



St. Margaret Catholic School

Viking Vine



"Be Who God Meant You to Be And You Will Set The World On Fire."

October 5, 2018

Principal's Corner

Dear Parents,

Have a guess as to the title of this verse: "Sometimes in life it's hard to tell, / What we should or should not do. / Just because my friends do something, / Does that mean I should do it too? / I want so much to be accepted, / I want so bad to just fit in, / Should I join in and just follow the crowd, / Although, what they do might be a sin?"

If you guessed "Peer Pressure", you were spot-on; the author was a young adult named Calvin Hart. Peer pressure can start when we are two years old and continue well into our twilight years, but it does seem to have its most intense influence during the adolescent years. This is the time when our children are striking out on their own and trying to identify who they really are. Childhood guidance and rules no longer suit their needs. They might try to give the impression that they can now stand on their own two feet, but those legs above their feet are rather shaky and they need us to be there for them as never before.

Facing peer pressure is a natural part of growing up and whether or not our children give in to its negative aspects, will have a lot to do with the kind of relationship they share with us, their parents. Establishing a good relationship

will take time and so needs to be commenced when our children are infants. The pillar of our relationship should be the continued message to our children that they are always loved and accepted for who they are, no matter what.

The forging of a bond with our children that will make them feel loved and accepted for who they are, will give them a sense of security. This security will give them the strength to stand up for their values and beliefs.

Our children's beliefs about certain things may be different from ours, because the world has moved on since we were young. We need to allow them their beliefs and respect them even if they appear to be not well informed. We can encourage them to stand up for what they believe in and so let them know that their opinions matter. We might not always be in agreement but we can provide them with the opportunity to share their opinions, and so let our children know they have an unconditional support system.

From an early age, we should encourage our children to make their own decisions. We can guide them towards the right thing to do when dealing with a friend who is teasing, or what stance to take in a disagreement amongst peers, but the final decision should be theirs; accepting and dealing with any consequences should also be theirs. Young people want to make their own decisions and if they have good

information, self-confidence and our

love to back it up, they will mostly make the best choice.

The more our children know about dangerous behaviors the less likely they will engage in them. Often, the reason adolescents take part in self-destructive behavior, is because their friends glorify it and do not talk about the risks associated with it. If parents provide this information, children may be less inclined to adopt the poor behavior of others.

We need to keep building self-esteem into our children. Good self-esteem will help them realize that if another person does not respect them and tries to "ride right over them", then, that person is not worthy of their friendship.

Adolescence is a worrying time for parents, but if we always keep the lines of communication open, know when to give advice and when to just listen and be there for them, then our ride through this period can be on the "merry-go-round" rather than on the "ghost train".

Peace and Blessings,

Wendy L. Wicke



Events

Monday, October 8th

DIOCESAN INSERVICE - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

October 9th - 12th

Red Ribbon Week

Wednesday, October 10th

5:30 pm - SMCS Football vs OLI @ St. Louis

Thursday, October 11th

10:00 am - Jr. High Confessions

6:30 pm - 7th gr. Volleyball vs HC @ SMCS

7:30 pm - 8th gr. Volleyball vs ICCS @ SMCS

Friday, October 12th

8:15 am - Mass

1:30 pm - 6th-8th gr. "Don't Be A Monster" Presentation

Lunches

Monday, October 8th

NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

Tuesday, October 9th

Chicken Nuggets, Sweet

Potato, Celery Sticks,

Applesauce & Wheat Roll

Wednesday, October 10th

Salisbury Steak, Creamed

Potatoes, Black Eye Peas,

Peach Slices & Wheat Roll

Thursday, October 11th

Chicken Stew/Rice/Gravy,

Broccoli, Carrots, Apple

Wedges & Wheat Roll

Friday, October 12th

Gr. Beef Baked Potato, Salad,

Fruit Mix & Wheat Cinnamon

Roll

Choice of Milk Daily

Things to Remember

HALO

Our HALO this week was Mrs. Sarah Hill. We thank Mrs. Hill for her love and caring of our students and getting them ready for 4th grade.

Club Meetings

Tuesday, October 9th

Noon - BETA Club

4:00 - 5:00 pm - Jr. Catholic Daughters

Wednesday, October 10th

3:00 - 4:00 pm - Science Club

Friday, October 12th

Noon - Spanish Club



Viking Lagniappe

Unveiling the Virtues

During the month of October we will be working on Habit #2 - Begin with the End in Mind and the Cardinal Virtue of Prudence.

Begin with the END in MIND means: I plan ahead and set goals. I do things that have meaning and make a difference. I am an important part of my classroom and contribute to my school's mission and vision. I look for ways to be a good citizen. When practicing this habit it is good to also work to cultivate the Cardinal Virtue of Prudence. Prudence perfects our intellect, our natural ability to judge correctly. Prudence perfects our common sense. As our children grow and develop that often times need guidance in perfecting their common sense. That becomes our job to help. That is why it is important for us to teach our children about seeking advice from reasonable and trustworthy people - trusted adults. We also have to work with our children to help them develop Good Judgment. That is thinking rightly about a decision and carefully considering all the circumstances and praying about what the Lord would have us do. We also must instruct our children in the Prudential Act of Command - acting upon a sound decision made after thoughtful deliberation. Developing these qualities in our children take time and conversation that is often led by you, the parent, with careful questioning and reflection. We will spend the month of October on cultivating the virtue of Prudence and developing Habit #2. The END is for us to help each other get to heaven.

Welcome Back!!

We would like to welcome back Mrs. Sharon Torres. Mrs. Torres is going to be an Aide for 4th Grade!! Welcome Home Mrs. Torres!!!

Red Ribbon Week!!



St. Margaret says "Boo" to Bullying & Drugs"

Tuesday, October 9th

"We are Red-y to say "BOO" to Bullying & Drugs"

Boys may wear a red shirt & socks with uniform bottoms and Girls may wear a red shirt, socks and/or hair accessory with uniform bottoms.

Wednesday, October 10th

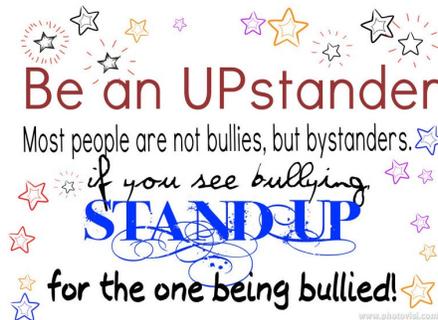
"Sock It to Bullying & Drugs"

Students may wear crazy socks with their school uniform.

Thursday, October 11th

"Team Up Against Bullying & Drugs"

Students may wear their favorite team t-shirt or jersey with their uniform bottom.



Family Faith Formation

Saint Margaret School now has a Family Faith Formation team. It is made up of a few staff members, but mostly parents who are concerned with how the school can help strengthen and support the family. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, *Parents are the principal and first educators of their children... It is in the bosom of the family that parents are "by word and example ...the first heralds of the faith with regard to their children."* (1653, 1656) *"The role of parents in education is of such importance that it is almost impossible to provide an adequate substitute."* (2221)

Pope Saint John Paul II wrote a letter entitled, *Catechesis in Our Time*. In it he wrote of the importance of parents witnessing to the Christian life, explaining the faith as family events such as sacraments, feasts, bereavement, etc. take place, and following and repeating more "methodical teaching received elsewhere," such as in a school. He also recognized the need for encouragement, contact, meetings, and all "pedagogical means" to "help parents perform their task."

Stay tuned to the Viking Vine for ways we as a school community will try to offer this encouragement. There are many good things to come.

