



Message from the Head of School

You gotta believe!

For those of us who are Patriots fans, last Sunday night brought smiles to our faces and tired eyes in the morning. Away at a conference on Monday, I missed out on the opportunity to join with students and teachers to celebrate the victory. I heard it was fun. On Tuesday, hundreds of thousands of people lined the streets just to get a glimpse of their favorite sports stars, who for the most part, (Gronk being the expected exception) behaved in an dignified manner. I love to watch him play but, as an educator, wish he would grow up and think before he acts. The kids are watching! And... Bill Belichick did take it a bit too far with his chant "No days off!"

This past week, sportscasters have been analyzing and reanalyzing the game. How could the Patriots have pulled off the greatest comeback in NFL playoff history? How do the Patriots remain competitive year after year? Are Bill Belichick and Tom Brady mortal? What is the secret to their success?

There are parallels that can be drawn between their success on the field and children's success in the classroom. During the course of the game, from the kickoff to the finish, Julian Edelman was heard chanting, "You gotta believe!". Down 25 points, most players in the NFL would have called it quits, for the Patriots this was not an option. The offensive coordinator, Josh McDaniels, repeated over and over again, "One play at a time!" Brady directed his teammates to "stay laser focused!"

In the classroom and in life in general, we know that hard work and determination are the most important ingredients for success. NFL teams try to load up on players with the best pedigree. They seek players with natural talent. They look for the players who can run the fastest and jump the highest. What most teams forget to do is look for players who understand that others are faster and stronger than they are but work their tails off to be as good. Most often, these players exceed all expectation. The players who are told over and over again that they are superior to all the rest (Tom Brady being the exception) often don't get the job done when the critical moment comes. When they face adversity, they quit.

Educational studies have shown that when you tell a group of kids that they are smarter than others, they do not work as hard. When you tell kids that they have succeeded by their hard work and determination they commit to working even harder. We have to tell our children that "they have to believe!" They have to be told that they can overcome adversity, even if it will

take a while to do so. I often hear teachers telling their students to solve problems one step at a time. They will eventually succeed if they do not get discouraged, and if they “stay laser-focused!”

Oh, before I forget, as great as Tom Brady is, he is not nearly as important or makes as much of a difference, as your child’s teachers. They are not in it for the money or for the glory. They come to school everyday and like Bill Belichick, work hard to teach those under their care that they can attain greatness. They teach them to believe!

Sincerely,
William Gartside
Head of School

News & Updates

February Vacation Program

[Click here to register for February Vacation Program](#)

Tomorrow is the final day to submit an application for the February Vacation Program.

The program will run from Tuesday, February 21 - Friday, February 24 from 8:00AM - 5:30PM. This program is open to students in grades pre-kindergarten to 4.



2nd graders adding windows to their cityscape backgrounds. Final step, add their own superhero flying through the sky!

[Click here to re-enroll for the 2017/2018 school year!](#)



Grade 3 students enjoying ice cream sundaes during Catholic Schools Week!

2017/2018 Re-Enrollment

Re-enrollment for the 2017/2018 school year is now open.

To re-enroll or withdraw please follow this link <http://stcps.org/re-enrollment/>.

The deadline for re-enrollment is February 24, 2017, after which we will accept new students and will no longer be able to guarantee a seat, so please register early!

[Click here to view the 2017/2018 tuition rates.](#)

[Click here to sign up for a financial aid workshop.](#)

SAVE THE DATE! BC Race to Educate April 29, 2017

Be sure to save the date for the annual BC Race to Educate, which will take place on Saturday April 29, 2017 in the morning (exact times to be announced soon). The race/walk will begin and end in Alumni Stadium and will feature music, bands and fun for all ages.

New this year! Plan on coming to the Pasta Supper, sponsored by the Community Builders, on Friday April 28! Carb up the big day with other Saint Col's families right here at the school. Bibs and T-shirts will be available for pick up.

This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and we need all families to participate. You will be getting more information within the next 2 weeks... but for now, save the date and look for details, via email and your child's back pack. You can also expect words to inspire you from our own race character named Gail. Gail is running for the first time this year and will be sharing her tips for how to be race ready by the 29th!

Calendar Of Events

February 14

- Spirit Day for the Jimmy Fund: Students may wear red and pink if they bring in a \$1 donation

February 15

- Grade 2 Morning Coffee in the library at 8AM

February 17

- Pajama Day: Students may be wear their pajamas to school!
- Early Dismissal 1:15PM

February 20 -24

- Winter Recess - No School

March 1

- Ash Wednesday Mass 9AM
- Grade 3 Morning Coffee in the library at 8AM

March 3

- Early Dismissal 1:15PM

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