April 11, 2024



Dear 8th Grade Parents, Guardians, and Students,

I would like to touch base with all of you about upcoming important events:

*Your child received their graduation caps & gowns yesterday in school. Please make sure you check in with them to put the caps & gowns in a safe place until they are needed.

Today, 4/11/24 = Midtrimester Progress Reports go home. Please have one copy signed for me by Monday, 4/15/24 at the latest.

Thursday, 4/18 = All fees owed for the graduation class trip are due TODAY!

Thursday, 4/25 = 6 Flags Great America Trip 9am-5pm

Friday, 4/26 = No School – Staff Development Day

Tues. 5/7 & Wed. $5/8 = 8^{th}$ Grade Bake Sale! Held during lunch periods both days. This is to cut the cost of your graduation fees (diplomas, caps/gowns, etc.) Please contribute some baked items or juice to sell during the lunch periods for the students. Have your child bring the items to school either Monday, May 6th or Tuesday morning, May 7th. The 8th grade class and I will run the bake sale at lunch (we do not need parent volunteers for this). Some hot sellers for bake sales are: cookies, cupcakes, brownies, individually wrapped small cakes, Twinkies, Capri Sun juice pouches, canned tea/juice (no soda pop). Please avoid gallons of juice that need to be poured into cups and please avoid cakes that need to be cut/sliced and put onto plates. Less mess = the better. Popcorn and chips are always a good alternative to sell during lunch for those who do not like sweets. **DO NOT** bring any baked items with nuts/peanuts due to allergies.

Friday, 5/10 = 8th Grade Ribbon Mass at 12:45 p.m. in our church. This mass represents the beginning of the 8th Grade's journey to graduation. Parents/Guardians and family are strongly encouraged to join this mass since they will be pinning a blessed ribbon onto their child. 8th Grade students should dress up very nicely for this mass. This mass will only be about an hour (maybe less). Parents/Guardians & family will have seating reserved right behind where the 8th grade students will sit up front. (I'll give more details soon.)

Monday, 5/13 = May Crowning Mass with the 8th & 2nd Grade students. 9:00 a.m. in our church. This mass represents our love and honor for the Blessed Virgin Mary. The 8th grade assists the 2nd grade students with crowning the statue of Mary. You are not required to attend this mass, but you are more than welcome to join. Parents/Guardians & family will have seating reserved right behind where the 8th and 2nd grade students will sit up front. (I'll give more details soon.) The 8th grade should dress nice for this and will wear their graduation gowns/robes over their outfits. Do not bring the graduation caps/hats & tassel for this mass. The students will only need their gowns/robes.

Thursday, $5/16 = 8^{\text{th}}$ Grade Graduation Class Trip! Students should arrive to school at regular time (8:00 a.m.) and we will begin boarding the bus around 8:30/8:45 a.m. We will return to school around 6:45 p.m. I will send home more information and reminders about this trip soon.

Tuesday, 5/21 = **Graduation fees due!** I will have the amount for the graduation caps, gowns, tassels, diplomas, and other graduation items for you in the beginning of May. The goal is for the bake sale to cover most (if not all) of the graduation fees. So, make sure you contribute some delicious items/juice for the bake sale in early May.

Friday, 5/24 = Walk-a-Thon Day! Students will have assigned/reserved times to participate in our walk-a-thon in the morning. In the afternoon, the 8th Grade students will participate in a special volleyball game against their teachers! Parents/Guardians/Family are welcome to join this exciting event!

Monday, 5/27 = No School – Memorial Day

Wednesday, 5/29 = KONA ICE TRUCK! In our parking lot after school today! It's a nice, cool, and tasty treat! Please join us!

Friday, 5/31 = 8th Grade's Last Day of School! Today, the 8th grade will clean their desks & lockers, bring back any books to school for their teachers that they borrowed/used, and help Miss Blecka pack up materials. We will have graduation practice on this day, so PLEASE make sure your child is in school this day. Miss Blecka will treat the 8th Grade students to lunch today! The 8th Graders will receive their final report cards this day.

Saturday, 6/1 = GRADUATION DAY!Graduation will be at**11:00 a.m.**in our church (St. Constance). The students need to be in the back of the church by 10:30 a.m. so teachers can get them lined up and prepared. Students should dress very nicely for this event and wear their caps, gowns, and tassels over their nice outfits. Parents/Guardians/Family are strongly encouraged to attend. They may sit wherever they'd like (except for the first 4 benches in the center aisle on the left...that is where the graduates will sit). First, we will have the actual graduation mass, and then once the mass is over, we will begin the graduation ceremony of events with diplomas and awards. When the ceremony is over, we will all process outside the church (weather permitting) and take pictures outside of the church. After that, you and your families are free to go and celebrate your newest graduate!

As you can see, 8th Grade events have GREATLY picked up. I will continue keeping you updated so that you do not miss anything. Keep looking out for information on the school calendars, email blasts, social media reminders, or my website. If you have questions, please email me.

Thank you for your commitment, *Miss Jennifer Blecka* jblecka@stconstanceschool.org jblecka39@gmail.com