



St. Stanislaus Kostka School

"Do not walk through time without leaving worthy evidence of your passage." Saint John XXIII

Mrs. Elena Malinconico
Principal

www.sskschool.org
732-254-5819

"God loves each of us as if there were only one of us."

March 29, 2018

Dear St. Stan's Families:

During this holiest of weeks as we witness the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we are reminded of the infinite love God has for each of us. This blessing is certainly the greatest of all blessings God gives us; and as we leave on our Easter break I hope each of you holds this belief close to your hearts.

During Lent our students and families made many sacrifices and donated to many worthy causes. Our students raised close to \$900.00 in our Rice Bowl mission collection. Additionally, we are still raising money for St. Jude's Children's Hospital. Donations are due back April 9, 2018 for this and to date we have raised \$2000.00 of our \$6000.00 goal. The funds you raise for so many causes through the course of the year are truly blessings to so many people.

Upon our return after Easter break, we will be conducting our standardized tests. This year the diocese has decided to utilize the Iowa Test as a replacement for the Terra Nova. Schedules will be distributed upon return from break; with most of the testing occurring the week of April 16th. Please be sure your child is well rested, eats breakfast and if you can avoid scheduling appointments during this time, so students are present for the testing, it would be greatly appreciated.

Registration for the 2018-2019 school year is in full swing. I encourage all families to please mention to your friends and family with children, all that St. Stan's has to offer and suggest they schedule a tour to see our school. During this break, I wish you peace, health, happiness, rest and special time with your family.

As Always You Are in My Prayers,

Elena Malinconico
Principal



DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

OFFICE OF SCHOOLS
ELLEN F. AYOUB
SUPERINTENDENT
TEL: 732-562-2443
FAX: 732.562.1016
EAYOUB@DIOMETUCHEN.ORG
HTTP://DIOMETUCHEN.ORG

Dear Parents,

In Bishop Checchio's pastoral letter, *Lighting a fire in the heart of our world*, he states that 'Our schools educate our students to be truly free, intellectually honest and dynamically prepared to engage the wider culture with confidence.' One of the hallmarks of a Catholic school education is academic excellence. In order to achieve that excellence, we have dynamic classrooms with outstanding teachers that are addressing the various needs of each student. Instruction is enhanced by current pedagogy and technology and infused with the teachings of the Church.

A guiding force in the education of our students is the continuous improvement of each learner in every school. A key component in the improvement process is assessing student learning in a variety of ways—classroom tests, projects or portfolios. Additionally, every year the students complete a series of standardized achievement tests that are designed to tell administrators and teachers how a student is progressing in key academic areas in order to foster continuous improvement. For many years, in the Diocese of Metuchen, the Terra Nova tests were used. As many of you will remember, we had great difficulty with the test last year and had a very difficult time trying to get any results for our families. We were not alone in this difficulty. The Archdiocese of Newark, the Diocese of Paterson and the Diocese of Trenton shared in our disappointment with a company we had used for many years. As a result, we began to research testing companies to determine the best selection for us at this time. This year all five dioceses in New Jersey will use the IOWA Assessments as our annual achievement test.

The tests will be administered in April and the results will be returned to the schools in May, enabling you to have a parent report before the end of the school year. There will be professional development provided for the teachers to guide them as they use the tests to create the most effective learning environment possible for your child. Your principal will share specific instructions with you that will give you details about accessing the reports and meeting with the teachers. As with any new test, it will not be unusual to see a difference in the scores the students achieve. That is to be expected as they familiarize themselves with a new test and we interpret the data in a different way.

Please be assured that our principals and teachers recognize that this is a new test for the students, but not a new experience. I am confident that it will be a worthwhile venture for everyone, and I pray that this will be another beautiful example of the home and school partnership that makes our schools unique.

I wish you all the blessings of Holy Week,

Ellen F. Ayoub, Superintendent of Schools