



SAINT MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

# *The Bridge*

September 15, 2017

POSITIVE ATTITUDES    COURAGE    PATIENCE    WISDOM    PEACEFUL WAYS

**"Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love."**

Dear Parents,

Parenting, it is a tough job. It comes with many joys and many heart aches. Parenting for some comes very natural. For others, they never should have undertaken that task. Parenting is about building relationships, sacrifice of yourself for your children. Parenting is an emotional rollercoaster. Parenting is being consistent, being fair, being firm, being compassionate, being supportive, being neutral.

As I am writing this on September 13th, it was 27 years ago today that Julie and I became parents for the first time with the birth of our oldest, Dexter Morgan Albertson. Dexter was the first of four children that we were to have, but as the first, he had to endure our many mistakes and a few success that we I had as new parents. Dexter was, and still is, a joy for us. His ability to understand things in this world is amazing. He loves to read, to learn about things that make this world move forward, and he is a very loving person. Our family is blessed to have Dexter as the oldest child.

I see the many mistakes I made as a parent during those first years. I was overbearing (still am), I was trying to mold my children into what I could not be, my patience was much shorter than it is now (I know that is hard to believe), and I was determined to raise the perfect children, even though I was far from (and still am) being perfect myself. I tried, with the help of my wife, to improve my parenting skills with each child that we had, but it was not always the best attempt on my part.

It wasn't until I started to step back from my, at times, claustrophobic attempt to be a parent, that I realized that less is more when it comes to raising children. That allowing them to fail, is usually a better lesson for them to grow from instead of being the safety net that follows them around each time they stumble. I realized that parenting is complicated by one major thing....the parents. I see now that our children only needed a strong foundation, good examples to model from, support of the things they did, and consistency in dealing with issues when needed. They need to see a mom and dad that love each other, that don't argue in front of them, that aren't their best friend, best buddy or tries to dress like them, but they are their parents.

Parents today. Whew! As an educator for 28 years, I have seen all sorts of parents. The "SUPER PARENT" that has to be involved with every single thing their children do. That if allowed, would pull up a chair next to their desk and stay with them each day at school. That gets upset when they did not get an email from their middle school teacher of an upcoming quiz so they could help them study for it. That wants their child's locker combination in high school so they can come in and "tidy up" their child's messy locker during their senior year.

Then there is the "DROP THEM OFF AT 7:54AM AND PICK THEM UP AT 3:05PM" PARENT. This parent wants the school to fix their child. They don't want to be involved in homework, they don't want to hear from the principal when their child is in trouble, they just want someone else to take care of it. They are super

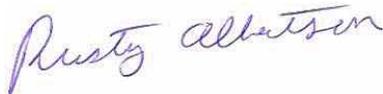
engrossed in their own career, and seldom has time for CYO games, School Musicals, or other time consuming events in their child's life.

I am glad you are a different type of parent. I see our parents at St. Mark Catholic School as parents that relinquish their parenting duties to the teachers while at school. Who are trusting that we will carry on their goal of loving their child, holding them accountable, teaching them academics and helping them to grow closer to God. You work hard and sacrifice much to send your children to SMCS. You are supportive of our teachers, our administration and of your child. You might not agree with everything we do, but much like you do with your spouse, you don't argue with us in front of your children. You model love, consistency and fairness. You sometimes let your children fail so they can learn, and you are always there for them when they need you.

To quote Forrest Gump, "Parenting is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're gonna get." (I was paraphrasing). So whether you are like Mrs. Bossingham or Mrs. Grimes and you are about to start the rollercoaster ride that we know of as "Parenting" or your ride is slowing down, embrace the gifts that God has given you as a parent. Learn from your mistakes. Step back and allow your children to make mistakes. Be there for them when they need you. And love them no matter what.

I hope you have a great weekend and I will see you at Mass with your family!

Thanks and God Bless,



Rusty Albertson  
Principal  
St. Mark Catholic School  
"Come Grow in Faith"

**1 Timothy 4:12** "Let no one have contempt for your youth, but set an example for those who believe, in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity"

## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Upcoming Events

<b>September</b>	18-22	Fall Spirit Week
	27	Cookie Dough Pick Up, 2:00-6:00 PM, Monsignor Schafer Hall
	28-29	6th Grade Camp Tecumseh trip
<b>October</b>	4	End of First Quarter Report Cards Sent Home
	5	Second Quarter Begins
	5	Parent Teacher Conferences 3:30 - 7:00 pm

October	6	Parent/Teacher Conferences, Students Dismissed at 12:30 (No After Care)
	9-13	Fall Break, No School
	30-31	Book Fair Begins

## Fall Spirit Week 2017 September 18-22



### Dress Up Days:

- Monday- Favorite Team Day
  - Support your favorite professional, college, high school, or elementary team with school uniform pants, shorts, or skirts (shirts tucked in)
- Tuesday- Funky Accessories Day
  - Wear your craziest socks, hat, sunglasses, and/or necklaces with school uniform
- Wednesday- Future Career Day
  - Dress up like the career you would like to be in the future
- Thursday- Favorite Book or Movie Character Day
  - Dress like a character from your favorite book or movie
- Friday- St Mark Spirit Wear Day
  - Wear your favorite St Mark Spirit Wear with school uniform pants, shorts, or skirt (shirts tucked in)
  - Eucharistic Adoration following 8:15am Mass
  - Pep Session 2:20 with a Dance Off!

Please be creative and follow the spirit of the day.

