

The Peacemaker



January , 2019

Dear St. Rita Family,

Blessings for the new year, 2019. I hope that you had time for family and friends during this holiday season. The mild weather made it seem like spring break instead of Christmas.

Surely, we will see more wintery days ahead. While we hope to remain open for school each day, it is necessary at times to close for safety reasons. Please read the weather box in this newsletter with important reminders about school emergency closing information.

Report Card information:

The end of first half of the year is coming soon. Our second quarter will end on Friday, January 18th. As we get closer to the end of the quarter we need to turn off parent access to the grades while we transfer to the report card format.

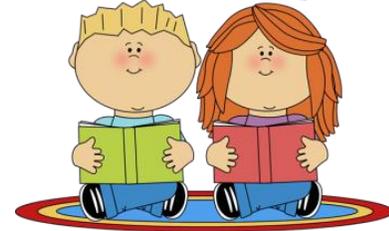
This quarter, we will issue report cards electronically on line only. You will be sent a reminder note with instructions on how to view your child's end of quarter grades online. This is the new direction of education to use technology as a communication tool.

Many parents look at the student's grades on a regular basis. It would be good to watch your student's progress weekly to encourage good study habits and homework habits. We post the gradebook for grades 3-8. Because of the grading system for K-2 we do not post those grades on a regular basis. The end of quarter grade gives you a more complete picture of student progress for the younger students.

Sincerely,
Bette Faxon

REGISTRATION 2019-20

REGISTER NOW



Many thanks to all the families who returned your 2019-20 Early Registration Form.

All forms and registration fees are due by Thursday, Jan. 17th to save your place for next year.

We have started to enroll new students!

When we receive approval on our budget for next year from Finance Council we will let you the tuition/fee schedule. At that time, we will ask you to come in and complete the registration packet.

Thank you so much for entrusting your children to us. Parents frequently tell us that they are very grateful for the wonderful education and care that their children are receiving at St. Rita School.



A little help goes a long way.....we could use donations of Xerox copy paper again as we go into the second half of the year. It is amazing how helpful this is to us for

the classroom worksheets and tests.
God bless you for your generosity.

TAX CREDIT LETTERS:

Since 1999, the State of Illinois has permitted individuals to get a tax credit for educational expenses up to 25% of tuition, books and lab fees that exceed \$250.00. The maximum credit is \$500.00 per family. Our office will send you a statement by the end of January to prove your costs for the calendar year 2018. We receive those statements from SMART TUITION. **Please keep this copy to use when filing your State tax return. This is the ONLY copy you will receive.** It is costly and time consuming for us to re-issue letters. Please make sure you check the family envelope and put it with your other tax documents. This tax credit is a direct benefit to you.

NOTE: If your child attended another Catholic school last year please contact them for the letter to show what you paid to that school.

During the month of January we will have the sessions for the Rockford Diocese Christian Chastity and Safe Environment programs as part of our Religion classes. This is the same program we have had for a number of years. If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Faxon.



EMERGENCY CLOSINGS:

Listen to School Messenger announcements. PLEASE listen to your voice message instead of calling school when you see the phone number. We are not always at school when those messages are posted. You can go also go online to the Emergency Closing Center by visiting:

www.emergencyclosingcenter.com



On behalf of the faculty and staff, we wish to extend our gratitude for the generous gift each of us received through the Home & School Staff Gift Collection for Christmas.

At St. Rita School, we are very blessed to have the support and encouragement each day from our school families.

A Prayer for the New Year

Come Holy Spirit
Spirit of the Risen Christ,
Be with me today and always.
Be our Light, Our Guide, and our Comforter.
Be our Strength, our Courage and our Sanctifier.

May this new year be a time of deep spiritual
growth for us,
A time of welcoming your graces and gifts,
A time for forgiving freely and unconditionally,
A time for growing in virtue and goodness.

Come Holy Spirit,
Be with us today and always. Amen
