

Friday, May 11, 2012

Dear Parents,

- **A Word About Our Teachers:** Every so often I like to express to our school parents how much I appreciate that you entrust your precious children to us every day. The students in our school, your children, are beautiful to you and beloved of you, their parents. And, of course, they are beautiful to God and beloved of God. But I want you to know, and to be confident, that these precious children of yours are beautiful to and beloved of us, their teachers and staff, at Incarnate Word. Many of you know this and show appreciation to the teachers. As we approach the end of another school year, many of us . . . students, teachers, parents . . . can all start to feel pressured and frazzled. When communicating with each other, let's all give one another "the benefit of the doubt." For example, if your child tells you about an upsetting incident at school, please do contact the teacher, as an ally, someone on the same team as you and who cares very much about your child. We all know how sometimes even a brief email can be hurtful or misperceived as a personal attack. Please remember, that the teachers and staff of Incarnate Word School love your kids and really want what's best for them. One thing that is best for them is that we all work together on their behalf. Thank you.
- **Tutoring Availability:** If your student is in need of summer review, skill practice, or remedial work, an option can be available to you at Incarnate Word. A few faculty members and our Learning Consultant will be available for tutoring this summer. They can work with individuals or small groups. If interested, contact Joan Turnure at 576-5366, ext. 36 for more information and availability.
- **From Our School Nurses:** *"All medications you have sent to the nurse's office for this school year must be picked up by dismissal at 10:00am on Friday, May 25th. Any medications not picked will be discarded, as we cannot store any medications over the summer break. Also, please be aware that we need new physician orders/consent forms with any medications sent during the new school year. Thank you, Mrs. Kim Schuler and Mrs. Pat Dolan."*
- **Changes to Teacher Assignments Next School Year:** I want to share with you the assignments of teachers for next year, as they currently stand. There is always the possibility for more changes after the school year ends, but I believe it is good for all of us to be "in the know" as far as possible.
 - **Department Changes in Primary and Intermediate Departments (Grades K-5):**
Currently our Primary Department consists of four grades: Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd (eight teachers). Next year the Primary Department will consist of Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grades. (six teachers). Mrs. Chris Kurka will be the Primary Coordinator. Next year the Intermediate Department will consist of the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades, (six teachers). We are doing this in order to put more focus and emphasis on smoothing the transition from 3rd to 4th grade for our students and to balance the number of teachers in the Primary and Intermediate departments. Third grade will still have their morning recess with the K-2 students, and they will still participate in special events and activities with K-2, such as Safari Day. In order to assist with the transition of our students from 3rd grade to 4th grade and to facilitate the blending of 3rd grade into the Intermediate Department, **Mrs. Peg Harbke** will leave 3rd grade to become Intermediate Coordinator and one of our 4th grade teachers teaching math, social studies, and science (along with Mrs. Hauser who will remain in grade 4 teaching 4th grade religion, reading, and English); and **Mrs. Sheila McBee** will leave 4th grade to teach 3rd grade (along with Miss Staten who will remain in grade 3). Mrs. Harbke will know where the fourth grade students have come from, and Mrs. McBee will have knowledge of exactly what the third grade is preparing for.
 - **Homeroom and Subject Changes in the Junior High Department (Grades 6, 7, and 8):**
Mrs. LaConte, our junior high social studies teacher, is retiring this year, and next year's seventh grade will consist of less than 27 students. For these reasons and because of budget constraints, we will not be replacing Mrs. LaConte, and we will have only one 7th grade class next school year. For the coming school year we will reapportion religion and social studies

among the remaining five Junior High teachers. **Dr. King** (6th grade homeroom) will teach two sections of 6th grade science, two sections of 8th grade science, one section of 7th grade science, and one section of 7th grade social studies. **Miss Kelley** (sixth grade homeroom) will teach two sections of 6th grade math, two sections of 6th grade English, and two sections of 6th grade literature. **Mrs. Woodworth** will be the 7th grade homeroom teacher and will teach one section of 7th grade math, one section of 7th grade religion, two sections of 8th grade math, and two sections of 6th grade religion.

Mrs. LaMarche will be an 8th grade homeroom teacher and will teach two sections of 8th grade literature, two sections of 8th grade English, one section of 7th grade literature, and one section of 7th grade English. **Mrs. Coldiron** will have an 8th grade homeroom, and will teach two 8th grade religion classes, two 8th grade social studies classes, and two 6th grade social studies classes. Mrs. Coldiron will continue as Junior High Coordinator. We intend to group students in both Standard and Challenge classes for 6th and 8th grade math and science, and will try to achieve the same benefits with 7th grade through differentiation of instruction since they will all be in just one classroom. Most of the “if’s” associated with the proposed grouping will depend on the practical details and scheduling logistics. We welcome Junior High parent questions and suggestions as we work through the details, and will do our best to keep you informed as we progress over the summer, and especially as we fine tune our plans at the beginning of the new school year in August.

- **Twin Day** will be Monday, May 14. **Parents**, check your **Friday folders** for important details.

Calendar for May 14-18, 2012

MONDAY	May 14	Day 5	“Twin Day” Today at Incarnate Word
	<i>8th Grade Exams All Week</i>		
	<i>Parent Lunch/Recess 11:40am-1:10pm: Kastner Kelly Kersting Kerwood Kesselring</i>		
	<i>3:00pm</i>	<i>Weekly Winners Draw</i>	
TUESDAY	May 15	Day 6	
	<i>8th Grade Exams All Week</i>		
	<i>8:40am</i>	<i>All School Mass: Readers 3B and Servers 6B;</i>	
		<i>Responsorial Psalm: “Your right hand saves me, O Lord.”</i>	
	<i>Parent Lunch/Recess 11:40am-1:10pm: Kilcullen Kilcullin King Koltun Kopsky</i>		
WEDNESDAY	May 16	Day 1	
	<i>8th Grade Exams All Week</i>		
	<i>8:45am</i>	<i>1st Grade Field Trip to Grant’s Farm till 2:15pm</i>	
	<i>9:45am</i>	<i>2nd Grade Field Trip to the Zoo until 3:00pm</i>	
	<i>Parent Lunch/Recess 11:40am-1:10pm: Korte Lampros Lane Liesse Lindloff</i>		
THURSDAY	May 17	Day 2	
	<i>8th Grade Exams All Week</i>		
	<i>Parent Lunch/Recess 11:40am-1:10pm: LoPiccolo Lorenz LuechtefeldM Luetkmeyer</i>		
FRIDAY	May 18	Day 3	Spirit Shirt May be Worn Today.
	<i>8th Grade Exams All Week</i>		
	<i>8:40am</i>	<i>All School Mass: Readers 2A and Servers 8B</i>	
		<i>Response: “God is king of all the earth.”</i>	
	<i>Parent Lunch/Recess 11:40am-1:10pm: Mabry Maciorowski Mackey Manning Manuel</i>		
	<i>11:45-12:45</i>	<i>Cup Cake Sale by Kindergarten</i>	

Mike Welling Principal	<i>Growing in Mind and Spirit.....We Live . . . Alive in Christ</i> <i>Rooted in Family.....We Love</i> <i>Nourished by Faith.....We Believe</i> <i>Strengthened with Knowledge.....We Understand</i> <i>Reaching for ExcellenceWe Achieve . . . Wisdom and Compassion</i> <i>Bearing the Fruit of Leadership and ServiceWe Build the Kingdom of God</i>
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