From the Desk of Ms. Miller:

Please remember to contact school staff during school hours and through school communications (i.e. Google Classroom, Classtag, school email, etc.) While many of you are "friends" or "followers" of QP staff on social media, contacting any staff member on their private social media account regarding a school issue is not appropriate. The expectation remains that you should receive a response from staff within 24 hours, this could be longer on weekends or breaks.

Please follow this link to sign your children up for Youth or St. Cecilia Choir: https://forms.gle/wXt1KwabyPv6TFD1L7 Rehersals will begin next Wednesday and Thursday. If the participation is low, the two choirs may be combined. This is not ideal, as the older students are more prepared to work on more complex music and harmonies. Please talk to your children to see if they are interested in participating in this extracurricular opportunity. Also, do not refrain from signing them up because they are interested in other sports or activities. Mr. Farwell is willing to work around other extracurricular events.

Next Wednesday is our first Spirit Day of this school year. It is Red, White, and Blue day to honor Robert Miller Senior Veterans’ Home, serving homeless veterans. Please remember that leggings are against school dress code as well as shorts that are shorter than fingertip length, skinny/tight pants, or pants with holes in them. Students are permitted and encouraged to wear red, white, and blue head to toe!

If you are going to have someone out of the ordinary pick up your children (from school or Pumas) please communicate this with the office. We have new staff members in Puma Pals and they have not met all family members. If your child has an extracurricular activity, such as soccer, and you want to give their coach permission to sign them out of Pumas, that is permissible if we have written or verbal consent shared through the office. Only a parent or approved adult on the student’s emergency contact list will be permitted to sign them out and pick them up.

Gym uniform order forms were due yesterday. The required part of the uniform to be purchased is the shirt. You may purchase any plain grey shorts or sweatpants to go with the gym shirt for your children to wear on gym days. Shorts or pants should be plain grey with no large logos or stripes on them. Please also refer to the 19/20 Parent-Student handbook.
HASA

Happy September to all of you college football loving fans! Notre Dame has started their season with a win!

A big THANK YOU to all who attended the HASA Welcome Back ice cream social! We had many smiling faces join us for a cool treat!

The HASA sponsored Notre Dame Football apparel booth needs YOUR help!
I was JUST made aware of the extra training date. It is TODAY, Thursday September 5th at 6 pm at the Clearance Center. Please see sign up genius for more details: https://www.sign-up-genius.com/go/10c0e4fa82ca6c5-training
You can also find the link on the home page of the Queen of Peace website. In that sign up, there is a link to the home games. YOU MUST attend a training session in order to work the game. Please strongly consider going to the training tonight even if you're unsure if you will work a game. The game signups are very thin and we are honestly in jeopardy of losing our booth if we cannot get enough people to cover booth 22 each game (Our original booth. Follett did assign us booth 25 this year as well, but I explained I may not be able to get enough people per game to cover both booths). I will remind all parents of 6-8th graders, this is a huge fundraiser that helps YOUR child cut costs to attend the Washington DC trip in 8th grade. As of now, HASA gives half of the apparel booth money to offset the cost. That money is split into each class for use when their 8th graders. 6th and 7th grade parents have done a great job of signing up, but we need more! If we can fully staff both booths (min of 4 per booth), we should see a huge increase in funding for the trip, which again offsets the amount of money your family contributes to the trip. If you have any questions about the apparel booth, you can email me at Carriettac@gmail.com or text/call me at 574-360-6373.

We have our first HASA meeting next Thursday, September 12th from 6:30-7:45 in the School Commons. Please join us to learn about the all new discipline program the Queen of Peace staff worked hard to design. This will be the discipline process that will be executed in all classrooms this year and forward. Do you have questions already? This meeting is the perfect place to get your answers!

HASA upcoming events:
*Thursday, September 5th at 6pm-Notre Dame apparel booth training (as far as I know, there is not another scheduled)
*Thursday, September 12th at 6:30 pm-HASA September meeting in the School Commons.

“When you know better, you do better.” — Maya Angelou

Have a great week and see you at the first HASA meeting!

