



MATER DEI

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

2018 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON
SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

Mary, May We Be A Reflection Of Your Hope And Peace

Dear Parents,

It was so good to see your beautiful children this morning! We missed them and are happy to have them back in school.

As a school community, we continue to be vigilant regarding cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting procedures. The teachers and Mr. Charlie work each day to ensure the classrooms, bathrooms, and all general areas and high touch surfaces are cleaned, sanitized, and disinfected regularly.

We want to reiterate that we have three children who tested positive for COVID-19. The students contracted the virus outside of school. To this date, we have had **no school spread** of COVID-19. We will continue to provide on-going information regarding our school community if we become aware of any additional situations. Last Friday, the private schools met with members of the Montgomery County Department of Health. There were three points that we wish to bring to your attention.

- Montgomery County saw a sizable surge in COVID-19 cases after Halloween. The County is attributing this situation to Halloween gatherings and sleep-overs.
- The Montgomery County Department of Health is expecting to see the surge in the weeks following Thanksgiving.
- Also, the MCD of Health still requires the 14-day quarantine timeline for anyone who has been exposed to a positive COVID-19 diagnosis.

Several families have decided to keep their children in the eLearning Program for the next two weeks. We ask you to inform the school administration if you request a continuation of eLearning for your family. Please note the last day of school before the Christmas break is **Friday, December 18, 2020**. This is a full day of school for the students.

Due to the virus's surge, children will wear their shields and masks in the classroom for the next two weeks. They will remove the shield and wear the mask only for outside recess. We ask all parents to be sure the children have a clean mask at the beginning of each day. According to the teachers, the children wore the mask and shield today, and they were unphased by the situation. The teachers will provide the students with needed breaks throughout the day.

We are declaring these next two weeks **Mater Dei spirit wear or gym dress-down days**. **Thursday, December 17, will be a red and green dress-down**, and the students will have a special treat! If you are a homeroom parent, the homeroom teacher will contact you to discuss this simple celebration. **Friday, December 18, will be a quiet day of reflection**, and the students will participate in our live-streamed Advent Mass. The fourth and fifth-grade students

will attend Mass following all the social distancing required at Saint Stanislaus Parish.

Many thanks to the parents who volunteer to help with the crate return today. We could not accomplish this without your support. We are most grateful to you for your gift of time.

Most sincerely,

Miss Diane E. McCaughan
President

Miss Elizabeth A. Waltrich
Principal