



## CONN-AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

### "Centered in Christ"

October 2022

*Each morning the entire school community gathers in the hallway to share morning prayers.*

*We read from a prayer book that contains readings from the Bible. Most recently we just finished Genesis. Each day we read about a day of creation and saw that it was good. And on the seventh day He rested! Do not underestimate the value and the message of that seventh day. Consider that the first six days are dedicated to the work we do each day – our earthly duties. On that seventh day, we 'rest'. We let go of our earthly concerns and focus on what really matters – family, friends, and our Lord. If you contemplate the value of the first six days compared to the value of the seventh day, you may be inclined to think only the first six days were productive. The seventh was a 'free' day – a 'do nothing' day – less valuable.*

*Not so. The seventh day is a gift to be cherished and valued. Make it so.*



### All Schools Mass

Each year, the two oldest grades within each of the diocesan schools are invited to attend the "All Schools Mass" at the Blessed Sacrament Cathedral. This year our fifth and sixth grade students will be attending the Mass on October 5. Following the Mass, we will share lunch together at Eat-n-Park. We look forward to a spiritual and faith-filled experience.



### **Living Rosary**

It has been a long tradition that our 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> graders prayerfully lead the school community in the Living Rosary. This will be held on Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 in the gymnasium. We hope that you will join us for this prayer service. All are welcome. Please use the Conn-Area Catholic School entrance. Thank you to Mrs. Lohr for planning the event and for preparing the students. This is a formal attire day.



### **PTG Meeting**

Our next PTG meeting will be held on Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. This will be a very special meeting, as our new superintendent, Dr. Rottler will be joining us. She and Mr. Bill Barnes, Director of Special Services will be sharing with you information about tuition in the Catholic schools of the diocese. We hope you will join us to learn more and plan for your child's future. Our second and fourth graders will be leading us in prayer and our families of our first and third graders will be providing refreshments. Please plan to attend.



### **Faculty and Staff Retreat**

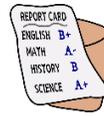
On October 10<sup>th</sup>, the faculty and staff will be attending a retreat at Caritas Christi. There will be no school for the students and the office will be closed that day.



### **ALICE Training**

The Diocese of Greensburg has been proactive in addressing the needs of school safety over the last several years. Teachers and staff are trained in ALICE – Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate. Students then go through the program that is more suited to their age level. In the olden days – (yes, your time, too) – we were taught to cower in a corner of the classroom and hope for the best. That is not how it is done through ALICE. We teach the kids that we may have to spread out around the room and prepare to throw items or attack as a group. Students are also taught to run away when they can and not wait for an adult to direct them. By the end of October, children in kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade will have gone through the ALICE training. We encourage you to ask questions, as you see fit, without making your children anxious. Our program is truly suited to be effective and yet sensitive to our children's age levels. Unfortunately, it is a necessary program. The theme is "I'm not scared; I'm prepared!"

## End of the First Nine Weeks



It is hard to believe, but our end of the first quarter is on October 27. In order to receive your child's report card you must sign up for the document delivery. I will be sending out the process for this tool in an email. If you have any questions about it, contact the office.



## Red Ribbon Week

During the week of October 23<sup>rd</sup> through the 31<sup>st</sup>, we celebrate Red Ribbon Week. During this time we bring awareness of the dangers of drugs. There will be various activities planned. A separate calendar of events will be coming home closer to that week. One such event will actually be held on October 11<sup>th</sup>, when the children will meet a canine officer and learn what role this dog plays in keeping them safe. On October 26<sup>th</sup>, our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders will witness the "Road Radio Show", which provides an important message about the dangers of drugs.



## Fire Prevention Awareness Week

The week of October 9<sup>th</sup> is Fire Prevention Week. The entire student body will receive important fire safety measures to take to both prevent fires and to escape fires. We thank Connellsville Township Volunteer Fire Dept. for the education they provide regarding this and for their service to the community. The assembly will be held on October 12.



## Monster Mash Bash

Please support our fundraising efforts by attending our Monster Mash Bash featuring Jason Kendall Productions on October 29. This band provides fun and talent through their music and entertainment. It is time to hit the dance floor and celebrate. Tickets are \$20. What a great way to bring the adults in your families together for a fun time. There is always that one family member who takes the lead – let it be you! For more details, check out the enclosed flyer.



## Crawford's Cabin

On October 18<sup>th</sup>, our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders are heading to Crawford's Cabin to spend a day in colonial times. They will be engaged in candle-dipping, egg-dying with onion skins, touring the cabin to learn about the tools of everyday living, and playing colonial children's games. We thank Mrs. Mullaney and the Connellsville Historical Society for providing such a great learning experience for our students.



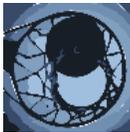
### **Triple B Pumpkin Farm**

Our kindergarten and first graders will be taking a bus trip to the Triple B Pumpkin Farm on October 20. This will be a great time for picking pumpkins, visiting pumpkin characters, and so much more! We wish them a 'fall'abulous time!



### **Cross Country Season Heading into the Finish Line**

Our Cross Country team is 22 students strong; ranging in ages from five to twelve. These little runners are so impressive, working hard to achieve their personal best scores. The meets include all 12 Catholic schools competing in a very fun-filled and encouraging sports event. The season ends on October 9<sup>th</sup> with a meet being held at St. Vincent College. If you are looking for something to do, I highly recommend you come out and experience the fun. I want to thank our coaches - Margaret House, Max House, Matt Schnorr and Lindsay Yoders, who have devoted a great deal of time with practices and meets. All coaching staff members do this as volunteers!



### **Coming Soon – Boys Basketball and Cheerleading**



Boys' basketball season begins in November through February, for students in grades 3 through 6. We hope to have enough for a Junior JV team (gr. 3 and 4), as well as a JV team (gr. 5 and 6). We are also in need of a coach or two. If you would be interested in coaching, please let me know. It is a volunteer position and requires clearances and a concussion training. Our boys' basketball team receives the support of our girls cheerleading squad. We are grateful to our returning cheer coaches: Tiffany Zylka, Megan Patsch, and Renee Davis. Girls in grades PK through 6<sup>th</sup> are encouraged to participate. An email with the 'Invitation to Participate' and related forms were sent out last week. Go Crusaders!

***Thank you for a wonderful start to a new school year!***

