



Message from the Head of School



Oh the places they will go.....

We are anticipating the graduation of our eighth graders that will take place tomorrow. We have gotten to know them well. As a group, they have bonded nicely. They successfully worked through any mean girl or overly aggressive behaviors. They have learned to accept each other as different and special. They have developed relationships with classmates while not excluding others in the class. One can easily see that they have grown to love and care for one another and for their teachers who have challenged them to become their best selves. This past week has been a struggle for our teachers who are frantically trying to collect past due work in order to assign a grade. You know what I am talking about. Have you heard yourself asking your child "How many times have I told you to clean your room? From experience, when you least expect it or have totally given up on the possibility, you will show up in a room that is cleaned without prompting. Academic gas tanks for many of our grade eight students are empty or fast approaching empty. It is a bit of a paradox. They desperately want to graduate but, for many, cannot see themselves anywhere else.



Yesterday, a couple of students who had graduated a year earlier came by for a visit. At this time last year, we were shaking our heads, wondering if these kids would ever make it to the end of September in high school. Each of the returning students presented themselves with poise, a clear self-understanding, and what they need to do to fulfill their dreams. Each told me (I have not verified) that the majority of their grades were in the "B" range. It appeared on the surface that these are not the same children that were here just a short time ago. They now project confidence in the way they walked and in the way they talked. They appeared more reflective and grateful.

I always remind my middle school teachers, and from time to time convince myself, that the work we do is well received but often hidden. I know this to be true as a parent. You know the lectures that you have delivered and the countless number of times you have delivered them. "When will they ever learn?" The truth is that they already have.

We have a tradition at school where we have the soon to be graduates assemble on the top floor and process through the school to say goodbye to their former teachers and students who occupy classrooms where they once learned. It is heartwarming to see the support and encouragement afforded these students. The parade ends in the plaza where hugs and tears abound. We are family.

At the end of each year we ask our grade eight students to tell us what is the most important thing that they have learned. Here are a few things that the students said:

“The most important thing Saint Columbkille has taught me is that no matter what comes your way no matter how hard it is, that you should never give up and keep trying and that you will soon succeed.”

“The most important thing I have learned is to put others first and to always help others. Many service projects have taught us to help anyone you can. These projects have taught us to look out for everyone because we are all children of God. We learn that everything we do is for God.”

“The most important thing Saint Columbkille School has taught is that on the journey of finding myself I will find God, and with God an eternal happiness.”

“To be magis and humble to everyone no matter their race, skin color, gender, etc. “ (Magis means doing more than would normally be expected of you.)

Summing it up, one student simply wrote AMDG. That is all that we do in life is Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam. (For the Greater Glory of God)

We will miss this class and have faith that they too will return next year to show us the fruits of our labor.

Sincerely,  
William Gartside  
Head of School

## News & Updates



Grade 7 and 8 took a guided tour of the Gettysburg Battlefield.

### Student Supply Kits

Each student is expected to come to school in September with certain school supplies.

We will once again be offering parents the option of buying school kits online through Staples. If you would like to order online, please go to the following site: <http://www.shoptkits.com/> Our school ID is 27272. **All orders must be placed by TOMORROW, Friday, June 9th.**

If you choose not to order the school kits, you may also purchase the items from the list on your own.

**[FōMū] Restaurant Fundraiser**  
**June 21, 2017**

Celebrate the end of the school year by going out with friends and family for icecream at [FōMū]!! 481 Cambridge St., Allston MA, on Wednesday, June 21st.



[FōMū] ice cream is made from scratch with carefully sourced, plant-based ingredients. Their signature ice creams are made with coconut milk and a blend of organic, natural sweeteners. Their products are all natural, preservative-free and made by hand, with no shortcuts.

The event is ALL DAY (11:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m). Check out the website for menu or location details: [www.fomuicecream.com](http://www.fomuicecream.com)

15% of the proceeds will be donated to the school. Please use the coupon above to participate.



Ms. Leslie, a K1 BC Reader, awarded Ms. Mooney's class with a special medal and certificate for the end of the year. Thank you to Ms. Leslie and all our BC readers!

## Field Day June 16, 2017

Grades PreK- 5 participate in different obstacle courses, games and races. Kids have a day of fun, team building and competition. The event is held on our field and at McKinney Park. Volunteers are needed to help set up the different games, manage the games and clean up. We need many hands to make this happen!

[Click here to volunteer!](#)



Grade 7 and 8 attended mass at the Basilica in Baltimore.

## End of Year Celebration and Show

Mark your calendars! The Early Childhood End of Year Celebrations will be on Tuesday, June 13. The schedule is:

- PreK at 9:00 am
- K1 at 10:00 am
- K2 at 11:00 am

Grades 1-7 will have their End of Year Show on Wednesday, June 14 at 6:30 pm.

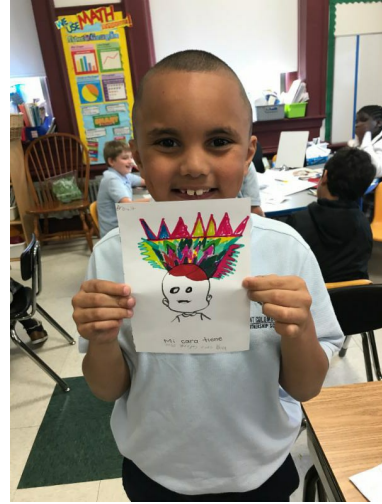
## End of the Year Multicultural Potluck Friday, June 16

The Annual End of Year Multicultural Potluck will be here soon!! This fun-filled event brings all of us together on **Friday, June 16th at 5:30PM**. With music and great food we celebrate our beautiful diversity and our great school. So bring your favorite dish, your appetite and your dancing shoes!

Every family is asked to bring a dish that represents their heritage (appetizers, salads, entrees, desserts).

Many hands are needed to make this event successful. There are many 30 min shifts that need to be filled. Please sign up to volunteer below:

[Sign up to volunteer](#)



Our students are improving their Spanish skills!

### Box Tops

Please send in Box Tops to your teacher whenever you have collected 3, 10, or 50! Submitting Box Tops monthly is an easy way to get credit for Box Tops before they expire. As always, thank you supporting the fundraising efforts at STCPS.

## Calendar Of Events

### Friday, June 9

- End of Trimester 3
- Early Dismissal 1:15 pm
- 8th Grade Graduation Mass, 11:00 am (PreK - K2 wear "Sunday best")
- 8th Grade Graduation Ceremony, 6:00 pm
- Last Day of Clubs
- Student Supply Kits Due

### Tuesday, June 13

- Early Childhood End of the Year Celebrations: PreK at 9:00 am, K1 at 10:00 am, K2 at 11:00 am

### Wednesday, June 14

- End of the Year Show, grades 1-7, 6:30 pm

### Friday, June 16

- Field Day
- Multicultural Potluck, 5:30 pm

### Wednesday, June 21

- Restaurant Fundraiser at [FōMū]

### Thursday, June 22

- Last Day of School, 11:15 am dismissal

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