



Saint Charles
Catholic School

Principal's Weekly Update---Tuesday, June 30th, 2020 Happy Summer Everyone!

As soon as (the branch of the fig tree) becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that the summer is near. (Matthew 24:32)

Well we made it! We got through one of the toughest school years ever, and even though we are not totally through the COVID-19 pandemic yet, we have seen some movement towards a more normal lifestyle in many ways.

Many of you are wondering what the next school year will bring, and how it will look and impact us at St. Charles Catholic School. At this point, we don't have a solid answer yet from the government. We do know that we should have one by August 1st, and that the government is looking at three different scenarios. The question we all have is "which one will be implemented?" We know that it will depend on what Public Health is also advising the government nearer to the start date, and how many cases of COVID-19 are in our province when school is set to resume. Even though summer holidays have officially started, and I will be away for part of the time, I will be in touch with any government teleconferences, as well as Manitoba Federation of Independent Schools meetings to keep up to date and current with the given situation.

I would like to extend some sincere "thank yous" at this time.

Parents: You were thrown into a very difficult situation, all while struggling with your own professional and personal issues. You had to assume the role of homeschool teacher and do the best you could under the difficult circumstances. This truly was an experience which you are likely never to forget, but you rose to the challenge, and worked with teaching staff to provide the best possible scenario to educate your child. Your support and thoughtfulness during these extremely trying times were greatly appreciated and on behalf of the staff, I would like to say thank you! Thank you for doing your best, working alongside the teachers, and keeping your son/daughter's education moving forward. Thank you!

Students: This experience was truly something you have never experienced before, and you rose to the challenge! You worked hard, you tried your very best, all while being away from an environment that you love and missing your friends and teachers. You might not have understood the full impact of what was going on in the world, but you dedicated yourself to keep learning, knowing that you had to do your best. All of your teachers, myself and Mrs. Prettie, are so very proud of you! All of the staff missed you so very much every day, and we loved having any type of contact that we could, through Zoom meetings, Microsoft Teams, 1:1's, or small groups in June. Thank you!

School Board: Our School Board and Corporate Board worked tirelessly behind the scenes providing support wherever needed. On behalf of the staff, students and parent community, thank you all so very much for helping us when we needed you and for always being there. It was truly appreciated. You are an amazing group of volunteers! Thank you!

Staff: My teaching staff rose to the challenge from switching from classroom learning to online learning, and in a very short span of time. This was truly an experience they will never forget, and they all worked tirelessly to do their best job! The dedication they showed towards their students was wonderful, and I have great respect for all of you. You should feel very proud of what you have accomplished. It was incredible! Thank you! A special thank you to my office, support and maintenance staff who did so much work behind the scenes! I can't thank you enough for all your support and hard work.

It is my hope for all of you parents, students, Board members and staff, that over the summer months you are able to replace the emotional and physical energy you have given, and have a sense of peace during these summer months.

At this time, as we always do in my last update, I would like to extend sincere best wishes to all of those who are leaving the SCCS community. To our Gr. 8 students, we wish you the very best as you leave St. Charles and begin your new journey into high school. May God continue to bless each one of you and may you always remember SCCS, and all the lessons that you learned while you were here. Although you didn't have the Gr. 8 Farewell that you expected, you did enjoy the Farewell Parade that staff did in your honour and we had SO much fun doing it for you! We will truly miss you.

To the families and students who are leaving us. We wish you all the best as you move on and we know that God will continue to bless you and look over you. Good luck and thank you for being part of the SCCS family! We will miss you too.

At this time, I would also like to wish Ms. Claire Aiello all the best as she moves on from St. Charles and begins a new adventure in her teaching career. On behalf of the entire community, we wish you all the best and we thank you for your service at SCCS. Please know that you will be truly missed!

We do have some staffing changes for the 2020-2021 school year:

Mrs. Nancy Froystad will be returning from maternity leave and will be teaching Gr. 5.

Mrs. Carol Luinenburg will be teaching Gr. 4.

Mrs. Christa Mardis will be teaching Gr. 3.

EXCITING NEWS: Mrs. Athena Barnes is expecting her first baby in November! We are thrilled for her and can't wait for Baby Barnes to arrive! Congratulations Mrs. Barnes and her husband! ☺

Mrs. Barnes will be returning to school for the first part of the new school year, but in a different capacity, as Resource support to Ms. Booth.

We welcome Ms. Mary Chipman to Gr. 1. She will be covering Mrs. Barnes' maternity leave while she is away.

