



SAINT ANN
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Over 50 Years of Excellence
www.stannschoolyonkers.org



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February News
2017-2018

Dear Saint Ann's Parents/Guardians,

More than half of the school year has passed, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank the countless volunteers who continue to make Saint Ann School a special place to learn and work each day. As we enter into our third quarter the students and teachers are continuing to work hard. Teachers are beginning to meet to discuss common assessments and strategies for ensuring that all students receive the help that they need.

At this point of the school year I hope you have a clear picture of your child's complete experience at school including academic achievement, social and over-all behavior. Our use of conferences, email, phone calls, progress reports, and report cards is all part of our plan to communicate regularly and accurately with you. We know that every day is important in the accomplishment of each student, and we know that you as parents are continuing to stress that your children come to school every day ready and eager to be the best that they can be. For that, the administration and staff of Saint Ann's thanks you.

During this time of year we celebrate Catholic Schools Week. Catholic Schools Week is an annual celebration of the important role that Catholic schools play in providing an education that focuses not only on academics, but also on spiritual and moral values. This year's theme is "Catholic Schools Raise the Standards" where we celebrate our students, faculty and staff, our parish, and our community.

Wednesday, February 14th is Ash Wednesday which began the Lenten season. Throughout the Church there are many symbols to help us to become more aware of who we are, where we come from, and where we are going. The most visible symbols are ashes and fasting. Both symbols are a way to remind us of our need to separate ourselves from things that can take us away from our spiritual needs. Here at Saint Ann's we take this time to both teach and remind our students of the importance of recognizing their spiritual needs in becoming productive members of our society.

As we prepare for Holy Week, the most sacred time of the Church year, let us look at our Lenten promises and reflect on the sacrifices we have made. Lent is a time celebrated throughout the world in memory of the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Lent is a time of prayer, penance, sacrifice and good works in preparation for the celebration of Easter. A special emphasis during this time is placed on performing spiritual works, like attending the Stations of the Cross and Mass, taking the time for personal prayer and spiritual reading, and going to confession. During Lent our students, faculty, and families are encouraged to pray, fast, do penance, and offer alms during these forty days. All of our students participate in the Stations of the Cross each morning throughout this Lenten season.

A very special thank you to our H.S.O. for all of their hard work throughout the year. I encourage you to call or come in with any questions or concerns that you have. We have had good success with resolving issues and/or communicating with parents on questions. This is how relationships become stronger as we join together to educate your children. Once again thank you all for your continued support!! May God Bless you always.

As always, if you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please contact me at the school office.

In Christ's Love,

Mr. Michael Vicario
Principal