

IT'S A GREAT DAY TO BE A DOLPHIN! May 14, 2020



Good afternoon,

These past nine weeks have been a challenge for all of us. We certainly have tried our best staying connected through activities, daily challenges, morning announcements, praying together and on social media with Facebook and Instagram posts and responses. I want to especially thank our faculty for their dedication, hard work and long days preparing for distance learning. Walking out of school on March 13th, being prepared for two weeks of distant learning, never imagining it was for the remainder of the school year, has been difficult for all involved. MBS teachers rose to the occasion, as did our students and parents. We had a few bumps in the road, but our faith and strength guided us. What makes us strong is our tenacity, dedication and commitment to our faith and our families. We continue to spread the Word of God, and to sacrifice for those we serve.

I want to share with you that at our last virtual faculty meeting, I had to announce to the teachers, administration office, maintenance, staff, all of us, that we, along with all of the Wilmington Diocesan employees, will be taking a 5% pay cut in our salaries. This was very difficult news to deliver since it seems that most of us are working harder than ever, researching, preparing, sharing, working hard behind the scenes and delivering devices and books. I am so proud of the MBS teachers, and I want to assure you that we will continue to work hard in our instruction, caring about our students and their families, but most importantly, we will continue our mission of excellence in education in a faith-filled environment.

I am also humbled by the responses from some of the survey questions taken by our middle school parents and students. I was filled by a sense of peace knowing that many gave us positive feedback, not all, but the positive far outweighed the negative. I would like to share one comment in particular:

"We have been super impressed since March 16th at how quickly the transition to on-line learning took place. We really commend the hard work of teachers and students during this change. We feel the teachers are doing a wonderful job with instruction, giving encouragement to stay positive in this new way of learning. MBS has awesome teachers and thankfully are on top of new online technology, not intimidated to try new ways of teaching. Well Done!"

Your feedback helps us so much. Thank you for taking the time to help us better understand where you are in this experience by sharing what has and hasn't been working.

In the next few weeks on Facebook and Instagram, we will be featuring our eighth grade students. Watch daily for a different feature! We are so proud of their hard work and we honor their years at MBS.

MBS will not do the Spring Star Renaissance testing this year. We will resume testing in September.

If you did not check interim reports, please go to PowerSchool and view your child's account for grades 3-8.

Just a reminder to join me on Facebook for our MBS Morning Announcements and Prayers at 9:00 am every morning, Tuesday Tales and Prayers at 7:15 pm and our Praying the Rosary on Friday nights at 7:00 pm. After praying the rosary on Friday evenings, I take a moment and scroll through the comments and see who joined me. One comment in particular this past Friday gave me a sense of connection during this troubled time. I ,too, am separated from my children and grandchildren during Covid-19, I see them viewing my Facebook activities, some for morning announcements, all on Tuesday and Friday nights. It gives me sense of connection to them when I cannot be with them. As I scrolled through those comments, I read "Clara and her grandparents and her great-grandmother are all tuning in together from separate homes!" I am so thankful that they too are connecting. Families and faith are the connections that will keep us strong!

God Bless and Stay Safe, It is a great time to be a Dolphin!

Mrs. Kathleen Manns





We bonor our First Holy Communion candidates for their patience during this moment in time that has delayed their special days. Our prayers are with all of you as you move closer to your relationship with God.

"Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these" ~ Matthew 19:14



Thank you all for your continued support of MBS. Since we are unable to distribute our tuition schedule and contracts personally, we mailed them this year. Please send your family's signed contract back as soon as you can. We truly appreciate your help. Our 2020-2021 calendar will be available soon. We will share it electronically and will add all of the dates to our calendar on our school's website once it is approved.

Counseling Corner

MBS family-

Motivation- that is the word that keeps popping in my head! Some days I find it hard to stay motivated during this time. We have about 4 weeks to go in our school year! We CAN do this!! Right?! We are here for each other! Please reach out if you or your child would like to talk! I am here for you□

Here are a few reminders to take care of our mental health. Love and prayers, Theresa Gabbard © □ □ tgabbard@mbscs.org

	CALL A FRIEND	
W <u>o</u> rk <u>o</u> ut	1	RIDE A BIKE
DANCE		CLEAN
V	T.	X
1~	reeung	ÓÈ
CUP <u>o</u> f tea	Feeling down?	DRAW
READ	TAKE A NAP ZZZZ	LISTEN TŌ A Podcast

Recommend a New Family and Receive a \$100 Discount on Tuition

Word of mouth is by far the best form of advertising in the world. Your kind words and thoughtful recommendations help our community grow each year. To thank you for your support, we would like to offer a sign of gratitude. For every family that registers their child(ren) at MBS for the 2020-2021 academic school year on your recommendation, we will refund your \$100 re-registration fee. It will be adjusted on your tuition cost. We love our families and pray for you each day.

Dear students and families,

As we finish up week nine of distance learning it may be hard to motivate ourselves to do the little things that keep us healthy. Please continue to wash your hands, avoid touching your face and trimming your fingernails. Studies



have shown these

measures are the best way to protect ourselves from all viruses and infections. The weather is getting nicer every day. Get outside and play in the sunshine. Don't forget the sunscreen, hats and sunglasses!!

With love from your nurses, Mrs. Mumford and Mrs. Carlson

YEARBOOK ORDERS

Reserve your Copy of the 2019-2020 MBS Yearbook - Quantities are Limited Please feel free to mail your payment of \$35 per yearbook along with the name of the student that will receive a copy to the school at 11242 Racetrack Road, Berlin, MD 21811. They will be delivered before we return.



2020/21 Home School Association Board Nominations

Do you love MBS? Would you like to become more involved and establish meaningful relationships with other families? Would you like to share your insight and experience to help continue to fulfill the mission of MBS? If you answered yes to any of those questions, the HSA needs your help for the 2020-2021 board. Please complete the survey in the link below to nominate yourself or someone else for any of the HSA executive board positions. Volunteering for any of these positions will create a lasting impression on the education of our students.

HSA Nomination

T3 Interim Reports - Parents of Students in Grades 3-8 Trimester 3 Interim grades ended Friday, May 1, 2020. Grades on Interim Reports are the same as current T3 Grades in PowerSchool. Please go to <u>https://cdow.psisjs.com</u> and log-in to view your child's grades. Hard copies will not be sent home at this time Thank you.