Carrie Crosbie, HASA President

CHILDREN'S LITERGY OF THE WORD

If any parents or grandparents are interested in helping with our Children's Liturgy of the Word on Sundays, please contact Kate O'Neill at koneill@queenofpeace.cc.
Helping with Children's Liturgy counts toward your service hour requirement.

Thank you!

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

All field trip drivers and classroom volunteers need to complete the Diocesan Safe Environment Training Program. Completing this process is easy and only needs to be completed every five years. If you need to complete this process, simply call the parish office or email haverty@queenofpeace.cc to be emailed the background check link and supporting documentation. Please complete three business days prior to attending a school field trip or event to complete this process. Thank you for your cooperation.

SAVE THE DATE!

SALSA'S GIVE BACK NIGHT is September 19th at both Locations (Mishawaka & Granger)

Invite your family and friends to SALSA'S Thursday, September 19th. Proceeds benefit our Athletic Program. Salsa's will give 20% back to us.

Please remember to order your children's lunches for October at www.BOONLL.com.
Ordering is now through the 10th.
The October lunch calendar is in today's envelope.

INCOMPLETE PAPERWORK

Please make sure to fill out all beginning of the year forms and return to the office ASAP. These are vital for emergencies and fieldtrips. For all new students please make sure the office has a copy of your student's Birth Certificate to complete your registration. Also, all medical paperwork from Doctors needs to be turned in immediately.

HOLIDAY BAZAAR HELP NEEDED

If you enjoy being in charge of setups and takedowns of tables and chairs, we have just the task for you. Our annual Holiday Bazaar, which is always the second Saturday in November, requires 2 to 3 hours on the Friday before and about 2 hours at the end of the bazaar. We will take care of all of the planning and work before and during the bazaar but would really like another crew to help us out with the setup and takedown. If you are interested, please contact us at qp19bazaar@gmail.com and we will be more than happy to set down with you and go through it all.

Ed & Carol Gill - Bazaar Chairs
Have a great school year!

The first weeks of school present opportune moments to recommit to your child’s academic and spiritual growth over the next ten months. Try these tips:

Pray through the day - A key to spiritual strength is prayer. Make prayer central to your family life. Pray together before school and in gratitude when the day is over. Pray before and after meals. Ask your children their intentions so you can pray on their behalf. Prayer joins us together when we are apart.

Recommit to weekly Mass. There is no more important activity any family can share. When we center ourselves around the Eucharist, we are given the spiritual food we need to be strong in our faith.

Family meal. Studies attest to the importance of family meals to school success and spiritual formation. Make every effort to gather for family dinners each night. Start with prayer and focus on conversation. Don’t let anything interfere with this family time.

Homework help. Youngsters need a quiet environment in which to do homework, the necessary supplies, support and supervision. Work with teachers to learn what your students need to be successful. Treat religious education homework with the importance of any core subject. Its benefits are lifelong.

Share the love. Choose many different ways to tell children how much you love them. Be generous.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

When Jesus said, “whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life” (John 6:54), he spoke literally. Later, taking bread and wine, Jesus changed them into his body and blood, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body” and “this is my blood” (Matthew 26:26-28).

The Catholic Church calls this action transubstantiation. When the priest consecrates the bread and wine into the Holy Eucharist, Jesus is literally present—Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity—just as he said.

Queen of Peace
Do fussy children belong in church?

If you have ever raced into the pew after Mass has started, juggled a crying child during the homily or settled spats during the Consecration, you may feel that fellow parishioners are judging you harshly. It may seem like church is only suited to perfectly behaved and pious families. Yet messy, wonderful families of God are critical to the Catholic Church.

Children are our future. Parents are the most influential teachers of faith and catechesis for their children. Children first learn about God’s love from their parents. That makes you valued and important to building up the Catholic Church. Those occasionally scruffy, sometimes noisy children you bring into the church are our future.

The Church is for you. Jesus truly comes to us in the Eucharist at every Mass. There is no better nourishment for our souls than his Body and Blood. Come to Mass weekly and give children opportunities for his grace. Seek support in your family faith journey. It’s what the Church is meant to do.

