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**June 3, 2020**

Hi Parents and Gratulationes bene factum academici!

Peace be with you! I hope this correspondence finds you in good health and well-being, outlasting this pandemic. No one ever saw this coming, but as it winds down, school business work never ends and I would like to share with you some things that have occurred, are occurring and blossoming into final form at school.

**First a giant salute** to our teachers, instructional assistants, specialists and parent volunteers who quickly delivered educational services to all students through this pandemic.

**Report Cards** went out today. You may receive it and a before/after school care survey by the weekend.

**My Summer hours are Monday through Friday 9am-1pm.** (859-431-5153, then #11).  If you haven’t picked up your child’s belongings, you can contact the office during those hours and arrange to pick them up.

The office still needs **Updated Immunizations and Tuition--**Just a gentle reminder.

We are also updating **student/parent and teacher handbooks**. Lots of new information for the times we live in.

**Elementary Principals are meeting and discussing COVID-19** and the operations of school on its many levels. We are dialoguing to release a document with a uniform message.  Your input in generating a document for our school is welcome.  Please send me an email with “COVID” in the subject line. Let us know your fears, concerns and solutions.  A school survey will be released with results in July with indicators for the start of school. This will help us in planning for the next apocalypse, pandemic or natural disaster. So we can still have school!

As of now, our **first day is Wed Aug 12th** .  This may change depending on the environmental situation. We will keep you apprised of any changes.

We are also **updating the communications system**, including a webcam for hosting online meetings. We are gaining a new phone system to send out uniform messages to all parents. This will make communications flow easier and manageable. We are looking forward to the upgrades!

**Tuition and Scholarship applications** are diocesan delayed. All applications for tuition assistance will be maintained by **FACTS**. We are expecting the Prince of Peace tuition/financial assistance portal to activate in the next several weeks. You can log on and connect to the process. COVID-19 has effectively created a financial vacuum for the diocese, businesses, families and organizations. It’s something that has impacted everyone on one level or another, shared burden.

Prince of Peace is **Partnering with Xavier University** in the training of Montessori teachers. Practicum and Final internships will be completed at our school. These young students bring a wealth of energy, ideas and talent, benefiting all our students greatly.  It’s a winning combination and we will announce the new individuals later this June.

We also want to send **“Best Wishes” to Ms. Diana Daniels & Mrs. Terri Rentrop** for their years of service at Prince of Peace.  They will not be returning.  The future holds wonderful things for you both!

I will be signing my contract next week for the 2020-21 school year! **In my first year**, names, places and stations were my focus while understanding the dynamics of Parish, School and Curia**.  In my second year**, I will focus on expanding our Catholic Montessori culture, increasing our student population and engaging students, parents in meaningful dialogue--leading the school into a new phase of development.

**Highlighting our Catholic Heritage, Montessori curriculum and exemplary faculty and support staff Prince of Peace Catholic Montessori will be the place for the best education in the tri-state!**

Carpe Diem!

Principal,

Mr. Tony Barkley

**Some dates to remember:**

**June 15th –** Next **posting of Principal’s Desk**, featuring new Faculty and Support Staff

July – **Calendar for 20/21** - A school events calendar is being generated for presentation in July. It will have all the dates, times and places for the entire school year!

**August 9th 1-6 PM** - School/Parish Homecoming Picnic!   **Devou Park Shelter house.   Bring** a **CD** with your family’s favorite music. It will be great to share the gift of music!