Message from the Head of School

Dear Families,

At the Morning Coffee this week, the second grade teachers talked about the importance of religion in their curriculum. This year, most of their students will go to confession and receive their first communion. As a Catholic school with Catholic students making up approximately 70 percent of our student body, we have an obligation to teach our students the tenets of our faith and lead them to practice it. Simultaneously, we must welcome and include our families from different faith traditions.

Our second grade teachers, Ms. Betts and Ms. Moran, set this tone remarkably well. They invite their non-Catholic students to support their Catholic classmates as they prepare for the sacraments. At the same time, they make sure that students know that they must respect others who have different beliefs. They also validate the beliefs of their non-Catholic students by engaging them in dialogue about the religious traditions their families hold dear. Children discover that all religions share common themes and this awareness helps build the inclusive community we seek to create at Saint Columbkille.

The Jesuits also see the importance of interreligious dialogue. Jesuits believe that truth is found by engaging others, even when their beliefs are different. Pope Francis, a Jesuit, commented: “If we go in search of other people, other cultures, other ways of thinking, other religions, we come out of ourselves and begin that beautiful adventure that is called ‘dialogue’. Dialogue is very important for one’s maturity, because in relations with other people, relations with other cultures, also in healthy relations with other religions, one grows; grows, matures.”

If we are successful, our children will grow to maturity with open minds. They will establish respectful relationships with children of different faiths and they will not see people of different faiths as threats. Rather, they will seek common ground on which to stand. Our children show us that this mindset is possible.

Sincerely,
William Gartside
Head of School
Open House
Tuesday, October 17th

We are so grateful to our parents for spreading the word about our school.

Our first Open House of the year for prospective families is on Tuesday, October 17th at 8:30AM.

Please spread the word to your neighbors, friends, and family members to encourage them to join our school community.

If prospective families are interested in attending, please RSVP here.

Spread the word about the Open House: Share our Facebook post, by clicking here!

Legacy Night

Are you an Alum of Saint Col's and now have your own children or grandchildren attending school here? Many parents of current students walked the same hallways their kids do, sat in the same classrooms, and even had some of the same teachers. Join us at our first Legacy Night Sponsored by the Alumni Association on October 19, 2017 from 7PM to 8:30PM at the Corrib Pub. Light refreshments will be served.

Please register by October 17, 2017. This is an adult only event.

Register today!

Trunk or Treat!
Sunday, October 29 2:30PM - 4PM

Save the date for the second annual Trunk or Treat in the school parking lot! Students are encouraged to wear their Halloween costumes and go from car to car to get treats.

We are looking for 25 volunteers to decorate the trunks of their cars. Click the link below to sign up. Not interested in decorating your car? Please send bags of candy and treats for the event to the main office.

Sign up now!

Grade 7 students visited the Edward Kennedy Institute. Students debated immigration reform in the US.
Parent Volunteers Needed!

We are currently looking for a parent to help co-chair the Thanksgiving Lunch. This will be held on Wednesday, November 15th. If you are interested, please email Katie Lamothe at clamothe@stcps.org.

To view a full list of the community events for the school year, click here!

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Calendar Of Events

**Tuesday, October 17**
- Grade 3 Morning Coffee 8AM in the "Cafeteria"
- Prospective Parent Open House 8:30AM

**Wednesday, October 18**
- 7th/8th Grade High School Fair 6PM

**Thursday, October 19**
- Legacy Night 7PM at Corrib Pub

**Friday, October 20**
- Spirit Day for Multiple Sclerosis
- Early Dismissal 1:15PM

**Tuesday, October 24**
- Grade 4/5 Morning Coffee 8AM in the library

**Wednesday, October 25**
- Launch Fundraiser 4PM - 8PM

**Friday, October 27**
- Gr K2 - 8 NO SCHOOL
- PK,K1 In Session (No hot lunch)

**Sunday, October 29**
- Trunk or Treat 2:30PM - 4:00PM

**Tuesday, October 31**
- Loyola Morning Coffee 8AM in the library

St. Columbkille Parish will be hosting the World Missions Mass for the Archdiocese on Sunday, October 22 at 11:15AM. We have been asked to have a few Grade 1 - 8 students be greeters. Please let Ms. Rumely (rrumely@stcps.org) know if your child is available and would like to help out from 10:30AM - 11:15AM.

Click here to see upcoming events in Brighton!