

October 10, 2018

Dear Saint Ann School Families,

The God in me greets the God in you!

Today marks the end of our first grading quarter. How quickly our first quarter together seems to have passed! You will receive your student's report card the week of October 22. Our students have been working very hard during this marking period, and we are grateful for the support of families in this academic and spiritual journey.

A huge thank you to Mrs. Temple Kelly for organizing our Saint Ann School team that participated in Relay for Life last weekend! Students from our school lead the opening prayer, lead the pledge of allegiance, and sang the national anthem in the opening ceremony. Thank you for going out into our community and representing Saint Ann School with such honor.

Our school team raised \$2,530.00 in honor of Ms. G. Thank you to all who donated money, ran the booth, donated pizza and water, baked goodies, purchased luminary bags, and walked in the rain and shine. Thank you to Mrs. Misty West-Bruna for leading our national anthem singers. We've already been invited to return next year to sing!

Congratulations to two of our Saint Ann School students who received the sacrament of confirmation on Friday. Brooklyn Roquemore and Julian Leal were sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit and strengthened in their Christian life. Bishop Buckon, Father Rayanna, and Father Jim celebrated the Mass together. We are thankful for such wonderful pastoral care.

Many thanks to a wonderful team who spent a Saturday morning in September cleaning out the PTG storage unit. Mr. Mo Morales, Mrs. Maria Guevara, Mr. Danny Guevara, Mrs. Sandi Rosas, Mr. Marquis Dawson, and Mr. Dick Dewey organized and inventoried the entire unit. Thank you for all of your hard work!

We are excitedly preparing for the Saint Ann Star Revue! Please mark your calendars for November 15 and 16 (the same show both nights). We will have food and drinks available for purchase at the event. Show tickets are on sale in the office. You won't want to miss this great family event!

Star Revue Participants: Please remember that there will be an ALL CAST rehearsal on Wednesday, October 24 and an ALL CAST DRESS REHEARSAL on Wednesday, November 14. (both in the evening)

We are in need of substitute teachers for Saint Ann School. If you have a Bachelor's degree and enjoy spending the day teaching amazing students, please make an appointment to see Mrs. Conliffe.

We are also looking for a junior high teacher to replace our dear Mrs. Harrison who will be moving away with her military family at Christmas. This position will require teaching middle school religion and math, as well as being the eighth grade homeroom teacher. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please see Mrs. Conliffe.

At Saint Ann School we have established two new student policies. The first is that students are not to share food. We have a fair number of students with food allergies, and we want to protect those students from inadvertent exposure to ingredients that may be dangerous to their health. Also, nutrition is a critical component of successful learning and behavior choices. Students should be

consuming what parents prepare (or approve of... with the understanding that students often pack their own lunch) for their nutrition intake during the school day.

The second new policy is “no touching”. We have had considerable challenges with students jumping on one another’s backs, leaning on one another during Mass, pushing in line, etc. A simple “no touching” policy has been enacted to make the expectation easy for students to understand and for teachers to enforce. Also, as we are entering cold and flu season, we are suspending the shaking of hands during the exchange of peace. We have taught the students other polite ways to exchange peace and courtesy during this portion of the liturgy. Thank you for encouraging your children to follow both of these new policies. The safety of our students is our paramount concern.

As we head into a busy autumn of school activities and fundraisers, I would like to give accolade to Mr. Mo Morales and Mrs. Natasha Morales. They have lovingly and courageously stepped up to lead our PTG. Please support them with our amazing Saint Ann School spirit of teamwork. There will be a PTG meeting tomorrow (Thursday) at 6:30 in the school library. If you attend, you will receive a ticket which allows your child(ren) to a “free dress” day on Tuesday, October 16. Please support Mo and Natasha by volunteering to help with games, set up, clean up, etc for our Fall Festival on October 26. On the horizon is Holiday Bazaar as well. When all of us contribute time or talent, we have wondrous family events!

We also offer our thanks to our School Advisory Board who meets monthly with the purpose of promoting, sustaining, and ensuring the ministry of quality catholic education.

You are very welcome to join us on Wednesday mornings during October at 7:30 at the grotto for our morning assembly and recitation of one decade of the rosary. Also, you are welcome all mornings to join our Saint Ann School family for morning assembly at 7:30. Please sign in at the office, then join us for prayer, singing, the pledge of allegiance, morning announcements, etc. We love having visitors! Your presence helps the students to understand and feel the home-school connection, which is an important part of their learning success.

In closing I would like to offer gratitude for the blessing of each of you.... each child, parent, staff member, volunteer, board member, and priest. Our Saint Ann School family is a rare treasure. God has gifted us with an opportunity to work collaboratively as we share vision, accountability, and leadership with the shared mission of proclaiming the Gospel message and upholding a challenging academic environment. Thank you for your light, your joy, your work, your encouragement of others. Thank you for welcoming me into such a lovely family. I will continue to do my very best in service to our Saint Ann School family.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Alicia Conliffe