Two of our recent alumni have been accepted into Harvard University. Isabelle Montoute attended Newton Country Day School after graduating from Saint Columbkille, and Gabriella Izzo attended Boston Latin School after Saint Columbkille. Gabriella also won the U.S. National Junior Figure Skating competition last night! These two girls had, and I am sure still have, three things in common. Each have high aspirations. Each work their tails off to reach their goals. And each never wants to be the center of attention. Saint Columbkille Partnership School is so proud of their accomplishments.

As you may know, Kate Ward and I spend some time raising funds for the school to pay for programming and to fund our financial aid program. We have many conversations with donors who believe that Saint Columbkille Partnership School plays an important role in educating children who will become contributing members of society. Each year, we receive approximately 1500 gifts. Some are big, and most are small; each as important as the others. It is comforting to know that there are people who share our values and want to do their part.

I recently got a call from an 85-year-old gentleman who had heard about our school and wondered if I could make a house call to collect a donation. I stopped at his apartment on the way home from school, and he invited me in for a chat. After handing me an envelope with $300 cash, he told me that he was donating on behalf of a social group he had formed twenty years ago. He formed a "ROMEO" chapter (Retired Old Men Eating Out). This group of men have met faithfully for lunch, on a monthly basis, for the past twenty years. He told me that after his wife had died some years ago, he decided to make it a priority to give back. He made a proposition to his lunchmates. At the end of each meal, each member would pitch some money into the kitty. A charity would be chosen, and someone would deliver the cash. This month’s money would go to Saint Columbkille to pay a registration fee for a child. He did not know the child or the family who would be the beneficiaries of the gift. He did not need to know. He told me he did not need any thank you note or any letter for his taxes. He just wanted me to assure him that the money would make someone else’s life easier. He went on to tell me his fascinating life’s story. I was truly inspired. Perhaps, another time I can share it. Suffice it to say, this man has been through a lot of suffering and, yet, is one of the most joyful and generous men I have ever met.

It is comforting to know that at the recent Parent to Parent meeting there was a discussion about ways to help children who come to school without lunch. Parents asked what could be done for our families who may not be receiving a paycheck due to the government shutdown. Please let us know if your family is in this situation. Mary Lyons School in Brighton is also having a Free Food Distribution Event on February 13th. See the flyer below for more information.

We can sometimes feel defeated by the selfishness we see all around us. I am so fortunate to be able to meet so many who have hearts made of gold. Even though you do not need a thank you note, thanks, Bernie Felstein, for all you do to give hope to humanity!

Sincerely,
Catholic Schools Week 2019
January 28 - February 1

Each year, we join all the Catholic Schools in the country to celebrate how special it is to be part of this community. During this week, we will be participating in activities to promote unity, service, and faith. Click the below link to see the schedule for the week.

View the schedule for CSW here!

January Spirit Day

Friday, January 25th will be an out of uniform day to raise money for the Leukemia Lymphoma Society. Join Ms. Ransom in wearing RED to support the incredible blood cancer research funded by the Your $1 Spirit Day donation will go towards supporting other children and families like Ms. Ransom who want to live, learn, love, and grow to accomplish their dreams.

Catholic Schools Night at the Museum of Science

Join us on February 1st from 4 PM to 9 PM at the Museum of Science for Family Fun Night! This is a free event for Saint Columbkille students and families. Click the link below for more information!

Click here for your ticket to the Museum of Science!
Grade 1 students used the Google Expedition goggles to research for their Passport to Learning projects!

Grade 4 students took a field trip to the Boston Aquarium this week. Students were able to touch rays and sharks in this tank, as well as starfish, crabs, and other local marine life in a second tank.

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.

We are looking for a core committee to help organize it. Contact Kate Ward at Kward@stcps.org to join this great group.

Calendar Of Events

Friday, January 25
♦ Spirit Day - Leukemia Lymphoma Society

Monday, January 28
♦ Catholic Schools Week Mass 9 AM

Wednesday, January 30
♦ Morning Coffee in the library at 8AM Topic: Building Resilience in Children

Thursday, January 31
♦ Passport to Learning Night 6 PM

Friday, February 1
♦ EARLY RELEASE 1:05PM Grades 1 - 8 and 1:15PM Pre-K, K1 & K2
♦ Catholic Schools Night at the Museum of Science

Wednesday, February 6
♦ Morning Coffee in the library at 8AM Topic: Physical Education Program

Saturday, February 9
♦ Sweetheart Dance 3 PM - 5 PM

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