January 15, 2015

Dear Parent:

**Catholic Schools Week.**
This year’s National Catholic Schools Week theme centers on community: “Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service.” The theme highlights the fact that schools are not only communities themselves; they are also part of many other communities, including families, parishes, towns/cities and our country.

The theme also focuses on key elements of Catholic education: faith development, academic excellence and dedication to service. These elements set Catholic schools apart from other educational options. They are why families make sacrifices to provide their children with a Catholic education.

I am grateful every day for the teachers, staff, parents and parishioners who make our school a success. The theme for Catholic Schools Week 2015 is “Catholic Schools: Faith, Academics, Service.” The annual observance starts January 25 and runs all week to January 31. We join with Catholic schools across the nation in celebration of this week.

**MAP Assessments.**
On Friday, January 16, you will receive your child’s Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) test results. These tests, taken by students in grades 3 – 7, help to determine your child’s instructional level and measure academic growth throughout the school year and from year to year in the areas of Math, Reading, Language Usage, and Science. Please watch for these results to come home with your child, addressed to you in a sealed envelope. A letter with further information will be included with the test results.

**Benefit Dinner.**
We hope you are making plans to attend our 9th Annual Benefit Dinner, “A Morocckin’ Night”! This event, over the years, has raised over $600,000 for our school! We have been blessed by the energy and enthusiasm of a relatively small group of volunteers who totally give us “their January” in preparation for this event. Proceeds benefit our Endowment Fund and support Tuition Assistance, Technology, and our new Playground Initiative.

It’s not too late…join us… it’s a wonderful evening filled with friends, fun, and good feelings to last the rest of the winter.

**Saturday, January 31, 6 pm – midnight, East Campus**
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
I remind all families that Monday, January 19, is a national holiday. There is no school that day. School offices will be closed.

A Few Reminders:
For the Safety of Children

— If you pick up your child at the end of the day, keep a clear path from the doors of the elementary school to the buses. Teachers need to carefully supervise and monitor students during this time. It becomes very difficult to do so when adults are mixed in with the students. Please stay along the “side-lines” as much as possible.

— If your children normally take the bus home at the end of the day, and you plan to pick them up instead, please send a note to the teacher. If you have not been able to do this in advance, please notify the teacher that you are taking your child from the class dismissal line.

— If you need to enter the building, please wait until all classes have exited.

— If you pick up at the middle school, please remember that students may not walk through the parking lot to reach your vehicle. Either drive to the middle school pick-up point or walk and meet your child at that location. (I am not concerned that middle school students cannot negotiate a parking lot. They are old enough. I am concerned that adult drivers can become distracted, are talking on cell phones, or driving too fast in a parking lot, and in doing so put students at risk.)

— Missing Child Legislation. This is a reminder from Mrs. Hoehn, our school nurse, that in accordance with Ohio Revised Code regarding the Missing Children’s Act, parents must notify the school of their children’s absence prior to or the same day the child is absent from school. Unless you have given us prior notice, we ask that you make that call no later than 9:00 a.m. on the day your child is absent.

Sincerely,

Sally A. Koppinger
Principal