



NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27

Dear Parents,

What an exciting time in my educational career! I officially took the helm of St. Elizabeth's school on July 1st and have been learning, laughing, learning some more, and loving this new community that has so warmly welcomed me and made a place for me to share my love of teaching, learning, and most importantly my love of God. I raised my own three children with the phrase "God loves a grateful heart". I truly have an overwhelming feeling of gratitude, to have this opportunity and be a part of such an uplifting and spirit-filled community. Among my greatest blessings in my new role are my Assistant Principal, Jo Aubuchon and our Administrative Assistant, Pat Dennis. These two ladies have shared their knowledge and expertise and have been extremely supportive in the transition period. I can not thank Sandy Nickel, Steve McClain, Mary Beth Compton, Fr. Bruce, and the entire school board for the great foundation they have laid before me to ensure not only my success but that of the students, school and community at large. I feel very fortunate to work with a great faculty and staff, who go above and beyond the call of duty everyday in dealing with student needs, the concerns of the world around them, and a principal who is more full of questions than answers!

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome the new members of our faculty and staff. Ms. Erin Angles, who is a K-State graduate has joined our kindergarten team. Ms. Sarah Dulek who was a paraprofessional in our first grade last year, is now teaching our third first grade class as she is finishing her Masters degree. In fourth grade, we have Ms. Julie Schwarz who just graduated from Rockhurst University and was a student teacher in Mrs. O'Sullivan's classroom last school year. Mr. Adam Olivas comes to us from the Kansas City School District and is our new Spanish teacher. Mr. Ron Basel, a certified teacher, is a long-term sub in P.E. Mrs. Lora Lamley is joining us as a paraprofessional and Ms. Jane Mulvihill-Jones is our new librarian. We are so excited to have them as a part of our team.

The school year always starts with a flurry of activities. Thanks to all the families who came to the many "Parent in the Know" nights and to the Charles Fay presentation. When parents and caregivers convey the importance of school and learning to their children, they give them a wonderful gift. It encourages them to feel secure in their learning environment which in turns broadens their opportunities for success. Our first days of school have been filled with learning new routines and procedures, making new friends, and acclimating to varied learning situations. Wow, this is an undertaking for me, how are your kids feeling? I know we will quickly get into

the swing of things and we'll learn to change with the ebb and flow of the daily events that fill the halls of St. Elizabeth's School. Aren't we lucky we have the opportunity to do it together!

You already know the kind of commitment it takes to continue the strong traditions of excellence here at St. Elizabeth's. I have already seen the tireless efforts of so many volunteers. It is both amazing and inspiring. Andy Crimmins helped me in an effort to spruce up the ECC area. We had dozens of families join in the weeding, raking, sanding, and painting with great results. The ECC is welcoming and ready to the busyness of our youngest learners. The CPTA provided the teachers and staff with a delicious and lovely breakfast and organized the grand production that is Packet Day! Hats off to Melissa Saubers and friends who got us off to a great start!

So as I reflect on these busy past weeks, I'm amazed that they flew by, filled with challenges and celebrations, prayer and patience, trepidation and triumph! I know the Holy Spirit will continue to guide us as we continue on this learning and growing journey together.

God's Blessings,
Mrs. Kollasch

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our school has an asbestos management plan, which is monitored by the Diocesan Office of Property Management. The plan for St. Elizabeth School is on file in the school office and is available to be examined in the office if anyone wishes to do so.

In order to avoid duplication of information, items that were previously in the announcement section of the newsletters will not be inserted this year as they are on Sycamore. This includes the monthly Christskills, the lunch menu, calendar of events, etc. Previously, virtually all information communicated in the announcement section of the newsletter was already on Sycamore. Please make sure to check it often for updates.

HAVE A GREAT WEEKEND!