



DMCS Newsletter February 25, 2021

Dear Parents-

Our last week of February is almost complete. For me, the month flew by. On the corner, in the halls, and in most conversations, there are signs of spring and a light beginning to shine at the end of the tunnel. For Lent, I have been working on focusing on the good things. It is really helping to shape my attitude and today as we are close to the one-year mark of this challenge, I would like to share a few "Visions of Hope" with you. Let's title it, "Good Things That Have Come from the Covid-19 Struggle of 2020-2021". ☺

The break in "Life as Always" has given us all an opportunity to re-evaluate what is most important in our lives. Most people's frantic pace has settled into one with more down time. Faith, Family, and Connection with People have been re-established as the most important things in our lives.

Creativity Abounds-The challenges of the last year have brought about creative solutions to just about everything. Who would have believed we could do so much through our computers, cell phones, and from our cars!

My faith in the resilience of the human spirit has been renewed. We can tackle challenges and rise to the occasion in ways that astound me. The staff, families and students at school have shown time and time again that they will persevere.

Character traits of kindness, generosity, and empathy have been practiced in abundance. We have had wonderful opportunities to teach the importance of these to our students. I have witnessed their growth in these areas and seen many acts of kindness and community service that make my heart sing.

As Catholic Schools across the nation have persevered through this challenge with a focus on the child and what is most important, my commitment to the importance of our mission has been renewed and solidified. We have continued to put our students first and worked to deliver the essential education they deserve. I feel so blessed to have walked through this with the dedicated staff of our school.

I am sure there are more "silver linings" as well, but these are the big ones for me. I hope you have been able to see some light as well.

Thank you to all who have re-enrolled for next year. We are grateful that you are placing your trust in us. If you have not completed this process or have questions, please contact Ginger VanHecke (gvanhecke@dmcs.cc) for assistance.

Jules Nolan is offering more parent sessions in March. See below for information on this.

Helping your Struggling Learner - for Parents

When our children struggle in school, it is hard to know when to be firm and when to be flexible. Should we intervene early and structure the environment for success or should we view learning as developmental and expect all of our children to advance at different speeds? Should we give our kids consequences for poor grades or can we "pay" them to get A's? How do we know when poor school achievement is something more serious than low motivation? In this session you will learn research-based strategies for helping struggling learners no matter the cause of the struggle. You will also learn signs of more serious learning issues and

how to help your child thrive in school.

March 10, 7:00 pm

March 22, 7:00 pm

<https://calendly.com/drijulesnolan/helping-your-struggling-learner-for-parents>

The end of 3rd quarter is on March 12th. K-5 are having conferences on March 9th and 11th. You should have received a link to sign up for this with your child's teacher. We will also be having our Spring Book Fair in conjunction with conferences. Look for more info on this coming soon.

As we continue to work to adjust to the changing recommendations associated with Covid-19, we are making an adjustment to our allowable group size. We will begin to allow grade-level homerooms to come together for activities, classes, and special projects. These groups will still be required to follow masking and physical distancing guidelines in all other ways. Larger groups will be encouraged to use larger spaces for these joint activities. Teachers will also be allowed to rearrange desks in their classrooms to other seating arrangements. Face to face seating will still not be allowed. We continue to thank our parents and students for their excellent work in helping us manage the impact of Covid-19 on our community.

Blessings-

Mrs. Ashley

Every child is a Vision of Hope!



Spread the Word Preschool Open House

February 28th

11AM -2PM

Sign-up for a time slot



Dates to Remember

- Feb. 26 Dress Code Reward Dress Down Day
- Mar. 9 K-5 Conferences and 11 Book Fair
- Mar. 12 End of 3rd Quarter
- Mar. 15 Spring Break -19
- Mar. 26 Dress Code Reward Dress Down Day
- Apr. 2 No School-Good Friday
- Apr. 5 No School-Easter Monday Childcare Programs available



We Need YOU!

Want to further the mission of our school? Interested in Marketing and Advancement? Want to help engage our community? We are looking for interested people to be part of the School Advisory Council (SAC) in 2021-2022. Contact Gina Ashley (gashley@dmcs.cc) for more information.

DMCS Sledding Party

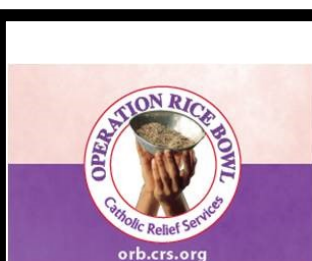
Rescheduled for Saturday, February 27th at Camp Omega

Two Sessions:
10-12 and 1-3

Fun for the Family:

- Sledding
- Broom Ball
- Other Activities

No Cost:
sponsored by PAWS (Parents Actively Working in School)



As part of our Lenten journey this year, students in each classroom are performing an extra daily act of prayer, kindness, or service to others. For almsgiving, classrooms are collecting loose change for Catholic Relief Services.

All donations are greatly appreciated