Grace and peace, dear parents,

Please accept the very best wishes from the St. Matthias School staff for a summer filled with good health and good times. Thank you ever so much for your trust in our sincere care for your child. We look forward to servicing you and your children in the 2019-2020 school year. We will be taking the time in the summer to research ideas and concepts such as advancement for all students, challenge and academic rigor, school conflict and bullying. There will be professional development on differentiated instruction, the writing process and Maker's Space.

When the staff gathers in August the first matter of business will be to discuss and establish a school discipline philosophy and policy with universal expectations and consequences. This body of work will be communicated with parents and students at the beginning of the school year.

We say farewell to three of our beloved staff members; Lauren Mortenson, Sandra Kallenberg and Beth Lubowicki. We bid them farewell with grateful hearts and best wishes. We welcome Tom Lang from Trenton Catholic Academy as our new school counselor and Mary Lynch as our instructional assistant in Kindergarten working with Lana Abbott.

Initiatives from the 2018-2019 school year continue to be a focus for improved practices. We will continue to give attention based on research in our Middle School grades. We will be giving more timely information to parents on our website so that parents can assist in student learning and achievement. We will provide opportunities for students to experience more challenging curriculum as their ability indicates.

You will want to mark your calendar for these important dates:

**Wednesday, August 28  4-6PM**
**Welcome Back Social**
All students and parents are welcome to school to meet their teacher and see their classroom. Teachers will be available and classrooms will be open from 4-5PM. Also, at the Social there will be free iceses for all students. There will be sign-up and information tables set up. There will be a uniform exchange. And, lots of fun things to do as students meet up with their friends.
Tuesday, September 3
First Day of School for Middle School (grades 6-7-8)
Dismissal at 12:30

Wednesday, September 4
First Day of School for Grades 1-2-3-4-5
Dismissal at 12:30
Parent/Child Orientation for Pre-K and Kindergarten 8-10AM

Thursday, September 5
First Full Day of School for Pre-K4 through grade 8
12:30 Dismissal for Pre-K3

Friday, September 6
12:30 Dismissal for Pre-K3

Have a wonderful summer and remember to read lots and lots and then some more every day. It will make a huge difference in general achievement eventually. If I can ever be of assistance to you, it would be my pleasure.

Eileen Brett
Principal
Saint Matthias School