



September 18, 2020

Dear Wonderful Nazareth Families,

Please keep the victims of Hurricane Sally in your prayers this week. Also, let us pray for everyone touched by Covid-19, that they may find health, during these difficult times. The Diocese of San Diego has issued a letter concerning the COVID-19 Decision Tree, please see attached the note from Mr. John Galvan, Director of Schools.

Thank you to all the families who have returned the **Student Release Forms**. It is imperative everyone complete and return the form by next week, Friday, September 25th. Please see the Nazareth News for a copy of the Student Release Form.

GROOMING REMINDER

The school considers grooming to be a matter of parental responsibility, and I request your assistance in keeping your children's hair well-groomed. Please see the Nazareth School Handbook and Nazareth News for more details.

SCRIP NOW AVAILABLE BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

We are excited to announce we are selling scrip before and after school at the stone tables, under the orange umbrellas. Please park your car, use the crosswalk, and purchase as much scrip as your budget will allow! If by chance, no one is at the tables, you may walk up to the office for assistance.

We are so excited to announce we will be having a Trunk or Treat Drive-Thru Halloween Carnival. Please save the date for Friday, October, 30th!

Just a reminder that we have changed the extended care hours, and will only be open only until 4:30pm. Thank you for working with us to stay open, so we may continue to provide everyone with this wonderful and safe assistance.

Thank you to the parents who continue to use the front driveway entrance, entering from below, on San Diego Mission Road, for both drop off and pick up. We ask that you try to **NOT** use the Rancho Mission side entrance (above the statue of Jesus), as traffic is backing up and causing a dangerous hazard. The entire staff is working hard to temperature check your children and get them to and from class safely. Please remember it is a one way UP the hill from San Diego Mission Road.

I wanted to extend my great appreciation to the 5th Grade and Mrs. Rose for their excellent participation in Mass today. It was celebrated by Father Raymond Philip. We

live streamed the Mass via Zoom, and it was viewed by the entire Nazareth school today. Next week, we will have fourth grade participating in the Mass, and third grade will join them, as they are considered one cohort. We encourage the class specific distance learners to join us for Mass, but ask parent to remain in the car, as we are adhering to the Covid-19 state guidelines.

Renaissance/STAR Testing (begins next week September 21):

Star Testing will begin for all next week on Tuesday, September 22. Please note that we will be sending home the Star Testing information for distance learners on Monday, September 21.

- All students on-campus in kindergarten through 8th grade will be taking the Math and Reading tests proctored by their teachers-aide, in the next two weeks.
- Distance learners in grades 5th through 8th grade will be taking the Star testing, during school hours, and will be proctored by their teachers. They will receive their passwords from the teachers at the time of testing.
- Distance learners in kindergarten through 4th grade will receive a letter detailing our testing expectations, passwords and the on-line instructions on Monday, September 21.

The purpose of Star testing is to provide teachers and principals with data necessary to make important decisions about your students learning. Whether instruction is provided face-to-face, remotely, or in a combination of the two, data from Star helps us to:

- See what students have already learned—and what they're ready to learn next
- Gauge the effectiveness of instruction, so they can make adjustments when necessary
- Identify students who are struggling and may need extra support
- Compare students' performance to that of their grade-level peers across the US
- Set goals for student growth, and track progress toward these goals
- See how students are performing against grade-level standards
- See how students are likely to perform on the state summative test

This computer-adaptive test is designed to pinpoint students' performance level by asking a series of questions in either ELA or math. Some questions will be easy to answer and others will be difficult, covering material the student hasn't encountered before. The Star Testing is simply used as a diagnostic snapshot, used to determine where a student is academically, at that moment of time, and how we as a school and class need to assist them with their curriculum success.

Please help your child understand that we use the test results to plan our lessons and activities they will be participating in this year. On the computer-adaptive test, all

students will encounter questions they don't know the answer to—and this is OK. What's important is that they make their best effort.

Lastly, progress reports will be going home next Friday, September 25. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's performance, please reach out to your child's teacher for a conference or conversation.

God watch over our students,
God watch over our parents,
God watch over our teachers and staff!

God Bless,

Mrs. René Coons
Principal
Nazareth School