI BAZAAR

Our annual **Mini Bazaar** will take place **Friday May 4th**. Food, new/used items, games and prizes will be part of this event. Proceeds will be used to purchase Religion textbooks and religious materials to enhance our curriculum. More information will be forthcoming.

LOOKING AHEAD

Please mark the following important dates on your calendar for future reference:

Chipotle	April 18 th (Wednesday)	5:00pm - 9:00pm
School Spirit Fundraiser		
First Communion	May 6 th	10:30 am Mass
Field Trip (K-1)	May 11 th	Mt. Playhouse/Faranda Farm
Field Trip (6-8)	May 11 th	Gateway Clipper & Science Center
Sports Banquet	May 12 th	OLOLCH 5:00PM
May Crowning	May 13 th	10:30 am Mass
Field Trip (Grades 2-5)	May 16 th	Natural History Museum
Eighth Grade Class Trip	May 16 th	Kennywood

***These dates are tentative and subject to change. ***

Information concerning each date will be forthcoming closer to each event.

*Eighth-Grade Graduation	May 23 rd (Wed.)	6:30 PM OLOLCH
*Kindergarten Graduation	May 24 th (Thursday)	6:30PM – Basilica
*Last Day of School	May 31 st (Thursday)	Dismissal Following 8:45 am Mass – Parent Pick up

REMINDERS

As we begin to experience warmer weather, a few reminders are necessary:

1. **Solid, dark colored dress shoes**, which are practical and safe for the school environment, are to be worn. Dress shoes may not have a measurement of more than 2 inches in combined height of sole and heel (no skinny heels are permitted).
2. NO sandals, clogs or open back shoes are to be worn to school (this includes Kindergarten students). These pose a danger on the stairways and hinder physical activity on the blacktop.

3. **Crew** socks or **knee-hi** socks (solid white or navy) are to be worn at all times. They must be at least two (2) inches above the ankle. **(LOW CUT SOCKS ARE NOT PERMITTED.)**
4. Shorts **may not** be worn until **May 1st** (weather permitting). This, too, includes the Kindergarten students.
5. Uniforms may be no shorter than one inch above the knee. Shirts and blouses are to be tucked in at all times.
6. Extravagant hairstyles (teased, colored, sculpted, etc.) are forbidden. Hair should clear the eyebrows. Boys' hair may not extend over the collar.

*****It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to see that their child adheres to the dress code.**

As always, your cooperation and support are deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Renee Phister, Principal

*Thank You to following businesses for supporting
Catholic education, especially
Saint Michael School.*

LEE'S INC. HARDWARE & SUPPLIES

KEYSTONE WASTE WATER SERVICES, INC.

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*Please support local businesses.
Your support directly benefits
Saint Michael School.*