



Dear St. Michael School Families,



March 15, 2024

As we reflect on another week of learning and growing together, I encourage you to take a moment to step outside and notice the signs of Spring all around us. The delicate flowers peeking out from the ground are nature's way of saying hello to the promise of a new season, and we can't help but draw parallels to our own journey here at St. Michael School. Just like the blossoms, our students are bursting with potential and promise. As we nurture them through their academic and virtuous growth, let's embrace the beauty of this season as a reminder of the fresh starts and endless possibilities ahead.

Speaking of looking ahead, included in this email is our 2024-2025 academic school calendar! Please note that the first day of school will be on **Tuesday, September 3rd**.

Just a friendly reminder that there is **NO SCHOOL this Monday, March 18th** for our teachers to attend the Teacher's Institute in Norwich. **May 20th** is our next PTO Meeting! Please attend! **Trivia night** is on **Friday, April 26th**! It's a super fun night that you won't want to miss! Act fast because tables fill up fast!

Yesterday, students in grades 7 & 8 took the **National Latin Exam**. We hope to have the results in the next few weeks. The philosophy of the National Latin Exam is predicated on providing every Latin student the opportunity to experience a sense of personal accomplishment and success in his or her study of the Latin language and culture.

Beginning March 25th, we will kick-off our annual **Cash Raffle**! We need **EVERYONE** to participate, as we rely on the support of our parents, alumni, parish community and extended community of friends and family to continue to meet our mission of providing a high-quality Catholic education to every family who seeks it. We ask that all our families sell a minimum of \$225.00 to help meet our goal. When you get the link, please share on social media and please get the word out!

On **Wednesday, March 27th** we will have a very special Lenten event happening during Holy Week. Please join us a 9:00am for Lenten Lessons and Song at St. Michael Church. Parents, grandparents, family and friends are all invited to attend. This beautiful service will be much like our Lessons and Carols during Christmas time, but the scripture readings and songs are specifically chosen to help tell the story of Jesus' passion and death. See you there! Students should be dressed in their regular Wednesday uniform. Please, no dress down passes used this day.

Congratulations to **Maeve Nicholas** and **Addy Cadmus** for winning special awards in the CT State Science Fair competition. They will be receiving their awards this weekend. We are so proud of them!

Finally, you may hear your children coming home talking about **Socratic Seminar**. The Socratic seminar is a formal discussion, based on a text, in any subject matter, in which the teacher asks open-ended questions. Within the context of the discussion, students listen closely to the comments of others, thinking critically for themselves, and articulate their own thoughts and their responses to the thoughts of others. They learn to work cooperatively and to question intelligently and civilly. Today, Mrs. Brissette's 3rd graders used Socratic Seminar while discussing the character Stuart Little's actions during a particular part of the story.

Here's to a season of growth, learning, and new beginnings for our entire school community.

God Bless

Amy Babcock- Principal