Scripture Lesson

Luke 16:19-31, Faith formed by love

In this passage, Jesus told the story of Lazarus, a beggar who lay suffering, miserable and ignored outside the home of a rich man. By contrast, the rich man had a wonderful and comfortable life on earth, clueless to what was happening outside his very door. Yet in the afterlife, it’s the rich man who suffers torment and begs for relief.

The rich man wasn’t a bad man. The parable didn’t say he got his wealth through dishonest means or had done anything evil. He was blind to the suffering of others. He knew what God expected of him, didn’t do it, and didn’t care. Jesus portrays his suffering in the afterlife as just punishment.

What can a parent do? The Bible makes it plain that Jesus wants us to love each other as he loves us. Love is more than warm feelings. When we live our faith, we transform our prayers into acts of love as Jesus asked. It isn’t always easy or pleasant doing the right thing, but the reward for doing what Jesus asked will be eternal joy.

Parent Talk

A girl named Ryan was new to Tessa’s class this year. She must have missed her old school and friends because Ryan cried the first few days of school. Tessa got upset when the other girls made fun of her during recess. She asked how she could help.

I explained how Ryan must feel coming to a new city, a new home, and a new school. I remembered that I had moved when I was Tessa’s age and told her how it felt.

Then I asked Tessa for ideas for how she could help Ryan feel welcome. She resolved to sit next to her at lunch and play with her at recess. She also had a notebook and matching pen she decided to give to Ryan as a welcome gift.

It must have worked because Tessa said Ryan didn’t cry at recess. Instead, she smiled and my girl learned compassion.

Feasts & Celebrations

September 15 – Our Lady of Sorrows. In Luke 2:35, Simeon predicted Mary’s sorrows as “a sword piercing” her soul. This partly referred to a time when Mary would stand at the foot of the Cross. Despite her sorrow, Mary stood dignified and fearless while others ran away. Mary shows us how to respond to suffering – with love and faith.

September 17 – St. Robert Bellarmine (1621). A Jesuit, Robert was a scholar devoted to studying and writing about Church history, Scripture, and the fathers of the Catholic Church. He worked to accurately record Church doctrine to explain and protect it from attack by Protestants. Although a cardinal and counselor to Pope Clement VIII, he lived a simple life.

September 29 – Saints Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael. Members of the third hierarchy of angels around the throne of God, archangels are entrusted with important missions to mankind such as St. Gabriel’s visit to the Blessed Mother to tell her she had been chosen as the Mother of God.

Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children
Success Publishing & Media, LLC
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http://www.successpublishing.com
(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)

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A good attitude = more learning

Starting the year with a positive attitude about school goes a long way toward a student's success. Inspire your tween to develop a winning outlook with these strategies.

Look for positives
Your middle grader can find something interesting about every class. Suggest that he start a list of fun facts, one from each class every week. After a biology lesson on genetics, he might write, "I had a 50 percent chance of having blue eyes since Mom's are brown and Dad's are blue." Encourage him to share his discoveries with you.

Celebrate achievements
Tell your tween to congratulate himself on a job well done. Maybe he earned a higher score on this week's vocabulary quiz than he did on last week's. Or perhaps he picked a topic for his history paper, even though he was tempted to put off getting started. Saying "I did it!" will make him feel good about himself and motivated to keep working hard.

Seek help
Successful students know how to get help when they face challenges. For example, your child could post a schedule of teachers' office hours or homework-help sessions in his locker. Then if he's struggling, he can sign up for a spot. Having a plan in place will help him stay upbeat.

Fall family fun

Strong parent-tween relationships help kids resist risky behaviors and make family life more enjoyable. Try these ideas.

■ Outings. Ask your child to find outings that sound fun, such as a fall festival or a paint night. For ideas, she could look in the newspaper or check library and community center websites. Tip: Suggest that she ask classmates where their families like to go on weekends.

■ Projects. Let your middle grader plan family projects. Perhaps she'll suggest a garage sale. Work together to gather books, housewares, and toys you don't need anymore. She can help to advertise the sale, price items, and greet customers.

Take good risks
Encourage your tween to try an activity that appeals to her, even if she's a little nervous. Maybe she wants to join the cross-country team but hasn't run longer distances. Or perhaps she's interested in the improv club but is hesitant about public speaking. Stepping out of her comfort zone will stretch her abilities and build confidence.

