



*Where children of God are welcomed, nurtured, and served,
Guiding souls and growing minds.*

1.25.18

Dear Parents/Guardians/Students:

I usually cheer for the underdog. But the Patriots in the Superbowl again is truly impressive.

- Nancy B. Witter Good Steward Scholarship: Winners will be notified tomorrow and will receive their scholarship at the Scholarship Liturgy during Catholic Schools Week next Thursday, February 1.
- School Closure Note: I just want to thank all of you for your understanding with the school closure this past Monday. Even though the power came back on, it had been very spotty. To place children and staff in a building with the strong possibility of the power going back out and then being without a fire alert system, heat, and light was too risky.
- School Messenger Emergency Broadcast System: My report indicates that there are some phone numbers that have “blocked” the office phone number which explains why you may not have received a call. If you don’t know why you didn’t receive two calls on Monday morning and one on Tuesday evening, we can check that too. Just please call the office and we’ll look into it for you. Thank you.
- Tuition Tax Credit Scholarship: I’m pressing hard for next Wednesday’s Empower Illinois Scholarship. This is THE big one. **Those who receive tuition assistance must complete this scholarship at noon next Wednesday, January 31.** This scholarship can possibly pay for 50%, 75%, or even 100% of your tuition! The Big Shoulders Scholarship last Monday received over 11,000 applications in just over one day—and that was only for Cook County! Empower Illinois is state-wide, but it also possesses million of dollars more in scholarship dollars to give away. It’s on a first come-first served basis. Therefore, if you apply at 2:30 P.M. instead of 12:00 P.M., you’re already behind by thousands of applicants! This is a five year program.
- Overdue Tuition: If you still have an outstanding tuition balance, you need to become current as soon as possible. I do realize that it is tempting to push our “bill” to the bottom of the stack of other bills you have. However, we too have bills that must be paid. Without tuition funds, we cannot pay for electric, phone, water, salaries, supplies, insurance, and taxes. If you receive a scholarship from Empower Illinois, you can ignore these tuition notes from me for the next five years!
- Confirmation Note: This morning, our 7th graders began the formal process of Confirmation preparation at the Commissioning Ceremony during our School Mass. Each of them signed their name in the parish book of Confirmation Candidates. At this mass, they were each given a “Confirmed in Faith” Service Hour Log Booklet. This book contains valuable information and a chart for the students to log their service hours. Forty (40) hours of service are required for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please review the booklet with your child and make sure your child is properly recording his/her service hours and obtaining signatures from the supervisor of their service. The students were informed that they need to keep track of these booklets. If the booklet is lost, your child must start over with their service hours. Please stress this with your child. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mrs. Klopp in the Religious Education Office at (708)754-0713. Thank you.

- Catholic Schools Week: A pink note went home last week completely detailing the events of Catholic Schools Week, which is on the school website at www.saintagnes.us Here's CSW in a nutshell:

☺ Monday, January 29: Patron Saint Dress Down Day: If your child wants to dress like a doctor on this date, he or she will have to know that Saint Luke is the patron saint and one interesting fact about him. Your child is NOT supposed to dress like a saint would dress 1,600 years ago. Your child is to dress as the occupation/ministry/vocation of your patron saint as you would or could see them **today**. This dress down day will be adjusted for the primary grades.

☺ Tuesday, January 30: Dress ↓ Day and Get ↑ and Dance Day:

☺ Wednesday, January 31: Pot Luck Heritage Night Open House: 6:30-8:00 P.M. Bring a dish to share. No agenda—just eat! Right now, I have only about 11 responses. We can do way better than that. This is a great night to share our heritage with each other. You don't need me to tell you that Saint Agnes is a special place. Let's share our unique identity with each other! Please either complete the form found on our website at www.saintagnes.us or call the office. The form accompanies your dish so parents know the ingredients in case of allergies. Thank you.

☺ Thursday, February 1: Scholarship Liturgy and Special Person Lunch Day: Our Scholarship Liturgy will be at 10:00 A.M. (not the normal 8:15 A.M. start) Afterwards, from 11:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M. come in and enjoy spending a little time in your child's classroom. And thanks to our Home & School Association for orchestrating a hot dog lunch for all students and parents free of charge on this day. Each student in grades preschool-8th grade will receive one hot dog, a bag of chips, and a water. Adults will get two hot dogs. Isaiah Hall will be set up to accompany all Special Persons to eat lunch with your child on this day. Preschool – 3rd graders eat lunch from 11:15-11:45 A.M. and the 4th – 8th graders eat lunch from 12:00 – 12:30 P.M. Community.

☺ Friday, February 2— Teacher Appreciation Day: Thank your child's teacher for their love.

- The Krispy Kreme Fundraiser is going on now! The Home and School Association is sponsoring a Krispy Kreme Doughnut Fundraiser. 50% of all proceeds will go to the Home and School Association to help fund the Fun Day/End of Year Picnic 2018. Each student who sells at least one item will earn a free dress down day. (More information on this day to come.) All orders and money are due by next Friday, February 2, 2018. Doughnuts and other items will be delivered to Saint Agnes School on Thursday, February 8, 2018 for pick up after school.
- Facebook and Website Info: Parents—be sure to like us on our Facebook page: “St. Agnes Parish and Catholic School” page. Keys to Success and various other pictures are online now. If you're not on Facebook, you can go to our website at www.saintagnes.us and see the same pics there! We currently have 647 ‘likes.’ Spread the news!

February

2	Krispy Kreme Doughnut Fundraiser orders are due
6	First Reconciliation 6:30 P.M. here in the Saint Agnes Church ISBE State Recognition Visit
8	Krispy Kreme Doughnut Fundraiser orders are delivered after school
9	No School—Teacher Inservice Day
14	Ash Wednesday. Saint Valentine's Day
15	Home and School Hot Lunch
19	No School—President's Day
23	Stations of the Cross at 1:30 P.M.

Talent sets the floor, character sets the ceiling.

— Bill Belichick