The BC Race to Educate is our signature fundraiser and, as importantly, my favorite day of the year. Families come together to have some fun and celebrate the wonderful education for their children. Thank you all who have organized and supported this event during the past years. For those of you who are new to the school, our annual BC Race to Educate raises the funds necessary for us to provide programs that fully develop the whole child. We happily spend in excess of $175,000 each year for salaries and supplies for our art and science programing. The cost of these programs is not fully funded by tuition. The race helps to close that gap.

The best part of my day is when I walk around the school talking with children and teachers. Last week on one such walk, my cell phone pinged. Jen Lynch's ominous message directed me to the science lab. Ms. Birnberg needed to see me right away. “Arrgh!” As I hurried to the lab, I began to think of all the things that may have gone wrong. Maybe there was an accident. Maybe a child was acting up! Maybe the sink was leaking, etc., etc., etc. I hurried my pace. As I entered the room, I observed groups of fourth grade students working on projects. They were so focused on what they were doing that no one seemed to know that I had entered the room. When Ms. Birnberg noticed me, she charged across the room and exclaimed “You have to see this!” She brought me to a group of students. Rosemary, Eva, Kenley, and Clara were building a machine that integrated an inclined plane and a lever to dispense treats. I asked them what they liked about the project. They said they enjoyed working with one another. Each spoke of the specific talent the others brought to the work. They were proud of what they had accomplished as a team!

Visiting the art room, I discovered a group of kindergarten students gathered on the rug. Projected in front of them was a Monet painting. Mrs. Falconer explained that they are working on displaying movement in a still picture. When she asked them what they felt when they looked at the painting, Connor said that it made him feel calm and happy. He said, “Monet is really cool. Ms. Falconer taught us that he made a lot of mistakes when he painted, and it came out beautiful. He did not give up!” He then expounded upon the contrast of colors in the painting. I can’t wait to see their own impressionistic paintings!

I tell you these stories to put a smile on your faces. Children are sponges for learning and there is no end to their enthusiasm. I also share these stories because we need your help to support these programs at our school. Not many schools have an elementary school science specialist who plants the seeds that will grow the engineers and scientists of the future. Not many schools have a talented art teacher who is given the supplies she needs to enable children to fully express themselves, adding beauty to the world around them. We rely on your help to raise money by running in the race and securing pledges. While we know the costs, we also know that the benefit for our children is priceless. Thank you for all of your support as we kick off this wonderful event!
Sincerely,
Dr. William Gartside
Head of School

Register now for the 9th Annual BC Race to Educate!

It’s time to register your family for our biggest fundraiser of the year!

Any student registered by Friday, April 5th can be out of uniform for the day!

Click here to register!

What are funds raised through the BC Race to Educate used for?

Philanthropy provides the fuel that sustains our programs. The BC Race to Educate is one way we raise the 1 million dollars we need to ensure the high quality education students receive at Saint Columbkille Partnership School. Every student benefits from our fundraising efforts! Our outstanding art program, small class size, academic supports such as our learning specialist and coaches, are all partially funded though fundraising. The BC Race to Educate helps to close the gap between what we charge for tuition and what it actually costs to educate a child.

Because of your support, last year we...

$180,000 Raised in Total!
$54,000 by Families
$20,000 by Staff!
70 Sponsors for a total of $88,000 in support!
998 Runners/Walkers!
173 Teams Registered!
1163 Donations received!
150 Volunteers!
Beautiful and Sunny Day!

Click here to learn more about the race!

Help us reach our fundraising goal of $200,000!

Each family is asked to fundraise a minimum of $250.00 but many...
continue to fundraise beyond this goal!

The following prizes will be awarded at these levels:

$250 - Bag of St Col's Goodies
$500 - STCPS Blanket
$1,000 - STCPS Sweatshirts for the whole family

Click here to learn more about how to fundraise!

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### Calendar Of Events

**Friday, March 15**
- Early Release - 1:05PM Grades 1 - 8 and 1:15PM Pre-K, K1 & K2
- Financial Aid Application Deadline
- K2 - Grade 8 Report Cards Available on Renweb

**Saturday, March 16**
- Reconciliation 10:30 AM

**Monday, March 18**
- Family to Family Resource Meeting 8 AM in the library

**Tuesday, March 19**
- Open House for Prospective Families 8:30 AM

**Friday, March 22**
- Spirit Day: Best Buddies
- Loyola March Madness

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

**Thursday, March 28**
- Morning Coffee in the library at 8 AM Topic: A Conversation with the Board President
- Trivia Night 7 PM

The Boston College Neighborhood Center has many great community events and opportunities. Click here to read more: [Boston College Neighborhood Center Newsletter](https://www.bostoncollege.edu/communitycenter/)

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