

DMCS eNewsletter October 22, 2020

Dear Parents-

Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow.... wait ...NOOOOOOOO! It's too early for all this white stuff, but like it or not, winter is coming! This is a great reminder for us all to get the winter gear out and ready for the season.

As soon as snow stays on the ground, students will be required to have boots, snow pants, hats, coats, and mittens to be outside each recess. The cold and wet along with the snow makes snow pants mandatory! Thank you for helping keep them dry and warm. We will go outside unless the temperature or wind chill is below zero. This is true all winter long.

Tomorrow is the end of the first quarter. Our students have been awarded a "pajama day" in honor of their great efforts raising funds through our Spooktacular Run. As part of this fun end of the quarter day, our parent organization P.A.W.S. (Parents Actively Working in Schools) has sponsored a movie day for the students as well. A big thank you goes out to parents for this reward for our students. If you are interested in being part of this organization and helping to bring fun enrichment and activities to school, join the group. Meetings are held monthly and can be attended virtually. All are welcome!

We look forward to meeting with all our parents to talk about their child's progress soon. Conferences will be held on Monday, November 2nd and Thursday, November 5th. You should have signed up with your child's teacher through sign-up genius already. Please contact them if you haven't gotten a time scheduled yet.

I heard the news last week that the Public School has made the decision to have their students not attend school on Wednesdays. They are, however, still operating care programs on that day. Therefore, all bussing will remain the same and we will continue our learning plan as we have been with all students here every day.

Divine Mercy Catholic School is doing well. We have followed our PPRP and there have been no confirmed cases of Covid-19 so far in any student or staff member. I am not naïve enough to think that it won't happen, but I am confident that we are being diligent in tracking symptoms and we will respond accordingly. When someone tests positive, we will consult with MDH to determine which segments of the school population will quarantine.

We are monitoring the events in the greater community, but any decision we make will be driven by what is happening in our school and with our population. I will openly and swiftly communicate any change in our learning plan directly to our school parents. Each day we remain in session is a victory for our students and families. Please continue to pray for the health of all of us as we pray for all of you.

I hope you have marked your calendars for Trunk or Treat next week. This event will be taking place at the Rice County Fair Grounds this year on Halloween from 4-6 PM. In order to provide adequate mitigation, this will be a drive through event. Trunks will be spaced apart and treaters will stay in their vehicles. Join the fun as a treater or a trunk sponsor. We ask all trunks to register through the sign-up genius at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0D4AADA2EA6F49-trunk>

This will allow us to adequately plan for the number we will expect. It will be a great evening of fun!

Next week marks the end of October. Thank you for all you are doing to keep us in school face to face. In most of the schools I have heard about, the infection is coming from out of school gatherings. I ask you to be prudent in your decisions over the next few weeks. Staying healthy keeps us here and Thanksgiving is our next goal.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Blessings to you-i

Every child is a Vision of Hope!

Mrs. Ashley



DMCS will be having a new and gently used winter coat and snowpants drive in the month of November. Beginning on November 2nd and ending on November 20th, we are asking families to donate winter gear. Please package the winter coats and snow pants in plastic bags, then drop them off in the DMCS entry way between the two glass doors.

Get Involved: DMCS is looking for interested people to join the School Advisory Committee to be representatives at Parish Finance and Marketing/Development. If you have an interest or expertise in these areas-we need you! Please contact Gina Ashley (gashley@dmcs.cc) for more information.

We will also be having a food collection during this time. Boxes for the nonperishable food items will be on tables in the front hallway. Please check expiration dates before sending, thank you.



Our annual Fall Scholastic Book Fair will be held the week of November 2nd. Your child will have an opportunity to purchase a book at the Book Fair during their library time. Parents will also have an opportunity to shop the evening of conferences! This is a great time to start your Holiday shopping! Books make great gifts!

<u>Dates to Remember</u>	
Oct. 23	End of 1st Quarter
Oct. 28	8:30 Mass - Gr. 4D Host
Oct. 30	Dress Code Reward Day
Oct. 31	Halloween/Trunk-or-Treat
Nov. 1	Daylight Saving Time Ends
Nov. 2	Parent/Teacher Conferences 4-8 PM Fall Book Fair
Nov. 3	Election Day!
Nov. 4	8:30 Mass - Gr. 5O Host
Nov. 5	Parent/Teacher Conferences 4-8 PM Fall Book Fair

Para/Tutor Needed: DMCS parent seeking a motivated individual to assist their child with e-learning. Hours TBD. \$14.00-\$18.00 per hour depending on qualifications. Please contact 507-339-9602

Photo Retakes

Procedure for retakes and for those that absent when pictures were taken.

- For those that were missed** the photo order form is attached
- For those requesting a retake**, please make sure to bring the original photos back. A reason for the retakes must be written on the returning photo package. Mr. Oldenburg will work to correct that on the retakes.

Mike OldenburgOldenburg Photography (507)455-0959 www.oldenburgphotography.com

SPOOKTACULAR 2020 is in the books. Congratulations to all our Race Winners:

- 5K Over 21 Male: Richard Rein
- 5K Over 21 Female: Dana Pemrick
- 5K Under 21 Male: Ethan Wisdo
- 5K Under 21 Female: Lilas Metro
- 1 Mile Male: Seth Linnemann
- 1 Mile Female: Bliss Riesing



Bethlehem Academy & Divine Mercy Catholic School were blessed with fantastic weather and many volunteers. We truly appreciate everyone who participated, supported or volunteered at this event. Special thanks to our Sponsors: Donahue’s Greenhouse, Varley Construction, Mulligan Landscaping, Van Haren Construction, Owatonna Veterinary Hospital, Bothun Brothers Construction, Edward Jones (Cate Grinney), Full Tilt Logistics, Richie Eye Clinic, Southern Heights Dental, Voegel Concrete & Hardscapes, Parker Kohl, Albert Lea Seed, Culligan Water and SYSCO.

