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**June 17, 2020**

Peace Students, Faculty, Parents and Community friends --***Im bonum***,

**It’s Official! School is Closed for the Summer!**

I **miss** everyone and hope you and your families are doing well. As spring turns to summer, here is some news about school you should be aware of.

**Thanks for the responses in the surveys!** I get it; you want more leadership from me! This year that will become more evident in and out of our Catholic Montessori school environment.

**I have joined St. John’s Parish**. I will be attending mass, initiating school/parish events, and helping this Catholic urban parish in Covington to grow.

**Our Catholic Montessori School curriculum** will attract parents seeking an environment where our Lord is present in all things. Late in her life, **Maria Montessori** reconciled with the church and became a daily recipient of our Lord, also noting the importance of Catholic sacraments and holiday celebrations within proper context. This will be a key element for our Catholic Montessori School. We can demonstrate how it’s really done! For example, **our incoming music teacher** is an expert musician that will bring world class history lessons, vocal/instrumental musical training for all our students. We will be truly blessed! ***Ascendant in caelum!***

**Our School will be active in observing Catholic doctrine through a Montessori lens,** providing daily opportunities for fun, engagement, and community service. Within their classroom environment, the teachers will be leading children to discover who they are and their valued place in culture. Within their school environment, students will gain knowledge of natural sciences, literature, saints, songs, holy sacraments, sports, technology and service beyond the immediate community. We will be reaching out to our minority families in the Lewisburg neighborhood and build a connection towards future students. Montessori is a vehicle for the elevation of all. ***Altus usque adhuc!***

**Most recently, I’ve initiated the Principal Advisory Board** in order to hear all the voices of our School/Parish---basing decisions in an ordered manner, benefitting the whole school/parish community. Our school needs major renovations. There is a plan to ring in the **125th Anniversary** in style. We will be sharing that in August. ***Impossible est possible erit!***

**Later this month the Whole School will be electrostatically cleaned and sanitized, our floors polished (completed by June 29th).**

**If you need to get access to the school building,** the church office is open between 8am-12pm--if I’m not available. Interviews for new staff in the 20/21 school year are currently being conducted so please call ahead or send me an email to ensure entrance to the school building. During our first **PD Day Aug 10th** POPCM will receive a special blessing from **Someone Special**! They’ll be new teachers, assistants, students, place changes and routines to present. A new beginning is underway. Our new logo is only a small part!

**We want everyone to attend the School/Parish Picnic, Sunday, August 9.** It’s going to set the stage for the year!

***Ego cogito super Vos! Pax vobiscum!***

Mr. Tony Barkley

**Next Newsletter – July 27th!!!**