

Inspiring Minds | Igniting Hearts

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January 9, 2015

Dear Parents,

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and Welcome Back! I hope that each of you enjoyed the break from school.

Principal

Tuesday's snow was certainly an adventure; I am grateful that everyone traveled safely. Given the craziness of the weather and closing decisions, please be sure that you are consistently checking the news for school delays and closings. We follow Fairfax County Public Schools with regard to weather delays and closings.

The 2nd quarter will end on January 23rd and report cards will go home on January 30th. Please encourage your students to complete all back work and give their best effort all the way to the end. The annual March for Life rally is scheduled for January 22, 2015; please know that this is considered an excused absence for those students who attend with their families.

There is quite a bit of important information included in this Family Folder. Of primary importance is information regarding registration and tuition for the 2015–2016 school year. Additionally, Catholic Schools Week is quickly approaching and the schedule of events is included.

When meeting with mostly lay Vatican employees prior to Christmas, Pope Francis provided what many are considering a list of New Year's Resolutions. Maybe we can all take them to heart:

- "Take care of your spiritual life, your relationship with God, because this is the backbone of everything we do and everything we are."
- "Take care of your family life, giving your children and loved ones not just money, but most of all your time, attention and love."
- "Take care of your relationships with others, transforming your faith into life and your words into good works, especially on behalf of the needy."
- -Be careful how you speak, purify your tongue of offensive words, vulgarity and worldly decadence."



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- -Heal wounds of the heart with the oil of forgiveness, forgiving those who have hurt us and medicating the wounds we have caused others."
- -Look after your work, doing it with enthusiasm, humility, competence, passion and with a spirit that knows how to thank the Lord."
- -Be careful of envy, lust, hatred and negative feelings that devour our interior peace and transform us into destroyed and destructive people."
- -Watch out for anger that can lead to vengeance; for laziness that leads to existential euthanasia; for pointing the finger at others, which leads to pride; and for complaining continually, which leads to desperation."
- "Take care of brothers and sisters who are weaker. the elderly, the sick, the hungry, the homeless and strangers, because we will be judged on this."

Blessings always,

Maureen Ashby Principal