



Grace and peace, dear parents,

The school is abuzz this week in its preparation for Night of Winners. We are so looking forward to seeing you there on Saturday. The committee has done an amazing job of preparation and I am confident it will be quite a terrific night.

The St. Matthias School Forensics Team performed so beautifully on January 31. It was our first Annual Forensics Competition and next year we hope to host an invitational. Coaches, Lana Abbott and Christina DiMarzio worked with the students during the school year and the students received wonderful comments from the judges.

The SMS Forensics Team members are:

Grade 5

Competing in Oral Interpretation

Angela W

Myanelle B

Natalie Q

Grade 6

Competing in Oral Interpretation

Renee B

Helena C

Molly E

Elena K

Iana M

Danielle V

Mikaela V

Grade 7

Competing in Oral Interpretation

Liana D

Morgan L

Alexis O

Madison S

Carissa T

Competing in DUO

Sophia O & Olivia L

Grade 8

Competing in DUO

Giavanna P & Madison H

I am proud to announce that Giavanna P and Madison H won first place in the DUO category and Molly E won second place in the Oral Interpretation category while Carissa T won first place. Congratulations, ladies and best of luck to the entire team as they move on to the Mt. St Mary Competition on February 13.

Franklin Township Public Schools Student Assistance Program and the Franklin Township Municipal Alliance for the Prevention of Substance Abuse is sponsoring an evening for parents and students in grades 6-12 on the topic of Suicide Prevention. The topic is "*13 Reasons Why you Should Not Ignore the Signs of Suicide*". I will be attending this important evening of information and look forward to seeing our students and parents there as well. The presenter is Nikki Francis from the Wellsprings Center for Prevention. They ask us to join them for a very informative presentation on understanding the warning signs and risk factors associated with teen suicide and effective ways to enhance communication between parents, educators and today's youth. Light refreshments will be served.

Thanks so much as always for partnering with us to provide best practices for our students.

Eileen Brett
Principal
Saint Matthias School