Message from the Head of School

It is so good to have the children back in school after the winter break. I'm certain that most of you agree with this sentiment! Hopefully, the vacation was restful. During the break, Carlos was busy doing a deep clean to eliminate as many germs as possible. We also replaced all of the light bulbs in the building to be more energy efficient. This should save some money and hopefully, in some small way, the planet. My day was made when a first-grade student approached me in the hallway and thanked me for changing the lights. Somebody taught this lad what it takes to do the right thing! As parents and educators, we all feel, at times, that the things we do for our children go unnoticed and unappreciated. It is the rare child who can express gratitude in the moment.

That very same day, Jonathan, a graduate from ten years ago stopped by the school. I knew Jonathan from my time at BC High where he went to high school. Jonathan took the circuitous route to success. School did not come easy for him. To his credit, and with the support of his mom and many, many caring teachers, he hit his stride and was admitted to Boston College, graduating from the business school two years ago. He now works as an account manager for a financial firm. He had taken time from work to attend a funeral for the mother of a teacher who had made an impression on him in elementary school. When he entered my office and shook my hand, an air of confidence and a big smile came across his face. He told me that he stopped by to make sure I knew how appreciative he was for all that the school had done for him. He said, "It saved me". This was a good day.

As parents and educators, we have to continue to work as hard as we can to form our children to be caring and, yes, grateful individuals. We have to remember that it really isn't about us. It is about them. While most of the time we toil without much recognition, know that there will be magical moments that we will experience with our children as they grow to adulthood. When these moments occur, you will know that it all was worth it.

Within a few days, we will be sending out the annual parent survey. We are truly interested in knowing what you think about our school. Thanks to parent volunteers, the survey this year will take considerably less time to fill out. This data is important to us. We track it from year to year to measure our success and make program changes or expansions based on what we learn. Please take the time to fill it out when you receive it. Last year, we had an incredible 75% response rate. This speaks volumes about the level of dedication our parents have. On Thursday, April 25th, I will deliver the State of the School Address where I will share the results and outline the strategic vision we have for the school. There will be time allotted that evening for questions and discussion. I look forward to seeing you that evening.

Sincerely,

Dr. William Gartside
Head of School

News & Updates

Registration for Trimester 3 Clubs is now open!
Please fill out the registration form below by Friday, March 1st! Trimester 3 clubs begin on Tuesday, March 12.

There is a limit to the number of students who are able to participate in each club. Every effort will be made to allow for all students to participate in the Col's Clubs program. However, students are not guaranteed placement in every club he or she has signed up for. Waitlists will be generated after a club has been fully enrolled.

Full descriptions of each club are available at by clicking here. If you have any questions, please email clubs@stcps.org.

Click here to register for Trimester 3 Clubs

Save the date!
Trivia Night
Thursday, March 28th

All St. Col's adults (including families, prospective families, faculty & staff) are invited to join us for St. Col's 1st Ever Trivia Night (21+) on Thursday, March 28th from 7-10 pm at the Brighton Elk's Lodge (326 Washington Street, Brighton, MA 02135).

Start forming teams--with creative team names!--of 6-8 people (must be 21+ years old) and come ready to bond with our St. Col's community over some friendly competition. Don't have a team? Don't worry! We will help form teams too.

Tickets are $10 and you need to RSVP and send in your money in advance to reserve your spot. Space is limited! You can send your $10 in with your child or bring it into the main office in an envelope with your name and the word "TRIVIA" on the front. Reserve your spot(s) soon because you won't want to miss out on the good music, food, friends, and fun!

CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP!

Please email communitybuilding@stcps.org with your questions.

Summer Programming

A six-week STEM Academy is offered from July 8th to August 16th to students entering grades 5, 6, and 7. Students will deepen their understanding of STEM concepts through hands-on lab, fieldwork, and engagement in the engineering design process.

An eight-week summer program is offered from June 24th to August 16th to students entering grade pre-kindergarten through grade 4. This program provides a range of academic,
BC Race to Educate
May 4, 2019

May the 4th be with you!!! Start training and get ready for our Annual BC Race to Educate! For those new to STCPS, the BC Race to Educate is our biggest fundraiser of the year and a fun family event! Some walk it, some run it, some cheer for it, but we all do our best to support it.

Keep your eyes out next week for more information regarding the race!

Nomination Window for Excellence in Education Award - Closes Tomorrow!

The Catholic Schools Office, with support from the Catholic Schools Foundation, is now accepting applications for the Archdiocese of Boston Excellence in Education Award. This annual award honors elementary and secondary school teachers’ commitment to developing saints and scholars in Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Boston. These teachers are nominated by parents, administrators, pastors, students or their colleagues because of their demonstration of strong leadership qualities, faith-filled lives, academic excellence and commitment to their students and school. Please share this information with your school community, as we know there are many teachers who deserve to be nominated. Five elementary school teachers and five secondary school teachers will receive $1,500 and be invited to a luncheon with Cardinal Seán O’Malley in May. Nominations must be sent to Annie Smith at smith_a@rcab.org by this Friday. More information can be found by clicking here. Please click here to access the nomination form.

STCPS Drama Program Presents:
Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory

Join us in a world of pure imagination on Thursday, March 14th at 6PM in the gym
as the drama program presents Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. The show is about an hour long and entry is free. We hope to see you there!

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**Calendar Of Events**

**Monday, March 4**
- Family to Family Resource Meeting
  8 AM in the library

**Wednesday, March 6**
- Morning Coffee in the library at 8 AM
  Topic: Social and Emotional Needs of our Children
- Financial Aid Workshop 3 PM - 7 PM
  - Click here to sign up.

**Friday, March 8**
- End of Trimester 2
- Trimester 2 clubs end

**Monday, March 11**
- No School - Teacher Professional Day

**Tuesday, March 12**
- Trimester 3 Clubs Begin
- Financial Aid Workshop 10 AM - 7 PM
  - Click here to sign up.

**Thursday, March 14**
- Morning Coffee in the library at 8 AM
  Topic: Community Building
- Drama Program Present: Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory
  6PM

**Friday, March 15**
- Early Release - 1:05PM Grades 1 - 8
  and 1:15PM Pre-K, K1 & K2

The Boston College Neighborhood Center has many great community events and opportunities. Click here to read more: Boston College Neighborhood Center Newsletter

Visit Our Website Calendar  Download our School Calendar PDF