From the Desk of Ms. Miller:

TWO FOR ONE! TONIGHT! Join us tonight for our Open School Board Meeting in the Commons at 6:00pm. Following this meeting will be the first HASA meeting of the school year. The Open School Board meeting is a time for you to come and not only get updates from all the members and subcommittees of the School Board, but a time to participate in our meeting through the question and answer period at the end of the meeting.

This Friday we will be having our School Mass followed by a Eucharistic Procession for the Triumph of the Holy Cross. As with all of our School Masses, we encourage parents to attend when they can. Our students will be seated in Family Groups so all children who are not in the choir will be sitting with their siblings. On Mass days when we choose to sit in our class groups, you are welcome to gather your children and sit with them during Mass.

Alert Solutions is the application we use that sends out emails, texts, and calls when there are closings, delays, or it could be used in the case of an important message that needs to be send out in a timely fashion. You should have access to your information through your PowerSchool login. There is an Alert Solutions tab on the left side of the screen. If you click on this link and receive an error message, you may need to delete the “cookies” from your computer. If you do that and still receive an error, please let me know. You can set up your preferences on how you are contacted through this link. Closings and delays are communicated through Alert Solutions, WNDU, WSBT, and ABC 57.

During a 2 hour delay, there is no morning preschool, and extended care is only offered to those students who are in the afternoon preschool class. If it is a Mass day, we will not have Mass. Students can wear their regular school uniforms, including gym uniforms. Puma Pals is offered on days with two hour delays.

It is not too early to be thinking about snow! Would your child enjoy joining our Ski Club this year? We had a blast last year and would love for this Club to grow. We will be holding an organizational meeting sometime in October to discuss it in more detail. Watch future Newsletters for more information.
HACIENDA GIVE BACK NIGHT is September 18th at the 100 Center location All Day

Invite your family and friends to dinner at Hacienda 100 Center on Tuesday, September 18!! Proceeds benefit our Athletic Program. Please see the tokens in this week’s Communication Envelope. They are needed in order for us to get credit. If you need more please come to the school office.

Can’t make it that night? Purchase a Hacienda gift card to use at your convenience. Hacienda will give 20% back to us. The gift cards make great gifts for birthdays, Christmas, or just for fun!! (Gift cards cannot be used the night of the Give Back) Classroom contest!! The classroom that sells the most gift cards will win a Chip and Salsa Fried Ice Cream PARTY!!!!

HASA
Queen of Peace Families, please join us tomorrow evening at 6:00 pm for this year’s only open to the public school board meeting followed immediately by the HASA meeting. We will have great information, free babysitting, and even food if your evening is so busy that you have to skip on dinnertime to attend. We look forward to seeing you! 10 Reasons To Get Involved At School:
1) Volunteering makes a big difference. Research consistently shows that kids whose parents are involved at their school do better. Check this space over the next few weeks for the next 9 reasons.

SCHOOL BOARD
Please join us for the annual Open School Board Meeting. This meeting will take place on Thursday, September 13th at 6:00 pm in the Commons. Attending will give you a look at how meetings are conducted, and the chance to ask any questions that you may have. Plan to stick around as the first HASA meeting of the year will be immediately following! Babysitting will be available for both events. We look forward to seeing you and God bless, Tonya Rush

INCOMPLETE PAPERWORK
Please make sure to fill out all beginning of the year forms and return to the office by ASAP These are vital for emergencies and field trips.

SCRIP
Help save money for your school tuition by purchasing SCRIP. Gift cards to many area merchants (Martin’s, Meijer, Walmart and many more!) are available for purchase at the parish office. A portion of these sales are issued as tuition credit for your children's tuition. Friends and family can buy for your family too!

Thank you for supporting the SCRIP program!

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 lhaverty@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.

ATTENTION PAST AND PRESENT SCHOOL CHOIR MEMBERS!
Help us send off Choir Director and Music Teacher Mr. Joseph Ciskanik to his new parish in Virginia with a celebration! Children and their families are welcome to attend a pizza party in the school gym following the 5:30 Mass on September 22nd. Please email the parish office at parishoffice@queenofpeace.cc with your name and number of people attending as soon as possible. See you there!

SAVE THE DATE!
Grandparents Day is on September 28, 2018! We will celebrate our Grandparents at Mass at 8:15am followed by a classroom visit.
A great beginning

The story of your child's school year is about to unfold. A strong opening chapter will help to set the tone for a great year. Try these strategies.

**Introduce the characters**

Your youngster's teacher will play an important role in his life this year. Write her a short note, and attach a picture of your family. You might mention your child's hobbies, favorite school subjects, and family members' names. Also, find out how the teacher prefers to be contacted. Getting to know each other now will help you work together in future "chapters."

**Get to know the setting**

Invite your youngster to tell you about his classroom, the library, and other places at school. What decorations hang on the walls? What books or games are on the shelves? When possible, see for yourself by going to events like book fairs and math nights. Idea: Encourage him to draw you a picture of his classroom to hang on the refrigerator.

