

January 31, 2012

Dear Parents:

How can we best prepare today's young students to thrive in the future they will face? With new discoveries in areas such as medicine and technology being made all the time, today's children will be part of a world that we can't really imagine. We hear about the need for teaching children 21st-century skills. What are they?

- Children must become lifelong learners. They need to “learn how to learn.” Since many of the jobs today's children will hold have not even been developed yet, children must learn how to deal with uncertainty and change.
- The basic skills of reading, writing, and mathematics will still be essential. Science will also play an important role. In addition, creativity, problem solving, and critical thinking will be key.
- Since our children will grow up in a global economy, they will benefit from knowing other languages as well as being skilled in information, media, and technology skills.
- Finally, communication and collaboration skills will be critical in a world in which we all must work together in order to make a positive difference.

This appears to be a very long list; yet your children have the benefit of being part of a Catholic school. The strong school community—grounded in a shared faith and the support and high expectations of parents, teachers, and the larger community—offers your children a foundation for facing the rapidly changing world around them. By sharing this belief in God's goodness and living out their faith every day, your children are blessed with a clear advantage in living and growing in our ever-changing world. Faith provides an anchor whose value can never be overestimated. It provides a compass and a touchstone that will serve your children well into the future.

May God continue to bless you and your family each day.

Sincerely,

Sister Jane Feltz
Principal

Important Information

- Our school nurse, Joann Penn has taken a nursing position elsewhere. We are grateful for her many years of dedicated service at GSA. The Nutley Board of Health is currently interviewing for someone to fill her position. In the meantime, substitute nurses are available until the position is fulfilled.
- The following updates must be reported to the office **immediately**:
 1. Changes in allergy medications
 2. New medical conditions
 3. Change in contact information; email addresses, phone numbers, etc.
- Progress reports will be distributed on Tuesday, February 7th.
- Our GSA Website has been reformatted for easy updating. A link to the Parent Handbook is found on the Home Page. If you have not already done so please review the handbook, sign the Acknowledgement Form and return it to the office.
- I would like to call your attention to two policies.
 1. The only earrings the girls are permitted to wear are small post earrings. Any size hoop earrings are not permitted. Girls wearing them will be sent to the office to remove them. Parents/Guardians may pick them up at the end of the school day.
 2. Generally, medical appointment should be scheduled for after school hours. If this can not be avoided then a note must be sent to the office the day before the appointment to avoid last minute disruptions in the classroom.
- Dress code for Wednesday, February 1, Anti-Bullying Rally, Red Anti-Bullying Shirt with gym sweat pants or uniform; Thursday—uniforms; and Friday is TAG DAY, 12:30pm Dismissal.
- Thank you for all your cooperation and support with the various activities which required a fee the past few weeks.

We have a few large CRT Monitors (not flat screen). If you would like one please contact Sr. Lucy through the office.



GSA's theatrical production will take place this month. Look for performances by our talented students at the GSA gym from February 10th & 11th at 7:00pm Sunday, February 12th at 3:00pm .

Tickets are currently available for purchase: Adults \$8.00

Students/Children \$5.00

Special Thanks

Lina Maneto and Eva Tonelli
Our talented seamstresses who are making a cover for our antique Sheinway piano.

Welcome

To Maria Cebula and
Herbert Feder
who have joined our
maintenance staff.

Welcome to our staff.

Early Dismissal Day
Students are dismissed at
12:30pm after lunch
Friday, February 3

**BOX TOPS FOR
EDUCATION
KEEP THEM COMING!**

Happy Presidents' Day

