



SAINT COLUMBKILLE

PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL

Message from the Head of School

Dear Families,

Many years ago, I spent time at a mission in rural Mexico. One hot and humid day, I noticed a parade of young men walking with satchels on their backs, each carrying about 100 pounds of rocks. The men worked hard all day long as part of a service requirement for all community families. One day a week, each family had to supply one able-bodied person to work on behalf of the village on a common project (a road, in this case), and I learned that no family would ever consider skipping this obligation. During my stay, I was incredibly impressed with the shared values that the villages had and how families relied on each other. They worked cohesively to get the job done with no conflict. They all understood the debt they had to their fellow citizens and to future citizens yet to be born.

Of course, in our country we could not replicate such a system with our complicated society. We are disconnected from the work that takes place to keep us safe and advance our economy. Civic pride and an understanding of civic responsibility have given way to a general pervasive attitude that disengages us from our community. My experience in the tiny village in the jungles of Mexico showed me how important a sense of civic duty is for our society.

At Saint Columbkille, we believe that it is our job to plant the seeds in students that will blossom into yearnings to fully participate and give back to our fellow citizens. I was incredibly proud of our Loyola Academy students who worked hard to research and then present their views on the “Separation of Powers”, this year’s theme at Brighton’s annual Law Day. Judge Donnelly, who presides over the event, pulled me aside at the award ceremony, where many of our students earned prizes, to acknowledge their thoughtful work and thank me for teaching them about their government.

We take this work seriously. One of the new Laboratory School initiatives with BC has been taking place in Ms. Krane’s Pre-K class where students have been working on building parks that are inclusive of all people. The children had a meeting with their imaginary mayor and, with the help of their teacher and a BC professor, they have begun to answer the question “How can we make things better?”

We will be talking more about this initiative and other upcoming collaborations with BC as part of our lab school designation at an event for parents next Tuesday, May 15 from 6 to 7 p.m. at the school. I hope you plan to attend to learn how we’ll be working with BC to further improve learning for your children.

Many schools these days do not teach civics and I believe that is a big mistake. Civics teaches us that “united we stand or divided we fall.” A good understanding of civics will teach children that the problems we encounter in life are “our” problems and that the best solutions come from doing the hard work together. It is my hope that in our school when a child sees paper on the floor, he or she will pick it up knowing that it is our trash and with the goal of keeping our school beautiful.

I learned a great deal from my experience in Mexico all those years ago, including the importance of civic duty for the community. The baseline understanding that we need each other in order to gain better lives must be reinforced over and over again.

Sincerely,

News & Updates



Loyola Academy students participated in Law Day at Brighton District Courthouse. Pictured here are the students who won awards for their essays and posters.

May Procession

We invite all families to join us for May Procession on Tuesday, May 15th at 10 AM.

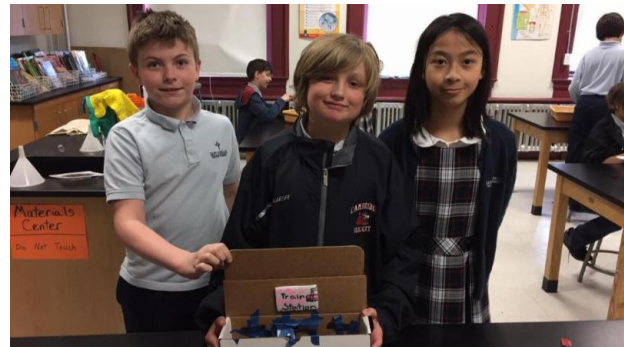
PreK, K1, and K2 should dress in their Sunday Best. Grades 1 - 8 in full dress uniform. (Grades 5, 6, and 7 should be in their dress uniform and may bring sneakers and/or a gym uniform to change into for gym class). Grade 2 students may dress in their first communion outfit.

STCPS Book Fair May 21st - 25th

Looking to purchase new books and gear up for a summer full of reading? The book fair will be open from May 21st - 25th. You may send in money with your child or come in before or after school. See hours below. We are still looking for a few more parent volunteers. Click the link below!

Monday: 10 AM - 4 PM
Tuesday: 7 AM - 4 PM
Wednesday: 7 AM - 4 PM
Thursday: 7 AM - 7:30 PM
Friday: 7 AM - 3 PM

[Click here to volunteer!](#)



4th grade students show their final Maglev Train projects, part of the transportation engineering unit in science class.



Saint Columbkille Partnership School & Boston College Lynch School Laboratory School Celebration

Please join us as we celebrate Saint Columbkille Partnership School's designation as a laboratory school for Boston College's Lynch School of Education (LSOE) on Tuesday, May 15th from 6 PM - 7 PM. Our program will include remarks from Dr. Gartside, Head of School, Stanton Wortham Dean of Lynch

K1 students enjoyed some time outside while they learned about shadows and reflections.

School of Education, Dr. Deoksoon Kim, Associate Professor, and Christine Power, Director, Practicum Partnerships and Professional Development. There will be time for questions as well. The program will be followed by a casual reception on the Plaza. Babysitting will be available for students in PK-Grade 4.

[RSVP Here!](#)

2018 BC Race to Educate

Congratulations on a successful 2018 BC Race to Educate! Thank you to all of our runners, walkers, volunteers, sponsors and fundraisers. We could not have accomplished such an amazing race without each of you. We had perfect weather and a fun family race day! This year, more than 1,000 people registered for the race and we were able to raise \$180,000 to support Saint Columbkille Partnership School. Click below to see the 2018 race statistics.

In the next few weeks, we will host a fun Friday afternoon event on the Plaza to celebrate the success of the BC Race to Educate and to honor the families who won this year's fundraising awards.

Thank you for all of your support!

Gratefully,
Kate Ward
Director of Institutional Advancement

[Click here to see the race statistics!](#)



The Catholic Schools Office Honors STCPS Teacher Anne Krane

The Archdiocese of Boston Catholic Schools Office, with support from the Catholic Schools Foundation, announced Saint Columbkille Partnership School's Anne Krane as one of the first recipients of the prestigious Archdiocese of Boston Excellence in Education Award. The inaugural award honors elementary and secondary school teachers' commitment to



developing saints and scholars in the Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Boston.

[Click here to read the full article about Anne Krane!](#)

Calendar Of Events

May 11

- Baptisms 8:30 AM

May 12

- First Holy Communion 10:30 AM

May 15

- May Procession 10:00 AM (All Grades)
- Saint Columbkille Partnership School & Boston College Lynch School Laboratory School Celebration 6 PM - 7 PM

May 17

- Grade 1 Morning Coffee in the library 7:45 AM - Grade 2 teachers will be in attendance to go over the expectations for the next school year and answer any questions you may have!

May 18

- Early Dismissal
 - Grades 1 - 8: 1:05 PM
 - PK, K1, K2 - 1:15 PM
- Spirit Day - Best Buddies

May 21 - 25

- Book Fair

May 24

- Art Show 6 PM
- Grade 2 Morning Coffee in the library 7:45 AM - Grade 3 teachers will be in attendance to go over the expectations for the next school year and answer any questions you may have!

**** The last day of school is Thursday, June 21st at 11:15 AM ****

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