Agree to disagree
If your usually agreeable child starts poking holes in your opinions, that's a sign his reasoning skills are developing. Try not to take it personally, and ask him to share his views respectfully. He'll learn that it's okay to disagree, as long as he's polite about it.

Puzzle me this
Crossword puzzles boost your tween's vocabulary. Have her print free puzzles she finds online or get crossword books from a dollar store. Or she and her friends could make crosswords for each other on graph paper or with a website like puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com.

Worth quoting
"The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing." Walt Disney

Just for fun
Q: Why did the bird build a nest on the car?
A: She knew they would be moving soon!
Wanted: Involved parents

What does parent involvement look like in middle school? While you probably won’t be volunteering in your child’s classroom, she still wants your support (even if she doesn’t act like she does). Consider these tips for being a partner in her education.

At school. Make it a priority to attend school events like curriculum nights and school plays. Also, look for ways to help that are related to your tween’s activities. If she plays in the band, you could volunteer to set up for a concert. If she belongs to a book club, you might offer to shelve library books and talk to her afterward about books you noticed. Or if she’s an athlete, maybe you’ll work at the concession stand during sporting events.

At home. Offer to quiz your middle grader on material she’s studying or to look over a paper she’s working on. To stay in the loop about what’s happening in school, read the website regularly and sign up for email or text alerts. Mention the announcements to your child so she knows you’re interested in her school.

Getting started with community service

Q: My son is required to complete community service hours this year, but he can’t decide what to do. How can I help him?

A: Doing community service will let your son help others and gain work experience. The main office of his school counselor may have a list of places where he can volunteer. He could also ask friends, relatives, and neighbors for ideas.

Then, suggest that he choose a job that matches his interests—he’ll get more out of it that way. For example, he might participate in a beach cleanup if he’s concerned about the environment. Or if he likes working with younger children, he may play games or read with little ones at a homeless shelter while their parents attend job training.

Finally, encourage him to keep track of his work, including names of supervisors, so he’ll receive credit—and even have references for a job someday.

Everyday engineering

From shoes and clothing to appliances and electronics, just about every product your tween uses was designed by engineers. Help him discover how engineering affects his daily life with this activity.

1. Encourage your child to consider the engineering involved in his favorite products. Maybe his running shoes absorb impact, the smoothie maker purees big chunks of fruit, or his jacket repels rain.

2. Now let him pick a product to redesign. He could decide to add another layer of foam to his shoes. First, he should run a block and rate his comfort on a scale of 1–10. Then, he can add foam, run another block, and rate his comfort again. What happens if he adds even more foam? How much might be too much?

Our purpose

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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The “elevator speech”

When I was looking for a job, I discovered an interesting technique for “selling” yourself in an interview: the “elevator speech.” I shared the idea with my daughter Susan, thinking she could use it to write summaries or make points during class discussions.

I told Susan to pretend she was going to ride an elevator with me and summarize the novel she’s reading in 30 seconds or less—about the time it would take to ride from the ground to the top floor of a building.

Susan jotted down what she wanted to say. At first, it took her almost 3 minutes to read it. But she kept trimming her summary until it was about 30 seconds long.

Then, she read it aloud to me. She got to the point quickly, and now she plans to try the strategy in class.
The ABCs of school success

School success begins at home! While your child is learning her ABCs, 123s, and much more, she can get the year off to a great start with these other ABCs.

Attend every day
More time in class = more learning. Help your youngster attend school regularly by scheduling doctor appointments and family vacations outside of school hours. Also, she can cut down on sick days by eating her fruits and vegetables, washing her hands often, and getting plenty of physical activity.

Be organized
Forgotten homework? A backpack that doubles as a black hole? Good organizational skills prevent those problems. Together, brainstorm ways for your child to get—and stay—organized. For instance, she could choose a special folder for bringing home and returning homework and use a zipper bag to store pencils and other supplies.

Check in daily
Designate a time each day to sit down with your youngster, talk about what she did in school, and review papers she brought home. You might read a story she wrote or look over her math test, for example. This simple routine shows her that you care about what she’s learning. Plus, you’ll notice where she’s doing well or if she’s struggling with anything so you can follow up with her teacher.