**Enjoy the plot**

Attend back-to-school night to find out what your child will learn this year. Then, plan family outings or activities related to the topics. If he'll study your state's history, you could visit historic sites. Or if there's a plant unit, let him help you work in the garden or plant seeds in pots.

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Students who attend school regularly tend to have better attitudes toward school—and they're more likely to read at grade level. Try to schedule your child's doctor and dentist appointments outside of school hours. Also, be sure to create a backup plan for getting her to school if she misses the bus or you can't drive her.

**The importance of integrity**

What would your youngster say if a classmate asked him to cheat? Talk to him about how to respond if he's pressured to share answers or let others copy his work. For example, he could say, "Let's study together so we both do well," or "I don't want to risk getting a zero."

The average child with a parent in the military moves every two to three years. Encourage your youngster to introduce herself to all new students. If you're a military family, contact your school liaison officer and the school counselor about programs available to help your child adjust.

"All the world is a laboratory to the inquiring mind." Martin H. Fischer

**Routines that stick**

Little habits make a big difference in the kind of day you and your youngster have. Here are things each of you could do to create routines for smooth days.

**Your child can:** Make a picture chart of what she needs to do every morning, afternoon, and evening. She might draw a backpack as a reminder to show you papers she brings home. A picture of a violin could prompt her to practice her instrument.

**You can:** Have her go to bed in time to get 9-11 hours of sleep and to eat a healthy breakfast in the morning. Set aside downtime after a busy day (perhaps 20 minutes when she gets home) so she'll be recharged for homework, chores, and family time.
Strengthen social skills

School is more pleasant for everyone when children share classroom materials and compromise to solve problems. Consider this advice for improving your youngster's social skills so she learns to get along with others now and later.

**Practice sharing**

Do activities with your child that require sharing. For example, color together, and let her practice asking for the purple or the green crayon nicely. She could say, “May I use that when you’re done?” And you might reply, “Sure, I’ll give it to you as soon as I finish coloring this dragon.”

**Learn to compromise**

Your youngster and her classmates may disagree on how to approach a group project or a science experiment. Help her prepare by looking for ways to find middle ground at home. Say she and a sibling argue over what book they’d like you to read at bedtime. They could take turns choosing a story every other night or ask you to read one chapter from each book. If they can’t compromise, offer a suggestion like reading a book you pick.

**Outdoor magic**

I used to play outside all the time when I was little, but my sons never seem interested in leaving the house. One day, while reminiscing with my sister about all the fun we had outdoors as kids, an idea struck me.

I labeled a bin “Outdoor fun” and put it near the front door. Then, I asked my boys to fill it with things to play with outside. They found a yo-yo, balls, a Frisbee, a jump rope, and sidewalk chalk. I added a magnifying glass, a jar for collecting rocks and other treasures, and a bucket and shovel for digging in the dirt.

Having this bin in plain sight reminds my sons how much fun it is to play outside. I love seeing them using their imaginations outdoors and getting exercise. And surprisingly, they’re not asking for screen time as often.

**Smart money management**

**Q: We've started giving our third-grade daughter a small allowance. How can we teach her to be responsible with her money?**

**A:** Learning to manage money wisely will give your youngster financial skills to use throughout her life. Encourage her to write a budget for herself. She could list inexpensive items she asks you to buy for her, such as hair accessories or slime-making supplies. She can also include something she wants to save up for and gifts she’d like to buy others for birthdays and holidays.

Help your daughter look up prices of the items. Then, she should decide how much money to save each week. Consider letting her open a savings account, too. You can show her how to check the balance—she’ll feel pride as she watches her savings grow.

**Attention stretchers**

Boost your child’s attention span with these hands-on ideas that use everyday materials:

- Create a “spiderweb.” Have everyone stand in a circle with one person holding a ball of yarn. That person grasps one end of the yarn and tosses the ball to any other player. Your youngster must pay attention so he’ll be ready when the ball comes his way. Toss it back and forth enough times, and your child will be delighted by a giant web of yarn!

- Try this classic game that requires focus. You’ll need three cups and a small toy like a plastic frog. While your youngster watches, put the toy under one cup. Now slide the cups around for 30 seconds, constantly mixing up their order. Can your child tell you which cup the toy is under? Then, let him try to stump you.

  **Idea:** For a bigger challenge, increase the time or add more cups.
A+ organizing strategies

As the school year gets underway, your middle grader will be calmer and more confident if she knows she's on top of things. Strategies like these can help her get organized.

Create “command centers”
Encourage your tween to keep school-related materials in specific places so she'll always know where they are. She could store homework supplies on a kitchen shelf or in a box on her bedroom desk. Have her choose a spot near the front door for items like her backpack, musical instrument, and gym shoes so they'll be ready to go when she is.

