Dear Families,

We are very proud of our eighth graders who have applied to area Catholic high schools. Students have already been accepted with scholarships to Saint Joseph Prep, Boston College High, Catholic Memorial, Matignon, Mount Alvernia, Xaverian, Arlington Catholic, Fontbonne Academy, and I'm sure I left a few off the list. In March, a number of our eighth graders will hear if they are accepted to area Independent or the Boston Public exam schools. We are very proud of their achievement.

For some of these students, they have been with Saint Columbkille for eleven years and I have known them for the past eight years. As all children are, they are special. When I see one of them in the hallway, I often tell them they are my favorite student. They all are my favorite students, even the ones who test my resolve. While they have done well, they are still working to gain the maturity that will some day translate into success.

It takes something special to be a middle school teacher. They are teaching children when they are most vulnerable. It is difficult for them to believe it is possible that students who push their buttons, who cannot separate from their friends, who are disorganized, and who sometimes do not do their best work will turn into adults who are self-disciplined, respectful, organized, confident and responsible. But they do. Middle school teachers plant the seeds that high school teachers or college professors will reap.

If you are a middle school parent, have faith that what I write is true. You have sacrificed to send your child to our school. The lessons they have learned are invaluable. You will see the fruit of your sacrifice in the not too distant future. For now, let us celebrate their success. For parents whose children are much younger, know that your children will find their way to high school, and it will happen in a blink of the eye.

This week, we sent out our yearly survey. We take a lot of time to analyze the data that you provide us. So far, 60 families have completed the survey. We will be announcing rewards for classrooms that have high levels of completion and the results will be shared at the annual State of the School in March. To complete the survey, [click here].

We are also accepting and processing applications from prospective families. For many grades, we already have wait lists. Please re-enroll as soon as you can or let us know if you will not be returning. We want to give these families an update as soon as possible.

Sincerely,
William Gartside
Head of School

News & Updates

February Vacation Program

We will hold a February Vacation Program for students in Pre-K through grade 4. This
Grade 4 students on Crazy Hair and Hat Day!

Paint Nite
Thursday, March 1st

Grab a couple of your friends and join the Saint Columbkille Community for a Paint Nite! The Community Building Committee invites you to join us on March 1st at 7:00PM at the Green Briar in Brighton Center (ages 21+ only). See the link below to purchase tickets; $15 from every ticket sold goes back to our school! Purchase tickets soon as there are only 40 spots available!

Students played Bingo with their buddies during Catholic Schools Week!

2018/2019 Re-Enrollment

Re-enrollment for the 2018-2019 school year is currently open. We encourage all families to re-enroll by February 16th. If your child will not be returning next year, please let us know by logging into RenWeb and following the same procedure as re-enrollment.

Flatbread Restaurant Fundraiser

Come check out one of the newest family-friendly restaurants in Brighton!

Flatbread Pizza
76 Guest Street, Brighton
Tuesday, February 27, 2018

http://www.bowlbrighton.com
Dine-in or Take-out. Anyone dining or ordering from Flatbread from 4PM - 11PM will be giving back to our school! Invite friends, family, neighbors, co-workers! No coupon needed.

First and fourth grade students sharing their Passport to Learning projects.

Saint Columbkille in the News

We often talk about the importance of developing the whole child here at Saint Col's. Below find links to articles on how our students gave back during Catholic Schools Week, thanked Rockland Trust for its recent support and the importance of the arts in our curriculum. The photos will make you smile!

- STCPS Students Give Back During Catholic Schools Week
- Rockland Trust Bank Donates $25,000 to Saint Columbkille Partnership School Extended Day Program
- January Spirit Day Raises More Than $2,600 to Support Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
- STCPS Featured in Catholic Schools Week issue of The Boston Pilot: Pages 13 and 25

Calendar Of Events

Wednesday, February 14
- Ash Wednesday Mass 9AM

Friday, February 16
- Early Dismissal 1:15PM
- Spirit Day: Haiti Medical Mission

February 19 -23
- Winter Vacation

February 27
- Restaurant Fundraiser at Flatbread

March 1
- Adult Paint Nite at the Green Briar

March 2

Lost and Found

Click here to view photos of our growing lost and found section. Items not claimed by February 16th will be donated.

Spring activities at the McMullen Museum at BC

The McMullen Museum of Art at Boston College is reopening this Monday, February 5th. In order to provide the younger ones an opportunity to engage with the exhibition and get their hands dirty, the Museum has organized a series of events, including a Lunar New Year Celebration, a Spring Celebration, and three Second Saturdays workshops focused on Chinese painting.