



St. Rose of Lima School
Michael Floyd
Principal

October 10, 2007

Grade Report Meetings: I want to thank those of you who attended the grade report meeting on Monday evening. Those in attendance posed some great questions, some we didn't have concrete answers to, and have provided us with an idea of things to address at the school level. If you were unable to attend the Monday meeting and would like a copy of the presentation packet, please let me know. The meeting for grades 4-6 parents on the new grade report will be held next Tuesday, October 16 at 7 PM in the school. This presentation will be different in many ways from the presentation given Monday night because the grade reports are different in many ways. I hope that you can attend.

E-mail: It seems that our ability to send and receive e-mail from planet Earth is non-existent at this time. To steal a line from all the utility companies, "We are aware of the problem and are working to fix it. Your patience is greatly appreciated." So for now, the best way to communicate is the old fashioned way, paper and pencil or telephone. If you have an absolute, overwhelming desire to e-mail me or don't know how to use a paper and pencil anymore (like me), you can e-mail me at my diocesan e-mail account which is mflloyd@hbgdiocese.org, which I can access via the internet, which still works! I will, somehow, let you know when our problems are fixed.

THANK YOU: A big thank you goes out to Lucia and JR de la Cruz who came forward and volunteered to head the yearbook. Also, the same big thank you goes out to Jill Pokrivka for coming forward to fill the extended care position. What a relief this is to me, I can't imagine what the yearbook would have looked like had I been responsible for it and, although it was fun the day I stayed, I am not sure I would have survived too many more 6 AM to 9 PM days!!

ITBS Testing: Grades 3-6 will be taking ITBS tests next week. Here are a few helpful hints for parents to help students survive the week.

- 1) No matter what they say or how hard they argue, they should try to get extra sleep. This may mean having to back up their bed times a little bit. (This is wildly popular in every household!!)
- 2) Eat a good, healthy breakfast. There are hundreds, if not thousands, of studies on the positive effect on learning obtained by eating a good breakfast. Consider having the student eat breakfast at school on these days if that is an

option. STAY AWAY from sugary cereals and sugary breakfast pastries. These kinds of sugar give the students a short burst of energy that wears off well before the tests are given, leaving the student groggy and lethargic.

- 3) Try not to schedule appointments during the days that the ITBS tests are given. Our make-up window is very short and the sooner we get the tests in, the sooner we get the reports back. I want to be able to give the reports to you before or during the December parent conferences.
- 4) Encourage your child to try their hardest. The wonderful thing about the ITBS tests is that they are not used to compare us with other schools, they are not used to compare one student to another, and they are not used to determine what level of funding we receive from the government. What they are used for is to gauge the effectiveness of our academic program and to identify individual and group areas of strengths and weaknesses so that we can address these areas.

So, I guess that I will be walking around getting scowls from the kids regarding the first 2 suggestions, but I can take it! Please, if I can give you one last piece of parental advice it would be to not allow your child to lose sleep over these tests.

The Slush Puppies are here: As many of you have undoubtedly heard the slush puppy machine is up and running. For those who missed it a few weeks ago, we will be selling 100% Fruit Juice Slush Puppies in place of Ice Cream this year. The great thing about these is that they are in line with the Wellness Policy requirements and the kids seemed to love them. We will go back and forth between a few different flavors through the course of the year. This week, they are free. We want to give the students an opportunity to try them and see how they like them. Starting next week we will sell them, probably on Tuesday and Thursday, for 50 cents each.

School Mall Postcards: The deadline to turn in the postcards has been extended until Friday, October 12. Students who turn in postcard booklets are eligible to win the school grand prize of a piano mat.

HSA News: THIS FRIDAY NIGHT is St. Rose basket bingo. York Catholic's doors will open at 5:30, and bingo begins at 7:00. It's not too late to get your tickets!! You can contact the school office, Carol McNamara, or get them at the door. We hope to see you there, supporting St. Rose!

Mark your calendars for the first Isaac's Restaurant family fundraising night. This year, we have two nights to choose from: Monday, October 22nd or Tuesday, October 23rd. It works much like Chuck E. Cheese night. . . simply go to the Isaac's Restaurant on White St. in West York, take the flyer that will be in an upcoming communication folder, and our school gets 25% profit from your bill! More information will be coming soon!

Have a great week,
Mike Floyd