

October 14, 2016

Dear Parents,

This week in our readings at Mass for the 29th Sunday in ordinary time, we learn about prayer and how it opens us up to God. It enables us to turn with confidence to a loving and compassionate God who listens and responds. However, the response comes on God's timeline, not ours. We must pray and never give up! The difficult part to understanding God's response is, sometimes God's answer is "not now," not because He doesn't love us or refuses to give us what we want. Rather, God knows what we are asking for is not good for us right now. We continue to ask with persistence like the widow in the Gospel. We trust and have faith in a loving and compassionate God who cares, listens and always knows what is best for us. Let us pray for this trust and strength to hear and accept God's answer to our prayers.



PROGRESS REPORT CONFERENCES: *As we come to the middle of October, we are nearing the half way mark for the first Trimester. Progress report Conferences will be Monday October 24th through Thursday the 27th. These dates are for Grades K-8. A change to the calendar that was **not** on our original calendar for the month is a **12:10 dismissal** to accommodate conferences for those who wish to select an afternoon time on Wednesday, **Oct.26th**. All the other days will start after 2:30. You will receive an e-mail or text from your child's teacher regarding the link to **SIGN-UP GENTUS** that we will be using for 15-20 minute interval appointments. More information will be included in the teacher's e-mail. We are hoping that parents will find it much more convenient to use **SIGN-UP GENTUS**. We are really going "**high-tech**" this year and using computer sign ups! 😊 Pre-School will have progress report conferences later, as they do not have a report card the first Trimester. They have only two reports, Winter and Spring. If you have concerns about your child in Pre-K, the teachers will be happy to answer questions or concerns through e-mail at this time, because it is rather early in the school year to evaluate their progress.*



NEAS&C ACCREDITATION: *As some of you may or may not know, we are currently preparing for the renewal of our Accreditation from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. We will give all families updates throughout the school year, to keep you "in the loop", so you know how we are progressing. Throughout this month we are going to collect surveys from parents, schoolboard members, and students in Gr.6, 7, and 8. This also will be done with technology using **SURVEY MONKEY**. We will give you the link within the next few days. We ask every family to complete the survey by the due date. Thank you in advance for all your cooperation with your part in this process. Our accreditation is slated for October of 2017. Please know we need to hear from you! Please take a minute to complete the questionnaire once we send you the link.*

Halloween- Enclosed in this week's packet is the flyer from Mrs. Salas-Romer. She will be sending e-mails to recruit volunteers to set up for the family Halloween party. Please help out if you can. It would be great if the room parents would volunteer if you can, as this is for the whole school. Many hands make light work!



PICTURE DAY -went well and we will have a re-take day if for some reason you are not satisfied with your child's picture. The pictures taken yesterday should arrive at the school mid Nov. Once we receive them, the re-take day will be determined and I will notify parents.

Our **TaeKwonDo**, **Drama** and **Cheerleading** all started this week. The children are enjoying themselves. It is great watching them use their talents and gifts. As for the Taekwondo club, Master Han asked that the children not wear their uniform to school because it is going to get soiled with lunch and playing outside. So I am asking parents to send the uniform in with them and they will change before the club begins. This will change the club time to **2:45 to 3:45** in order to give the children the full hour of instruction. Any parent wishing to come in at 2:30 to help the children change up, is welcome. Remember you must be **Virtus** trained to help.



Thank you to all our fire-fighters who came from both the Branford and Milford Fire Dept. Thanks to Micheal Acquino's dad and Adam Hansen's dad for coordinating the programs presented to all the students for fire Prevention Week.



LATE ARRIVALS: Once again I need to remind all parents about late arrivals. Thursday, we had **21** students come in late! This is unacceptable. All students must be here by 10 of 8 or 5 of the latest! We go upstairs by 8:00. Classes begin at 8:10. This means, all paperwork, homework, collection of forms etc. plus attendance, lunch count and everything needed to make the school day run smoothly must be completed by 8:10. I am really asking for your cooperation with this policy. It is so disruptive to the homeroom teacher when one child comes walking in after the morning classroom routine has been completed. We are teaching the children to be responsible, so this is the way to begin. Remind them to be prepared the night before. Thank you for cooperating with our policies!

Enjoy this beautiful autumn weekend!

Sr. Annette