Back to school...for parents

School rules keep students safe and let teachers do their job. Show your youngster that parents can help by following rules—just like he does. Here are a few examples:

- Check in at the office as soon as you enter the school building, and be prepared to show identification.
- If you drive your child to school, be familiar with drop-off and pickup procedures. For instance, stay in your car, obey staff and patrol officers, and help your youngster exit the car quickly and safely.
- Follow rules for sending food to school. Is there a no-peanut policy? Are birthday treats allowed?
- Contact the teacher to arrange visits ahead of time rather than dropping in.

Q: How many eggs did the farmer collect from his biggest rooster?
A: Zero. Roosters don’t lay eggs!
Getting out the door

Mornings help to set the tone for your child’s school day. Consider these ideas for a routine that will send him off to school relaxed and ready to learn.

Add a “cushion.” Does your youngster need to walk out the door at 8 a.m.? Have him pretend he has to leave by 7:45 a.m. and adjust his routine accordingly. If he’s ready early, great! The cushion of extra time will make the morning feel more relaxed—and maybe even give him time to read for pleasure or review spelling words.

Simplify breakfast. Make healthy, ready-to-eat breakfast items ahead of time with your child. Overnight oatmeal, hard-boiled eggs, cheese cubes with fruit, and favorite sandwiches are all good bets. Idea: Let your youngster eat breakfast at school. Enjoying a hot, healthy meal with friends is a nice way to start the day.

Use a musical countdown.

Suggest that your child create a song playlist that fits the amount of time he has to get ready for school. Then, turn on the music when he wakes up. Once he’s familiar with the order of the songs, he’ll know how much time he has left just from listening to the music.

PARENT TO PARENT

Basket of clues

Aisha loves that her teacher begins each morning by giving the children clues about what they’ll learn that day. At back-to-school night, the teacher mentioned that this lets them practice reading and thinking logically, so I decided to try it at home.

The next Saturday morning, I left a basket of clues on the coffee table about what our family would do in the afternoon. It included a finger puppet, a tote bag, and a bookmark. I added a message: “We will have fun at this place and bring some of the fun home in the bag.” Aisha figured out that we were going to the library to watch a puppet show and check out books.

Now on Friday nights, Aisha asks me to make a clue basket. Sometimes, she even thinks of an activity she’d like to do and writes clues for me.

ACTIVITY CORNER

Time out for nature

Time spent enjoying nature has been shown to reduce stress and improve children’s—and adults’—mental health. The outdoors is a great place to learn, too. Enjoy these five activities with your youngster.

1. Search for spiderwebs, and let her “collect” them by taking photos with your phone.
2. Find a place to sit quietly and listen to the birds. Can your child spot the birds that make each sound you hear?
3. Take a few deep breaths, and tell each other what outdoor scents you smell (pine trees, flowers).
4. Look for different types of rocks. She can sort them according to size, shape, or color.
5. Explore favorite outdoor places in all kinds of weather. Splash in puddles on a rainy morning. On a sunny afternoon, observe the shadows that leaves make on the ground as the breeze blows them around.

Q & A

Q: My son is always eager to try activities, such as karate or student council. But then he’ll ask to drop out because they’re “too hard” or “too much work.” How should I handle this?

A: Many youngsters are surprised when something that looks easy turns out to take hard work. Learning to find ways to overcome challenges will help your son stick with activities—and develop persistence.

When he mentions that a karate move or a student council job is taking too much effort, ask him what, specifically, is challenging. Then together, think of solutions. For example, if he’s struggling with karate moves that involve balancing on one foot, brainstorm fun ways to improve his balance.

Over time, your child will get in the habit of looking for solutions instead of giving up.
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ELIGIBLE TO ALL BOYS AND GIRLS
AGES 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14
AGE BASED ON 09/01/2019

REGISTER 10:30am-11:00am AT THE COMPETITION
PROOF OF AGE: COPY OF BIRTH CERTIFICATE
REQUIRED AT REGISTRATION

WHEN
Saturday, September 7th, 2019 from 10:30am-2:00pm

WHERE
Fathers’ Fields at Queen of Peace
4508 Vistula Rd. Mishawaka IN 46544

CONTACT
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