PLEASE NOTE: The school office will be open Wednesday, July 1st, Thursday, July 2nd, and Friday, July 3rd, from 8:00-4:00pm. After that, the school will be closed until Tuesday, August 25th. If you haven't picked up your son/daughter's report card by the end of this week, please know that it will be held for you until we re-open on August 25th.

Due to COVID-19, we were not able to host our Kinder Grad event. Instead, both Ms. Arigo and Mrs. Laufer organized a visit to each of the Kinders' homes and invited both Mrs. Prettie and myself to attend. It was a lot of fun, and the students were very surprised to see us waiting on their front steps!

The next day, many staff took part in the Gr. 8 Farewell Parade, as mentioned above, and spent the day visiting each home for all the Gr. 8 students. It was an amazing event, and we made a lot of noise as we beeped horns, rang bells, and cheered for our students!

Today Mrs. Prettie and I were honored to hand out awards to many of our students. Students had a chance to stop at the photo booth to take a picture and many took advantage of this opportunity.

Here are the award winners for this year, including the Gr. 8 winners:

Jordan Paige Citizenship Award---*Katharine Brunotte (Gr. 8)*
Robert Morrison Leadership Award---*Amy Hildebrand (Gr. 8)*
Diane Giguere O'Rourke Award---*Bryson Coulombe (Gr. 1)*
Gladys Belhumeur Award---*Anna & Daniel Mora (parent volunteer award)*
Damian Mills Award---*Cy Hoorne (Gr. 6)*
George Jones Memorial Award---*Everett Houlahan (Gr. 4)*
Keira Bond Award---*Ariana Hawkins (Gr. 5)*
Cornerstone Award---*Juan Clark (Gr. 7)*
Chad Friesen Spirit Award---*Dimitrios & Xenia Tambakis (Grs. 8 & 7)*
Catholic Women's League Award---*Langaletu Ndibali (Gr. 5)*
Most Improved Student (Middle Years)---*Tyler Redl (Gr. 8)*
Louis Caron Bursary Award---*Evan Peters (Gr. 7)*
Louis Caron Most Dedicated & Improved Award---*Karin Jalonen (Gr. 7)*
Middle Years Musicianship Award---*Diza Alvarez & Xenia Tambakis (Grs. 8 & 7)*
Star Performer Male Award---*Benjamin Moung (Gr. 5)*
Star Performer Female Award---*Bailey Dawson (Gr. 3)*
Mozart in the Making Award Male---*William Ross (Gr. 2)*
Mozart in the Making Award Female---*Rebecca Barr (Gr. 2)*
Middle Years Most Improved Musician Award---*Emily Schettler (Gr. 6)*
Most Improved Athlete Gr. 6-8 Male Award---*Lachlan Compton (Gr. 7)*
Most Improved Athlete Gr. 6-8 Female Award---*Kaylee Wiebe (Gr. 7)*
Athlete of the Year Gr. 3-5 Male Award---*Dylan Prettie (Gr. 5)*
Athlete of the Year Gr. 3-5 Female Award---*Vivienne Siwak (Gr. 4)*
Athlete of the Year Gr. 6-8 Male Award---*Dylan Currie (Gr. 8)*
Athlete of the Year Gr. 6-8 Female Award---*Jordyn Szwaluk (Gr. 8)*
Patrol of the Year Award---*Langaletu Ndibali (Gr. 5)*
Patrol of the Year Award---*Ethan Powell (Gr. 5)*

K-2 Sportsmanship Award Female---*Selina Cotroneo (Gr. 2)*
K-2 Sportsmanship Award Male---*Coltan Conklin (Gr. 2)*
Academic Excellence Awards---*Vivienne Siwak (Gr. 4), Luca Duczeminski (Gr. 4), Mary Lye (Gr. 5), Aubrie Clark (Gr. 6), Kaylee Wiebe (Gr. 7D), Maksim Thomas (Gr. 7B), Katharine Brunotte (Gr. 8)*

***Congratulations** to all our students who received Honor Roll and Honor Roll Gold Awards as well!

***Congratulations** to all our award winners for the 2019-2020 school year! We are very proud of all of you!

Wishing you all a wonderful, peaceful, relaxing summer full of God's blessings, and special family memories. Thank you for your continued support, caring, and understanding as we navigated this unusual school year. This community is second to none, and I am extremely grateful to be part of it. Looking forward to seeing you all back on September 8th, as we begin a new journey together!
Tammy

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