



“If life were predictable, it would cease to be life, and be without flavor.”

Eleanor Roosevelt

January 7, 2021

Dear St. Matthias Community:

This school year has been full of unpredictability, full of flavor, full of stress, and full of inconvenience. I have felt all of these over the last four months, but I have also seen and felt the joy and commitment of students and teachers within our classrooms. The decision to go virtual is never easy. It is determined only after all other possibilities have been evaluated, and it is felt that the safety and health of students and faculty can only be protected by using our virtual classrooms.

I thank you for your patience and I ask for your continued vigilance, as we continue to navigate these uncharted territories. We have seen numbers increase dramatically since Thanksgiving in our country. So, while I cannot require it, I certainly would strongly urge you to get your child tested before our return on 1/19/21.

I know another issue that is a concern to me is the new drop off procedures. We are re-evaluating these procedures while we are learning virtually. If we can make changes, we will release them before our return on the 19th. Please be aware:

1. The week before break a teacher was hit by a car and injured while taking temperatures. As a result of this accident the Diocese has required all cars to be turned off before a student is let out of the car. (This slows the process considerably but increases the safety of all.)
2. In order to protect children in the parking lot we need to maintain that single line of cars. We have had numerous close calls of drivers not paying attention to small children walking to the building.
3. We need all families, who are dropping off, to use the Pinpoint system prior to 7:45am. If you do not use Pinpoint, we will be forced to send students home. The questions take all of about 1 minute to complete. If you were not receiving the text message, please contact Mrs. Kosty so we can ensure we have your correct cell number.

I have scheduled a January “Principal is In” on Wednesday, January 27th from 7:15 am to 8:15 am. This is the link to the Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/97687416439?pwd=ajNZdGpsRm5zVEhhamFXSm81RHI3Zz09>

Meeting ID: 976 8741 6439

Passcode: etN35E

Finally, we will be celebrating Catholic Schools Week beginning January 31st. We will be sending out information over the next two weeks.

Elena Malinconico
Principal, St. Matthias School