



Mary, Star of the Sea Catholic Academy



November 2, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We are halfway through the first term and are pleased with the scholars' performances thus far. You are to be commended for your active participation in the lives of your children, as 95% of the progress report cards were collected last week. Many of you took the time to meet with teachers to discuss your child's academic progress. Job well done, parents! Teachers continue to encourage students to bring out their best each lesson; and this is made possible by the creative lesson plans and activities presented in many of our classrooms.

We are continuing to focus on our school wide vision and are being very intentional in developing those five core areas: **Collaboration, Self-Discipline, Engagement, Relationships and Prayer**. We begin and end each day with prayer and begin each day reciting our mantra. We know that with your continued support, we will finish off the term just as strong as we began.

Athletics

- We are in the middle of the primary school basketball season. We have boys and girls teams entered this year. Boys usually play Mondays and Wednesdays, with some Friday games. Girls play on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Coach Parkes is the head coach for these teams.
- Junior Girls (15 years and younger) continue basketball practice on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:15pm – 5:00pm until the season opens in January. Mrs. Ritchie-Greene is the head coach for this team.
- General fitness training and conditioning continues with Coach McPhee Mondays – Thursdays 3:15pm – 4:00pm
- Inter-House track and field competition for grades 1 – 12 will take place November 23 at the GB Sports Complex. The field events will take place during regular school time the week of November 12. Participating students will be notified.
- Payment for Crusaders shirts is due on Monday, November 5. Please send in form and payment to Miss Grant or your child's homeroom teacher.

Academics

- BJC and BGCSE recommendation forms have been distributed. Students must get their subject areas signed by teachers and return the completed form, along with payment, by the first week of December.
- High school students will begin writing end of semester exams in about five weeks. Please make sure they are studying every day. They should be reviewing the objectives that teachers write on the board at the beginning of each class.
- Primary students continue to have ongoing unit quizzes. Parents are reminded that these quizzes are averaged (except Math and Language Arts) and used as the final grade for the term. Please help students prepare for these quizzes.

Finances

- Tuition for term 2 is due, in full, on December 3. Invoices will be sent home this month.
- All students who have not yet paid their capital development fee of \$300 must ensure that this onetime fee is paid immediately.
- If you have, for any reason, a small balance on your term 1 tuition, your child will not be allowed to write his/her term one exams. Do not put your child at a disadvantage by not meeting your financial obligations.
- If for whatever reason you may require a tuition refund, please note that the Catholic Board of Education does not refund any tuition after the first four weeks of school have been completed.

Club News

- The Anchor Club will host a movie night for students in grades 4 – 6 on Friday, Nov. 9. The cost is \$5, which includes popcorn and a drink.
- This month's youth march is honouring Family Island Commission Mrs. Elma Garraway of the Bahamas Girl Guides Association. MSSCA continues to have very strong Girl Guide companies on campus (Brownies and Guides and Rangers)
- MSSCA Dance Troop and Pageant Contestants participated in the recent *Pink Strut Affair*, an event hosted by the GB Cancer Society. Shania Cartwright and Kennedy Taylor – grade 11, choreographed the dance. Mrs. Keldra Pinder prepared the contestants for their runway performance.
- Continue to encourage your child to become involved in an on campus club.

Power School

- Teachers are expected to post grades every two weeks. Please inform administrators if you have any concerns about your child's gradebook.
- See Mrs. Bevans-Hanna (Secondary Dept.) if you are unable to login to Power School.

Winter Attire

- A new vendor has been identified. Jackets will be available for sale by the end of the month. The official school jacket is navy blue. The price of the jackets range from \$30.00 - \$65.00. *Until the new jackets arrive, leniency is*



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only being given to new students who do not yet have a school jacket (blue or grey only please). All returning students are expected to wear the MSSCA jacket, sweater or sweater vest.

- During very cold days, female students are allowed to wear heather grey or charcoal grey dress slacks/pants instead of their skirts. Sweatpants or jeans are not acceptable.

Tuition Grant

- Application forms are available in the office for high school students who wish to apply for a financial grant for the 2019/2020 academic year. The application deadline is February 2019.

Raffle Book/Bazaar Update

- We are trying to surpass our total of \$30,000.00 last year. All families are asked to purchase/sell at least two books. If you do not wish to sell the books, we ask that you return the books with a \$40.00 donation. Remember that the money raised comes back to assist our school.
- All parents interested in making a donation to the PTA's fritter stall or willing to work the day of the bazaar are asked to speak to Ms. Simon, the teacher representative on the PTA executive board.

Congratulations

- **Dwight Malcolm – grade 12 – selected Head Boy of the Technical Cadet Corps**
- **Shauntay Rolle – grade 12 – elected President of the Key Club**
- **D'Leah Malcolm – grade 9 – elected President of the Anchor Club of MSSCA**
- **Yana Swain – grade 12 – successfully completed her first semester at UB, where she is enrolled in the Jump Start Programme**
- **Kofi Bowe – grade 11 – Winner of the boys under 16 singles and under 18 doubles at recent FOCOL Tennis Tournament**

Reminders

- Neckties must be worn every Monday and Thursday.
- The school day begins at 8:25am and ends at 3:10pm.
- Parents must notify the administrators, in writing, if their child will be absent from school.
- PE uniforms must be worn during each PE class or students will be placed in detention, as well as lose points for that day's class.
- Ties and PE uniforms are sold from the primary office each day.
- Students will only be allowed to write exams on a different day in extreme situations; do not make travel plans that will cause your child to miss an exam
- Whenever we have dress up days, students are expected to wear appropriate attire; prohibited attire means: spaghetti straps; pants with rips or holes; tight fitting clothes; graphics depicting violence or sexual overtures
- Students not involved in an after school activity must be collected immediately after the dismissal bell
- If you have to visit the campus during the school day, sign in at the security booth, collect a visitor's pass and proceed to either the primary or high school office.
- Visit the school's website at cboe.cec.edu.bs for more information.

Upcoming Events

- November 4 Youth March – assemble at CA Smith Building 2:30pm
- November 4 Daylight savings time ends
- November 6 Grade level meetings for grades 10 & 11 @ 5:30pm
- November 8 Anchor Club Installation 6pm @ WGA (for family and friends of Anchor Club members)
- November 13 Spell-Offs for primary school @ 1:00pm WGA
- November 13 Faculty Meeting – no after school activities
- November 16 Early dismissal for bazaar preparation – 12:00 noon
- November 16 BINGO night @ 7:00pm
- November 17 Bazaar & Raffle @ 3:00pm – 12 midnight
- November 20 Grade level meetings for grades 7 – 9 @ 5:30pm
- November 23 Inter-House Track Meet @ G.B. Sports Complex – 8:30am – 2:30pm (grades 1 – 12)
- November 27 – 29 Primary End of Term Exams: Writing, Language Arts and Mathematics
- December 7 – 13 End of Term exams for secondary department
- December 11 Primary School Christmas Concert
- December 13 Carol Service/Last day of school for students
- December 14 Report Card distribution – primary school only 9am – 12 noon
- December 14 – 18 Crusaders Basketball Invitational Tournament @ St. Georges' Gymnasium
- January 9, 2019 Report Card distribution – secondary school only @ 2pm – 4pm

Kindest regards,

Joye Ritchie-Greene
Principal