



St. Bartholomew School
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Reverend Thomas J. Walsh, M.Div.
Pastor

Mrs. Theresa Craig, M.Ed.
Principal

October 1, 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is hard to believe that our first month of school is already behind us—September has flown by! It was wonderful to be together for Back-to-School Night, and I hope you enjoyed the opportunity to connect with your child's teachers and our school community. The students have been especially excited about using their "smencils," and the HSA is grateful for your continued support of this beloved St. Bartholomew tradition.

Information about our Annual Basket Raffle has gone home, and I thank you in advance for supporting our largest fundraiser of the year. We are also preparing for the Annual Book Fair, which will be held on October 15 and 16—please stay tuned for more details.

Students in grades one through eight are currently taking the fall MAP assessments. These computer-adaptive tests, mandated by the Diocese, are administered three times each year. Students have ample time to complete them on their school-issued devices. Please make it a priority for your child to arrive on time each day to reduce stress and avoid disruptions during testing. Once all tests are completed and we have diocesan approval, score reports will be shared with parents—anticipated around October 15.

This week, our first and eighth graders participated in one of our most cherished traditions, the Buddy Ceremony. The excitement of our older students welcoming their younger "buddies" was a joy to witness and a beautiful start to this year's partnership.

October 3 marks the midpoint of the first marking period. As a reminder, St. Bartholomew School does not send home printed progress reports or report cards, with the exception of year-end report cards. Parents and guardians are strongly encouraged to log in to PowerSchool regularly, at minimum twice each marking period, to monitor student progress. If you need assistance with your account, please contact the office; Mrs. Tkacenko will be happy to provide your login information.

Regarding traffic, thank you for your patience as construction continues on Ryders Lane. We anticipate the work will be completed by this Friday.

As cooler weather arrives, please take a moment to label your child's outerwear, sweaters, and sweatshirts with a permanent marker. Our Lost and Found is already beginning to grow, and labeled items are much easier to return to their owners.

***The mission of St. Bartholomew School is to love, educate and inspire
our children to live the teachings of Jesus Christ.***

We are also thrilled to welcome Nurse Zoey to the St. Bartholomew School family. With the change of season and the inevitable increase in illnesses, her presence will be a great blessing. She will be sending home letters in the coming weeks as she gets acclimated to our school community.

A quick reminder: St. Bartholomew School does not offer awards for perfect attendance. We have found that doing so can place unnecessary pressure on families and students to attend school when they are ill. Please note that absences are excused only for funerals and official high school visits. Students are otherwise marked absent when not present in the building or on a school-sponsored trip.

Attached to this letter is an addendum to the Parent/Guardian/Student Handbook regarding student attendance and participation in afterschool activities. Please read it to be aware of expectations going forward.

As I shared in my previous letter, our school has been awarded a significant federal grant for security upgrades. Please note that this grant covers equipment, not personnel. We are awaiting further guidance from FEMA regarding the implementation timeline and will keep you informed as we learn more.

I am looking forward to visiting classrooms in the weeks ahead and to joining our students for the Month of the Rosary activities in October.

God bless,
Mrs. Theresa Craig, M.Ed.
Principal