

Date: May 29th, 2020

Dear TFS parents and faculty/staff:

Good afternoon! I hope you are all well. I know the past several months have been busy and stressful, but we are so close to the finish line. Please see below for some details for the last week of the academic calendar.

Materials exchange

We have set aside time for materials to be returned and for us to give to you any materials your children need to take home. These “material exchanges” will take place on the following days:

June 1st - K/1st grade drop off/pick up

- 9:00-9:30 – last name A through D
- 9:30-10:00 – last name E through K
- 10:00-10:30 – last name L through O
- 10:30-11:00 – last name P through Z

June 1st - 2nd/3rd grade drop off/pick up

- 1:00-1:30 – last name A through D
- 1:30-2:00 – last name E through K
- 2:00-2:30 – last name L through O
- 2:30-3:00 – last name P through Z

June 2nd – 4/5th grade drop off/pick up

- 1:00-1:30 – last name A through D
- 1:30-2:00 – last name E through K
- 2:00-2:30 – last name L through O
- 2:30-3:00 – last name P through Z

June 3rd – 6/7th grade drop off/pick up

- 1:00-1:30 – last name A through D
- 1:30-2:00 – last name E through K
- 2:00-2:30 – last name L through O
- 2:30-3:00 – last name P through Z

I do know a number of people want to be able to say goodbye and allow their children to end the school year in a personal way with their teachers. We have considered a number of options, but, given the logistics, we have chosen to utilize the materials exchange as an opportunity for teachers to say goodbye to their students for the summer. Please bring your children with you to the materials exchanges as this will be a great way to provide the opportunity for a word or wave to their teachers.

Scheduled “Special Days”

Next week we have several events scheduled to end the year in a special way.

•June 2nd

Read-In Day –We encourage students to read between 9:00am and 12:00pm. We will also have

a Google Folder (Shared with you next week) where students can find recorded stories read by Faculty to listen to during the day! Send pics to us at photos@stfrancisraleigh.org

● **June 3rd**

Step-up Day – Find out what next year will be like from the teachers your student will have next year! We will send out a final Zoom schedule later today or Monday!

● **June 4th**

Virtual Field Day – We encourage students to get outside and “be physical” between 9:00am and 12:00pm. Some fun activities are in the attached document. Send pics to us at photos@stfrancisraleigh.org

June 4th

Recognition of Mrs. Burdett and Ms. Northington – We will take the opportunity to have Ms. Northington and Mrs. Burdett out on the covered walkway starting at **2:00 PM until 3:30PM**. This will allow for a “drive by parade” to recognize their many years of contribution to the excellent educational experience at TFS.

Please take this opportunity to come by and say a word, drop off a card, and recognize them for their many gifts they have shared with their students during their service. More specifics will be forthcoming, but reserve this time to recognize these great educators!

We will have some additional opportunities to send a note to Michele or Sue through Facebook and Google, so look out for those opportunities. You are also welcome to drop special items off in the Thea office at any time. Both Michele and Sue have been important members of the TFS community and will remain so even after their retirements!

● **June 5th**

Virtual Praise Music – our traditional end of the year streamed live at 9:00am from Church. Live viewing will be available on the Parish website or the TFS Facebook page.

Re-Opening Task Force Volunteers:

We continue to monitor the situation with the pandemic response and the potential options for August and the next school year. If you are a parent with public health experience, an epidemiology background, or emergency medical experience, and have the time to volunteer, we would appreciate your expertise and ask you to help on the Re-Opening Task Force. We will meet to formulate a TFS-specific plan for reopening under the guidelines provided to us later this summer by the State of NC, Wake County and the Diocese of Raleigh. Please email Mike Watson at michael.watson@stfrancisraleigh.org if you can help!

In regards to the next school year, we continue to work closely with local principals and the Catholic Schools Office in the Diocese of Raleigh. We will look for the additional guidance of the NC Department of Health and the Governor in planning for our next steps. We stand ready to open normally or in whatever way we can under those guidelines, starting on August 19th. We will continue to keep our TFS community informed and up-to-date as we learn of decisions made by authorities and as we plan for implementing those guidelines and requirements.

Thank you again for your continued patience, prayers and support of The Franciscan School and enjoy your weekend!

With much appreciation,

Michael Watson
Principal at The Franciscan