- Some No's:
  - no coloring of hair
  - no face painting
  - no leggings without proper length dress or skirt on top
  - no tank tops without t-shirt under
  - No clothes that are inappropriate for the dress up day theme



Thank you to all those who ordered cookie dough through the fundraiser. The cookie dough pick up will be Wednesday, September 27th from 2:00 ~ 6:00 pm in Monsignor Schafer Hall. As mentioned, there will be ***only one pick day and time.***

## Title I Students

Title I parents please stop in Room 8 (across from principal's office) before or after your parent teacher conference to meet with Mrs. Fry to ask any questions you may have regarding Title I. Mrs. Fry will have a handout with Title I information for you.

### CONTINUING FUNDRAISERS



#### **KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM**

Register online at [krogercommunityrewards.com](http://krogercommunityrewards.com). You will need your Kroger Plus card number.



#### **Box Tops**

Please place Box Tops in the collection boxes in the church narthex or school entrance.

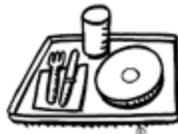


#### **Coca-Cola Rewards Program is back this year!**

Caps and boxes that have a "My Official Coke Rewards Code" on them can be redeemed for money and the money goes back to St. Mark School! Here are some of the brands that can be redeemed for points:

Just turn your coke reward products into Mrs. Leszcynski in the office!

### FROM THE CAFETERIA



#### **Lunch Menu - Week of September 18 thru 22**

<b>Monday</b>	Breaded Beef Sticks, Dinner Roll, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy
<b>Tuesday</b>	Popcorn Chicken, Fried Rice, Sugar Snap Peas and Asian Sauce
<b>Wednesday</b>	Cheddar Omelet, Mini French Toast, Syrup and Potato Smiles
<b>Thursday</b>	PK-1 Chicken Sticks; 2-8 Chicken Drumstick; All-Biscuit and Baked Apples
<b>Friday</b>	PK-1 Cheese Pizza; 2-8 Personal Cheese Pizza; All-Caesar Sales and Iced Sugar Cookie for Spirit Week



# CYO SPORTS

<b>Event</b>	<b>Day of Week</b>	<b>Opponent</b>	<b>Time, Location</b>
<b>September 15 – 22</b>			
Cross Country	Saturday (9/16)	CYO Inv.	1:30, Guerin Catholic HS
34 Football	Saturday (9/16)	St. Matthew	10:00, St. Matthew
Flag Foot. (Colts)	Saturday (9/16)	St. Barnabas Giants	10:00, St. Mark
Flag Foot. (Colts)	Saturday (9/16)	St. Barnabas Bears	11:00, St. Mark
Flag Foot. (Steel.)	Saturday (9/16)	Nativity Titans	11:00, St. Mark
5 Football	Sunday (9/17)	St. Louis deMont.	1:00, BG Middle
6 Football	Sunday (9/17)	OL Grace / SMG	2:15, BG Middle
Cadet Football	Sunday (9/17)	St. Patrick	4:45, BG Middle
Cadet Football	Wednesday (9/20)	Christ the King	5:45, Central Catholic
Cross Country	Thursday (9/21)	St. Jude Inv.	6:15, Don Challis Park

It's time to sign up for Basketball, Volleyball, Wrestling and any other sports you wish to play

Please sign up by going to the CYO website: [www.cyoarchindy.org](http://www.cyoarchindy.org)

Boys Basketball deadline is September 22.

If you are interested in coaching please register on the CYO website under coach, take or update the safe and sacred then send me a copy of your certificate.

If you have any questions just send me an email at [kable@stmarkindy.org](mailto:kable@stmarkindy.org)

For CYO athletic questions, please contact one of the following on the St. Mark Athletic Commission Board:

- SMAC President ~ Andy Swiezy at the following email:  
[andyswiezy83@gmail.com](mailto:andyswiezy83@gmail.com)
- SMAC Athletic Director ~ Kris Able at the following email:  
[kable@stmarkindy.org](mailto:kable@stmarkindy.org).

# RONCALLI REBEL NEWS



Join us at Roncalli High School on **Thursday, September 21st** for the kickoff of the **On This Rock: Building Faith and Family Campaign**. Come dressed in your favorite Roncalli spirit wear as we gather together to celebrate our past and look forward to the great things yet to come. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. with an hors d'oeuvres reception. Dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m. and the evening will conclude at 9:00 p.m.

If you are interested in attending this free event, please contact Tina Hayes at [\(317\)787-8277](tel:3177878277) or [thayes@roncalli.org](mailto:thayes@roncalli.org).

---

## RONCALLI HOMECOMING

**Save the Date: Friday, September 22nd**

We're Bringing Homecoming Home! Roncalli High School is excited to announce that this year's Alumni Homecoming will take place on our campus on September 22nd!

5:30-7:00 p.m. Come to campus early for the pregame tailgate that includes free hamburgers, hotdogs and soft drinks in the north parking lot tent! All are invited.

7:00 p.m. Rebels vs Brebeuf Jesuit

Immediately following the game: Stay on campus in the north parking lot tent to enjoy the tunes of *Tastes Like Chicken* while enjoying food and drink catered by Big Daddy's Bar and Grill--all for just \$10 per person. Alumni, parents, past parents, and friends of Roncalli are all invited to this post-game event. Join us for all the fun at Roncalli and celebrate another Rebel WIN! Get your ticket by calling Gary Armbruster at 317-787-8277 ext. 242.

*Post game event is for guests ages 21 and over. \$10.00 includes entry, food and (1) beverage ticket.*