

May 3rd, 2022

To Parents/Caregivers of our Students,

The snow is gone, and May is here! What a beautiful time to for our students and our community. It is clear from our student's energy, actions, and attitudes that they are excited to come to school and learn: what more can we really ask for? Thank you to all our families for continuing to respect our COVID procedures especially following isolation procedures and not sending your children to school if they have any symptoms. We have not seen illnesses spread at our school thanks to your diligence. Thank you for keeping all of us safe!

Our last week of April was a treasure to experience for all our students and myself because it was our first opportunity to participate in our St. Mark Feast Day and Carnival for a Cause. These traditions bring alive the spirit of St. Mark as we gathered and enjoy a delicious meal in our gym. Our Carnival for a Cause is one of our major social justice activities that generate financial support for local and international causes. This year we focused on the courageous people of Ukraine. We introduced many of our students to traditional Ukrainian food thanks to Uncle Ed's restaurant and the Mundare sausage shop. We also want to thank Fifendekel as they generously donated pies to our feast day. What an incredibly powerful school event, in which our students and staff celebrated and supported the people of Ukraine.

Many more activities are being scheduled for our students that will help you plan your child's last two months of school. These activities are:

- May 11th - Easter Celebration @ St. Andrew parish - AM
- May 16th - Grade 9 English Part A Provincial Achievement Test (PAT) – AM
- May 20th - Track and Field Day @ Coronation Park – All day
- May 31st - Track and Field Zones @ Rollie Miles Field – All day
- June 3rd - Grade 9 Day @ Servus Place – All day
- June 15th - Year End Mass & Grade 9 Farewell - PM
- June 16th – June 24th – Final Exam week – Students dismissed after exam around 11am
- June 27th – Twin Day – All day
- June 28th – Award/Recognition Celebration – PM
- June 29th – Last day of school – Students dismissed at 11:46am

I would like to invite all our parents and caregivers to join our next School Council meeting on Tuesday, May 17th, 2022 @ 6:30pm. We will meet virtually so an invite will be sent out closer to the date. At this meeting we will be discussing new procedures we will be implementing next year such as a Standard of Student Dress. We will also review school fees for next year and our school growth plan. This will also be a great way to meet next year's new principal, Jody Hertlein, as she will be joining us. The strength of our community is our diversity and commitment to our students. We want to hear from all our members to help us make the best decisions for our students. If you can, please join us, your input is wanted and valued.

As we reflect on the beauty of May, we should remember the creator that blessed us with the wonders around us and the incredible opportunities we have. "For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together" (Colossians 1:16-17).

Sincerely,

