



# The Principal's Communicator



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## Report Card Conferences

Included in your Communicator envelope is a copy of the Mid-Trimester Report Card for your child. The Report Card is an unofficial status, meaning a copy will not be kept in your child's Permanent Record Folder. The purpose of the Progress Report Card is to make you and your child aware of how he/she is progressing while there are still six weeks remaining before the end of the First Trimester. Students progressing well – congratulations and keep up the good work. Students whose grades need improvement – study more (30 minutes for Primary, 60 minutes for Intermediate Grades, 90 minutes for Middle School every night), seek help, take advantage of lunchtime study groups.

Also in your envelope is your Report Card Conference Schedule if your child is in Grades K-8. Conferences are scheduled for Thursday, October 23 from 1PM-6PM and again on Friday, October 24 from 12:45PM-3:00PM. If you are unable to attend your conference at the designated time, please call the Office so a new conference time can be scheduled. All parents/guardians of students in Grades K-8 must attend a conference for the 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester Progress Report Card.

If your child has more than one teacher, you may schedule a conference with the other teachers beginning on Monday, October 27. Please send a note into the teacher you wish to meet and he/she will set up a time for you either before school (from 7:30-7:50AM) or after school (from 3:10-3:30PM).

I hope you will find the conference times valuable as we try to make our school a positive learning experience for all who enter our doors.

Students in our Pre-Kindergarten Program will follow their regular school schedule on October 23 & 24. Conference for Pre-Kindergarten will take place on December 10, 11, or 12.

Our next Phillies Support Day is Wednesday, October 22. Wear your Phillies shirts and/or hats (free N.U.T. day).

## Family Mass – Sunday, Oct. 19

Our second St. Matthew Family Mass will take place this Sunday, October 19 at 9AM. Students, parents, and parishioners are invited to sit in the front half of the Church so we can celebrate Mass together as a group.

This month's Family Mass will focus on our Sports Teams. If your child plays on any of St. Matthew's Fall Sports Teams, he/she is asked to wear their sports uniform to Church on Sunday.

## With our Deepest Condolences

On behalf of the students, parents, faculty and staff of St. Matthew School I wish to express our deepest prayers, sympathy, and support to Allison (Gr.7B), her brother Adam, and Mrs. Gawinski on the death of their father/husband, Ronald Gawinski.

## September's "Students of the Month"

Throughout the year many students work hard in the classroom, do all of their work, cooperate with the teachers, follow all of the rules and regulations, but, are not singled out for this effort. I asked teachers if they would select one student each month who fits the guidelines I described above. These students will be known as the "**Students of the Month**".

Each homeroom teacher (or in departmental classes, all of the teachers of the students) selected the "**Student of the Month**" by examining each student to see if he/she is the one who best demonstrates the following criteria.

- ☺ A student who has improved the most academically and/or behaviorally.
- ☺ A student who puts forth effort in class work and class projects.
- ☺ A student who shows improvement in class participation.
- ☺ A student who shows improvement in the working and knowledge of his/her subjects.
- ☺ A student who shows improvement in class work.
- ☺ A student who shows responsibility in completing class and homework assignments.
- ☺ A student who gives 100% in all areas of the classroom.

Students in Grades K-8 will be dismissed at Noon on Thursday, October 23 and Friday, October 24 for Parent /Teacher Conferences

Throughout the year only nine students in a homeroom can earn this honor. It is my pleasure to announce the first group of students selected this year as “**Students of the Month**” for the month of September:

**Gr. Student of the Month Gr. Student of the Month**

1st	Sydney Smith	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Isabella Raytick
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Joseph Riccio		
4A	William Sullivan	4B	Sydney Fulton
5A	Cassie Kowalski	5B	Morgan Zebley
6 <sup>th</sup>	Breanna Reyes		
7A	Madison Greco	7B	Joseph Mackiewicz
8A	Kimberly Libus	8B	Connor DiMaio

The teachers have a difficult decision when narrowing the selection. Several students have performed well and teachers wish to recognize more than one student. To help the teachers recognize other students who have worked very hard during the month and were seriously considered for the “Students of the Month”, were given an “Honorable Mention”. Congratulations to the following students who received Honorable Mention for September’s “Students of the Month”:

**Gr. Honorable Mention**

1st	Ian Angeles & Miranda Evans
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Madison Martinez & Hunter Shaffer
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sean Zebley & Dylan Gallagher
4A	Sophia Vivolo & Pierre Jacquot
4B	Dalton Tannen & Gina Miller
5A	Josefa Castelli & Alexander Cross
5B	Joshua Markle
6th	Austin Jer-Don
7B	Madeline VanHorn & Eric Poore

St. Matthew School is participating in the 40 Days of Prayer for Life Program sponsored by the Diocese. Our day of Prayer is Tuesday, Oct. 22. Each homeroom will observe 15 minutes during their day in prayer for life issues (respect for unborn, the poor, elderly, etc.) and that God’s Will be done through us and that all people are allotted the dignity that God has given each of us.

**Parent Access for Students’ Grades**

St. Matthew Grade School will again offer Internet Access to grades 3-8 through PowerSchool. Our teachers use electronic grading for all students. As a parent of a student in grades 3-8, you will be able to access your child’s information regarding his/her academic progress. You will be able to go on-line to see your child’s attendance records (days absent and days late), listing of all grades (quizzes, tests, projects as recorded by the teachers), and completed homework assignments.

You can access your child’s information as often as you wish (even print it out), but the information will only change when the teacher updates it. Teachers will update the information in their grade books by the 15<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of each month.

In today’s Communicator Envelope you will find a letter explaining how you can access to view your child(ren’s) progress. As is highlighted in your letter, a new URL address will be used this year:

**<http://dowpsapn2.sjtp.net/public>**  
(no www when putting in the address).

Once you enter your child’s Power School Website, you can click on any of the blue screen information to see details of your child’s homework assignments, test and quiz grades, and even teacher comments.

Parents of students in grades 3-8 received today their Power Grade Access Information sheet listing your child’s name, Homeroom, Parent User ID, and Parent Web Password. Please keep this information in a safe place so you can use it throughout the year.

Please disregard all previous Power School URL’s, previous access codes and previous passwords – all have been revised.

Parents of students in Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 2 will not have access to this program.

Pre-Kindergarten – Grade 2 do not use percent numbers to measure skills (A,B,C,D,E). Thank you for understanding why this feature is not available to Primary Grades.

**Grandparents’ Day**

Don’t forget our first Grandparents’ Day will be held on Friday, October 24. A reminder letter accompanies today’s Communicator.

In your envelope today you will find two stars. I ask you and your child to write down the name of your child’s grandmother on one side and grandfather on the other side. Use the second star to write the names of your child’s other grandparents. It is okay to write how your child refers to their grandparents (MomMom Fisher and GrandDad Fisher). If there is a third or 4<sup>th</sup> set of grandparents, please let the teacher know so additional stars can be sent home. Your family can decorate the stars if you wish. All living and deceased grandparents should be included. The names will be collected and included in our Prayer Basket so all of our Grandparents are remembered during our Prayer Service.

Our Grandparents’ Day promises to be a special day for both our students and grandparents.