

Dear Parents,

**Dates:**

Monday, Feb. 3- Special guest appearance by a certain celebrity to St. Chris

Tuesday, Feb. 4- Grades 5 & 8 will take the yearly ACRE test on Catholic Religious Education

Wednesday, Feb. 5- Faculty Meeting after school

Area Wide Spelling Bee @ St. Albert's

Saturday, Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>- Father/Daughter Dance

**Important News:**

**Catholic School's Week highlights**

- A big thanks to the PTO from the faculty for the "restocking of the fridge." We are so blessed to have a parent-teacher organization that is so involved with the school. Thank you!
- Congrats to Owen Adkins who will represent the school at the area wide spelling bee next week.
- Good luck to the Robo Raptors who are involved in the state competitions this weekend.
- The band did a great job at their concert on Tuesday. I am always amazed at the improvements that are made in their instrumentation from the early grades to the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade years. The older kids really sounded good.
- We had a very successful Open House. 26 kindergarten families visited the school, along with 10 other new families. Having the Pancake Breakfast, the K of C Foul Shooting contest and the Open House made for a lot of activity and energy at St. Chris. I need to thank our student ambassadors who did an excellent job showcasing our school to new families.
- 5 families won a reduction of \$100 in the registration fee by taking part in the St. Chris passport activity.

**Highlights of the Week**

- On my walk to our Wednesday Mass celebration I see a kindergartner, "Dressed to his Best", in an outfit very similar to the black suit and purple tie I was wearing. I complimented him on how good he looked all dressed up and commented, "You're the boss of the school Mr. Beyerle, and I want to be the boss too." I think I will groom this kid for being a future principal at St. Chris.
- Fr. John during his homily at our school Mass asked the kids, "What have you learned at St. Chris School?" A primary aged student responded, "How to get rid of lice!" You have to love the kid's humor.
- On Thursday, we took a 30 minute period to go to the Church to pray the rosary. It really was a great moment for gaining an appreciation for belonging to the St. Chris community. We were all connected and unified by our praying together. I now understand what it means to be part of the St. Chris family after such a special spiritual event.
- We took 20 students to the area wide Catholic Schools Mass at St. Luke's in Beaver Creek led by Archbishop Schnurr. To have representation from the six area high schools and the 17 elementary buildings all in one Church is a proclamation that the guiding force of our Catholic Schools is the Eucharist and Christ presence in our lives.

**Important Notes:**

- We were thrilled with the attendance, attentiveness and participation at our two Town Hall meetings this past week. As we go through this transition to a new tuition structure and the adoption of the FACTS Tuition Management System to administer tuition payments and accounting, we realize the importance of outstanding communication. Never hesitate to call us during the registration process if you have questions. There were many supportive comments during the sessions and also some very good thoughts that were shared with us. A couple of things we will be doing:
  - 1) Developing talking points for our families to promote our school and the St. Chris Advantage
  - 2) Surveying the parents later in the year to view parent satisfaction.

- 3) Removing of convenience fees for the various payment plans that will be utilized.
- 4) A confirmation letter affirming the amount of the grant amount of the St. Christopher Christ- Bearer Scholarship and you election to accept or decline.

Tuition Amounts of other local Catholic Schools for the **2019-20 school year**

School	Registration/ Fees	One Child	Two Children	Three Children
Bishop Leibold	\$150	\$3789	\$6704	\$9489
St. Peter's	\$125	\$3450	\$6400	\$9350
St. Charles	\$170	\$3723	\$6927	\$9625
Incarnation	\$190- \$330	\$4,125	\$7500	\$10,160
St. Chris	\$200-\$500	\$3400	\$6630	\$9,690
<b>St. Chris 2020-21</b>	<b>\$200</b>	<b>\$3500</b>	<b>\$6630</b>	<b>\$9,690</b>

- Just a reminder to let you know that we go outdoors for recess if it is 32 degrees or higher. Wind chill will also affect the decision. Please make sure your child is wearing a coat, hat and gloves to school.

**EdChoice Scholarships:**

The indecision of our state General Assembly has created frustration for me, especially in what I communicate to new families or families interested in our school. Here is what I can factually state:

- 1) If you have the EdChoice Traditional Scholarship currently, you will have it to grade 12. This is contractual. The renewal form is in your registration packet.
- 2) We do not know what changes are in place for the EdChoice Expansion Scholarship. Currently, depending on the size of your family, if your gross income is under 200% of the poverty level you will continue to receive this scholarship. The renewal form IS NOT available to us at this time.
- 3) We are not sure what is going to happen to the schools currently listed on the designated school list as being under performing. I CANNOT tell you the status of Demmitt and Morton or the Tipp or Northmont schools that are on the current list of underperforming. This may all change.
- 4) The latest I have heard is that the General Assembly is holding off until April 1<sup>st</sup> to make the changes and get consensus between the House of Reps and Senate on the rules.

Needless to say, this puts the school in a holding pattern, as it does those families who are trying to figure out how to finance a Catholic Education. Please, please call us if you have questions.

**Registration Packets have been handed out to students, so please be looking for them. Guaranteed or Priority Registration for current families and kindergarten families is Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> to Feb. 29<sup>th</sup>.**