Dear Parents,

It we were to accept that an idealist is a person who represents things as they might be rather than as they are, then, there is a strong likelihood that at some stage of life we have all been idealists. We've all been starry-eyed about something whether it be our first day in high school, our first job or our first romance; but somehow, whatever it was, it didn't live up to our expectations and we were confronted with reality, the reality with which we have to live.

It is so easy to talk about the ideals of our Christian faith but so difficult to live them. Reconciliation, forgiveness and acceptance of one another are easy to talk about, but, when confronted with the huge diversity of people in our society, they are so difficult to live out. It's not easy to demonstrate love to a person with whom we have a personality clash or whose behavior we find difficult to accept. Yet, God's love says to us, "I love you unconditionally, no matter what you have done." These words are a wonderful encouragement to keep plugging away and not to be disheartened by failure.

As parents, we all wanted to have the ideal child and to provide for that child a home that was an ideal nurturing environment. And even though our child is not ideal and our home is ideal only on occasion, we continue to do our best and to get as close as we can to fulfill our ideals. This strong sense of idealism we should share with our children, particularly in those areas of life that really matter.

It is of great importance that we give our children a proper perspective of the VALUE OF EDUCATION. From the time we are born we are all learners. From our earliest years we take in information that keeps us from harming ourselves and enables us to ask for assistance. Throughout our childhood and adolescence, we acquire skills that equip us to achieve our independence as individuals and to take our place in our family as people in our own right. Going to school is not always exciting, interesting, or necessarily something to be happy about. Ongoing education after school is probably not much better. However, we need to keep plugging away and be idealistic about what we can achieve through our personal development.

Possibly, the single most important quality we can help our children to develop and that will enhance every part of their lives, is the VALUE OF INTEGRITY. To have integrity means that you are totally honest and truthful in every part of your life. In order to be totally honest with others, you firstly have to be totally honest with yourself. If you are always honest and true to yourself, you cannot be false to anyone else. What a different society it we were to accept that an idealist is a person who represents the ideal child and to provide for them a home that was an ideal one.

It is said that COMPASSION is the highest form of love. In Jesus' time there was little compassion in any society in the world. It was a time of contrasts: the powerful and the disenfranchised, the rich and the poor, the free and the enslaved, the socially accepted and the outcasts. Jesus stood out in His society as a person of active compassion: "And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude: and He was moved with compassion for them and healed their sick." Matthew 14:14. "When Jesus saw her, He had compassion for her and said to her, 'Don't weep'. Then He came and touched the coffin and said, 'Young man, I say to you, arise.'" Luke 7. 13:14.

It is our job as parents to keep putting before our children an optimistic view of life, to encourage them to see things as they might be - and can be - if they keep striving for their ideals. What better ideals than to encourage our children to ongoing education, integrity and compassion.

Peace and Blessings,
Wendy L. Wicke
Unveiling the Virtues

Habit #2 - Begin with the END in MIND.

Circumspection - careful consideration of circumstances and consequences. We cultivate this virtue by seeking advice; silently reflecting upon circumstances and consequences of our actions.

Docility - willingness to be taught. We cultivate this virtue by listening to others and being willing to follow directions and thanking others for rightful correction.

Begin with the end in mind means we start with a goal and work toward that goal. Today I have visited with each class talking about their report cards and the ultimate goal in each of their respective classrooms. The ultimate goal for each grade level is to get to the next grade level. Students were given ideas to reflect upon. One was setting small goals for themselves to improve a grade or grades in certain subjects. Your child may need to work on using time wisely, filling out the planner correctly, completing homework, asking for the right kind of help, taking time each day to review material so that there is not so much to know when the test comes, and the list can go on and on. This week is a good time to practice the Prudential Acts of Good Counsel, Good Judgment and Command with your child. Through those acts you and your child can a goal for the next nine weeks and plan how that goal can be reached.

Red Ribbon Week Activities

Monday, October 23rd - I am "RED" y to live a Drug Free Life

Students may wear a red shirt with uniform bottoms. Girls may wear red ribbons or bows in their hair. Dress Code Policies Apply - See Handbook.

Tuesday, October 24th - "Sock" it to Drugs

Students may wear crazy or mismatched socks to school with their uniform bottoms.

Wednesday, October 25th - Put a Lid On Drugs

Students may wear a crazy hat to school with their uniforms.

Thursday, October 26th - My Future is Bright

Students may wear a T-Shirt representing their favorite college, with their uniform.

Friday, October 27th - Drugs Won’t leave a “Mark” on Me

Students may write their school work in red. (A the teacher’s discretion)

St. Louis Catholic High School

OPEN HOUSE for Prospective Students

in grades 6th - 8th

Thursday, November 16, 2017 at 5pm. Enter at the Gym.

For more information, visit slchs.org or call 436-7275.