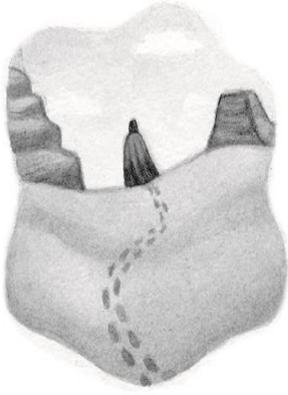


St. Rita of Cascia Catholic School



"Follow Jesus: Leave Footprints of Love and Kindness"

July 2018

Dear St. Rita of Cascia School Family,

Summer has been a very busy time at St. Rita School. Upgrades to our technology through the Dunham Grant are underway. The first goal of Phase 1 will be finished by the time you read this letter. We purchased five new Smartboards which are installed in rooms 300, 301, 200, 201 and the Science lab. These newer boards are two touch boards which give more interactive use in the lessons. Existing boards were moved to Art, Music, the Primary Reading Lab, and room 308, all with new projectors which will improve the images on the screen.

Our first group of Surface Pro handheld devices will be installed in the classrooms. This will give the teachers newer technology to connect to the Smartboards. Additional units will be configured to start our 1:1 technology for middle school students.

All of this means that a great deal of our summer time will be devoted to this special project. We will need additional volunteers to help configure our Surface Pro devices. If you have any background in IT, computers, or networking, we would love to hear from you. Please send an email to Mrs. Rockwood, our technology teacher at mrockwood@saint-rita.org

New curriculum materials will be used in 7th and 8th grade Social Studies which will have online access to use with the Surface Pro devices. We have also purchased a new English series for K-8 for grammar and writing. Grades 2-5 will be using a newer Science text series which includes a section on technology. Our Religion series is also updated this year. At our June curriculum planning day, we worked on new goals in the area of Science for grades PreK-grade 5. Our 6th -8th grade teachers are developing plans to integrate across Literature, English and Social Studies. With so many expectations for our students, we strive to work efficiently to meet all National, State and Diocesan goals.

Our spiritual theme for this school year is "Follow Jesus: Leave Footprints of Love and Kindness. Jesus came into the world to teach us how to love God and love each other. We can do so much good by using kind words and actions to build up each other.

We are ready to have a great year!



NEW FAMILY WELCOME

St. Rita School is very pleased to welcome all our new families.

Our Home & School Association will sponsor a Welcome Breakfast for New Families on:

Saturday, August 11th at 9:00 in the school lunchroom downstairs.

We will have representatives there to talk about some of the special events and traditions that we have at St. Rita School. Please join us so that we can start your year of new friendships.

I am pleased to introduce our new faculty members:

Ms. Megan Peluse will be teaching 6th grade Religion, Social Studies, 2 sections of English and 1 section of 5th grade math.

Ms. Peluse is a member of St. Rita Parish, a graduate of Northern Illinois University. She has worked for the last two years at Jewel Middle School.

Our new second grade teacher will be Mrs. Amy Petersen (not to be confused with our PreK teacher Mrs. Stacey Peterson!). Mrs. Peterson taught first and second grades for ten years at Divine Infant School in Westchester. She has also worked as a tutor at the Sylvan Learning Center supporting diverse learners. Mrs. Petersen looks forward to preparing our second-grade students for the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion.

Library: Mrs. Ann Vose who retired this year from full time teaching will be returning to be our part time Librarian, replacing Mrs. Orłowski who retired this June also. Mrs. Orłowski will be still be seen around the school as a Very Important Volunteer.

At St. Rita School, we are blessed that our retiring teachers return to continue to share in this important ministry of serving the children of St. Rita of Cascia Catholic School. In the words of Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz. "There's no place like home."

With God's grace and blessings,

Mrs. Bette Faxon



Mark your calendar:

Wednesday, August 15th

Book Day 1:00-6:00 PM Please arrive no later than 5:30.

Monday, August 20th

PreK & Kindergarten Open Houses 9:00 AM

Meet and Greet – stop by the classrooms, meet your teachers and drop off supplies. 3:30-5:30 PM

5 B's BBQ dinner