

November 1, 2022

Happy Fall St. Gregory School Families,

We are a quarter of the way through the school year, and what a wonderful start it has been! Everyone seems happy and healthy, and the students are making remarkable progress. To drive our instruction, we often use data based on the students' academic performance. For years, we have been using Acadience to make it easier to detect K–6 students who are at risk for early reading difficulties to provide timely instructional support and prevent the occurrence of later reading difficulties. This year, grades 1 through 8 used the NWEA Map Growth Assessment. According to the website, "MAP Growth is the most trusted and innovative assessment for measuring achievement and growth in K–12 math, reading, language usage, and science. It provides teachers with accurate, actionable evidence to help inform instructional strategies regardless of how far students are above or below grade level." The teachers and I have already begun analyzing the data, and as usual, our students are above average! The teachers will be sharing your child's information with you during conferences.

On Friday, November 11th, we will hold parent-teacher conferences; the kids do not have school on this day. The teachers in the intermediate grades (4-6) will be grouped together, and the middle school teachers (7 & 8) will be grouped together in the library. Everyone is allotted 15 minutes, so please be mindful of your time. If you feel you need more time, feel free to schedule a separate meeting with your child's teacher on a different day. For parents in grades K through 3, please schedule with your child's **homeroom teacher only**. There is not enough time in the day to schedule conferences with all the teachers of the special classes such as gym, computer, and art. If you would rather have a virtual conference, please notify your child's teacher so he/she can send you the link. Scheduling for conferences on November 11th will be done through your Option C account and will go live on Friday. Again, please remember that each conference is strictly 15 minutes.

October was a wonderful month for all of us. Ironman football and cheer, girl's volleyball, and cross country ended with successful seasons. Additionally, the Great Pumpkin Race was a success again! Thank you to everyone who volunteered and to those who participated. I would like to especially thank Mark Harmanos and his crew for all their hard work! Now we move into November which is always an enjoyable month. Our annual *Cold Turkey Shootout* basketball tournament takes place this month. This is a wonderful event and I encourage all of the students to attend and cheer on St. Gregs! If you haven't heard about our "Zelie Zoo", then you must come to experience it for yourself. It is great to feel our school spirit permeating throughout the hallways and at events. It's obvious how much the students love their school. We are going to kick it off with a pep rally in a few weeks along with a spirit day. More information will be coming soon!

Volunteers will be needed at our Cold Turkey Shootout Tournament, so please sign up. Basketball parents are required to volunteer 4 hours at this event and 10 hours throughout the season. This is necessary to keep our program running smoothly.

Our Super Bingo is also desperate for volunteers, so please help! This only occurs once a month and it's a minimal commitment. Additionally, our cafeteria needs helpers, too. These are all great opportunities to fulfill your mandated Family Share volunteer hours for the year. We are a family, so please do your part to help your school.

I hope you all have a wonderful and blessed Thanksgiving. These next few months are filled with joy, and I wish you blessings and happiness during this holiday season!

God Bless,
Mrs. Rice