Use “5-minute wonders”
Suggest these habits that take only a few minutes. Before leaving school each day, she can scan her planner to check dates and deadlines for tests, assignments, and forms. That way, she'll know which books and papers to take home. At home, she could quickly leaf through her folders and notebooks, then file what she needs and throw away what she doesn't.

Keep an estimate log
Knowing how long tasks actually take will give your tween an edge when organizing her time. Suggest that she time herself completing different types of schoolwork, such as doing research for a report or reviewing Spanish vocabulary. She could write the times in her planner and refer to them later to help her budget accurately in the future.

Part of the group
Joining an extracurricular activity gives your child a productive—and fun—way to spend his free time. Try these ideas.

■ Find a good fit. Suggest that your middle grader listen to morning announcements or check the school website for a list of activities. He can ask the coach or advisor for more details about ones he's interested in.

■ Arrange transportation. Set up a carpool with other parents. Or have him find out whether there's a late bus he can ride and get the schedule.

■ Show interest. If he joins a sports team, cheer him on at games or meets. Or if he's in the science club, ask him to tell you about an experiment he enjoyed.
Homework: Smooth sailing

In middle school, your tween is the captain of the ship when it comes to handling homework. He can sail smoothly with these tips.

Discuss expectations. Encourage your child to think about what he expects of himself. He might say he will turn in assignments when they're due and get in the habit of looking over math problems to be sure he didn't make careless mistakes. Also, let him know what you expect when it comes to homework. Consider writing down your expectations, such as doing his best and turning assignments in when they're due.

Step back. Have your middle grader decide when to do homework, whether it's after school or after dinner. When it's time for him to start, be matter-of-fact.

You could say, "Looks like it's time to do homework. Let me know if you need anything." Then, allow him to work independently. This shows him you have confidence in his abilities and encourages him to take responsibility for his own work.

What is “vaping”??

The good news: Fewer middle schoolers are smoking cigarettes. The bad news: More tweens are vaping, or using electronic cigarettes. Here's what you need to know.

What it is: Electronic devices are used to inhale vapor that usually contains nicotine. Vaping appeals to kids because it comes in flavors like cotton candy or bubble gum. The devices are often small and easy to hide—some even look like flash drives and can be plugged into laptops to charge.

Why it’s dangerous: Nicotine is addictive, and it harms growing brains and lungs. And the verdict is still out on what additional damage the chemicals could cause.

What you can do: Don't allow any type of smoking, and let your child know the consequences if she breaks this rule. Also, be on the lookout for signs of vaping, such as giant clouds of vapor or unexplained odors. And search for images of e-cigarettes online so you’ll know what they look like.

Q&A

Q Last year, my son asked to stay home when he was tired or “needed a break.” I know he has a lot to do—should I let him stay home occasionally?

A One of the best ways to help your child have a successful year is to make sure he attends school every day from start to finish.

Start the year by reading the attendance policy in the school handbook together. That way, you'll both be on the same page about what counts as an acceptable reason for missing school, such as illness or a family emergency.

Then if he asks for a “day off,” explain that learning is his job. To keep up with new material and participate in class, he has to be there. You can let him know that his days off come during winter break and spring break. Regular attendance at school now will create a habit that he’ll continue throughout his school years—and one day, on the job.
SOCcer Challenge Championship
Sponsored by Ave Maria Council 5521

Eligible to all boys and girls
Ages 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14
Age based on 09/01/2018

Register 10:30am-11:00am at the competition
Proof of age: Copy of birth certificate required at registration

When
Saturday, September 15th, 2017 10:30am-2:00pm

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

Contact
Ryan Grill, P.G.K.
Soccer Challenge Championship Chairman
ryangrill@gmail.com | www.kofc5521.org
HACIENDA 100 CENTER GIVE BACK NIGHT
Tuesday, September 17, 2018
All Day!!

Hacienda will donate 20% of what we spend on our Give Back Fiesta Day. Proceeds will benefit our Athletic Program. All you have to do is bring in the token provided, show it to your server, and everything on your bill will be counted for the 20%. Carry out orders are counted too! Gift cards will not be accepted to make payments with your token.

Classroom competition!! Please consider selling Hacienda Gift Cards, (can not be used the night of the Give Back) use them for birthdays, Christmas, or a gift! The class that sells the most gift cards will win a Hacienda Fried Ice Cream and Chips and Salsa Party!! Please use the sign up sheet included in your Communication Envelope. Checks made out to Queen of Peace. We are unable to use FACTS as this is a separate fundraiser.
Order Hacienda Gift Cards
And Support Our Charity!

I will purchase Hacienda Gift Cards on our Gives Back Fiesta day and deliver them to you. Hacienda will rebate 20% to our charity! Thank you for your support!

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You must receive this token from your organization prior to your event. Distribution of this token on Hacienda property will disqualify the organization from receiving any proceeds.
GIFT CARDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED TO MAKE PAYMENT FOR YOUR PURCHASE WITH THIS TOKEN

Group: Queen of Peace
Date: 9-18
Location: 100 Center