



M. A. RIFFEL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

March 2016

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<http://www.rcsd.ca/riffel/>



GREETINGS FROM ADMINISTRATION

Dear Parents and Guardians,

A positive winter is slowly drawing to a close and Easter has arrived! This means that we are well into semester two and our students have been working hard to be successful in all of their classes. Semester one of the 2015-2016 school year wrapped up on January 29, and we were very pleased with our attendance and overall academic results. 92.3% of our students passed all classes in which they were registered. Such results are a direct reflection of our students' commitment to "being their best" in our building, and our teachers' commitment to excellence in their classrooms. We also want to thank our parents/guardians for their terrific support of their children in all of their academic pursuits. We believe that our HomeLogic website has positively allowed parents to be active partners in the education process, providing opportunity for discussions around assignment deadlines and study opportunities/practices for upcoming exams and major assessments. We received our CAT4 assessment results in January, 2016 and our grade 9 and 10 teachers will be using the results to guide academic goal setting for our students in the areas of reading, writing conventions, and math computation & estimation. We certainly understand that the academic success of semester one is attributed to our students' commitment to the following positive habits:

1. attending school regularly and punctually;
2. coming each day with a positive attitude and with a willingness to work hard in each of their classes;
3. completing all assignments to the best of their ability and submitting each assignment by due dates;
4. studying for all exams and organizing for all assessments.

Although all of these habits are significant, regular attendance certainly continues to be a huge key to academic success for all of our students, and we thank all parents/guardians who continue to

emphasize and support consistent attendance for their children.

PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT CONFERENCES

Please keep in mind that our teachers will not be emailing progress reports home at regular intervals in semester two. We believe that the up-to-date information available on HomeLogic offers a much more accurate picture of a student's academic standing and our 24/7 HomeLogic site will allow for discussion with your son/daughter concerning his/her academic grades and goals. Our parents/guardians and students will be able to meet with semester two teachers at our **Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences** which are scheduled for Thursday, April 14 (these are by appointment only and online booking instructions will be emailed to all homes the week of March 28). Hopefully these meetings, combined with HomeLogic (<https://tlxe.rcsd.ca/homelogic/>) updates will allow for a clear understanding of your son/daughter's progress, and for discussion with your child concerning his/her academic goals.

In regards to our web-based **HomeLogic** site, if you are using it for the first time you will need to first register, and this will require your son/daughter's student number (found at the top of a student timetable). Also, as you navigate through the HomeLogic site, please keep in mind the following:

1. If a student is present and on time for all scheduled classes on a particular day, then no attendance information will appear for that day (only absences and lates will be recorded, along with information on whether or not these absences/lates are parent/guardian excused – our office staff enters all parent excused absences at 2:45 p.m. each day and these will not show in HomeLogic until after this time). It is recommended that a parent/guardian views the attendance area by class as this will give a clearer picture of the number of absences a student has accumulated in each scheduled class period.

2. Teacher grades will not be entered/updated immediately upon completion of an exam or the handing in of a major assignment. Our teachers will require time to mark/grade the assessment and to ensure that all students have submitted/completed the assessment.

OUR SCHOOL DAY

Please keep in mind that our library opens at 8:00 a.m. each day and it is also open to students at lunch and after school. Further, we now have our canteen open each morning from 8:15 a.m. to 8:40 a.m. and we are offering a number of breakfast items (toast, bagels, bacon and egg croissants, smoothies, English muffins, to name a few) that can be purchased at very reasonable prices. This should allow students to arrive at school early and still have the opportunity to start the day in a nutritious way. We have also expanded the canteen lunch menu selling Dairy Queen cheeseburgers and chicken wraps on Thursdays and SUBWAY 6" subs on Fridays (so that students may remain in the building to eat and not be rushed in getting to their period 4 classes on time). Our Food Studies classes, under the direction of Ms. Gelowitz, have also been creating lunch menu items (pierogi, chili, chicken fingers, etc.) on select Tuesdays.



COMMON ATTENDANCE PRACTICE

Our goal each day is to have all students attending classes regularly and punctually. With this in mind, period one (to begin the day) and period four (immediately following lunch) continue to be the two class periods where our students need to focus on habits to ensure that they are on time for class. Our teachers have been emphasizing this at school and we appreciate parental support in this regard.

The RCS attendance practice stresses that we are expecting all students to attend their classes and to be punctual for these classes a minimum of 85% of the time (this translates into no more than 15 excused and unexcused absences or lates for any individual class each semester).

We do understand that extenuating circumstances will sometimes need to be considered with this practice, and we would like to remind all parents/guardians that attendance appeal forms are available in our main office (and on our school website). We use two types of forms: a **prior knowledge** form which is to be filled out two weeks

before a planned event (provincial or national competition, RCS sanctioned travel, medical procedures) that will have a student being absent from school for a period of time; and an **emergent issue/extenuating circumstances** form that will most often have to be completed after an unplanned situation (a funeral, a sudden illness or hospital stay) has occurred. Please visit our school website (www.rcsd.ca/riffel) to access these forms.



Critical in our school year are Course Finalization Days. These will occur over five days at the end of June (21, 22, 23, 24, 27). These assessments allow teachers to determine a student's mastery of material in a more comprehensive and/or practical manner. During CFD's, the system expectation is that all students will be in attendance. If you are aware of reasons that will keep your son/daughter away for a particular CFD, please inform Mr. Gilbert in writing (g.gilbert@rcsd.ca) as soon as possible.

REGISTRATION FOR 2016-2017

Our school counsellors met with all of our current grade 9, 10, and 11 students at the beginning of March to discuss the registration process for the 2016-2017 school year. At these meetings they discussed a number of academic considerations for students in preparing to choose classes, and they walked all students through the process of picking their 2016-2017 academic classes. Several synvoice emails were sent out to all parents/guardians, reminding everyone to access our school website (www.rcsd.ca/riffel/) for valuable information in regards to classes and prerequisites, as well as for the instructions for choosing 2016-2017 classes through Homelogic. The registration window for choosing classes was from March 14 to March 22 and 97% of our students completed this online process. We hope that all families had a chance to discuss academic plans together. If your son/daughter has questions or concerns about any 2016-2017 classes, please have him/her see a counsellor as soon as possible.

ROYALS GENEROSITY "UPHOLDING THE CROSS"

We continue our school focus on an awareness of the needs in our greater community – locally and throughout the world. Our Riffel community has embraced many initiatives already in semester two:

- We are in the sixth year of our RCS High Schools for Hope charitable project. This year, our four high schools are again supporting 20 students and their families in Haiti, and 20 students and families in the Philippines. Working with the Catholic organization Chalice (www.chalice.ca), teachers and students at our four Catholic high schools have focused on fundraising efforts for general relief efforts and we challenged our Riffel student body again this year to donate \$2.00/week during the Lenten season. Our school again hosted our "High Schools for Hope" charitable fundraiser on March 8 and we would like to thank all who supported the evening with the donation of gifts for our silent auction and with their time in helping the evening to run smoothly. Finally, congratulations to our many talented students and community members who performed during the benefit evening. Finally, thank you to a number of our associate elementary schools and to Holy Family Parish for supporting the raising of money for this terrific cause.



- On February 24 we showed our support of the Canadian Red Cross Pink Day, an annual day designed to increase awareness about bullying and to encourage the development of safe and respectful environments. Our entire Riffel community (students and staff) were encouraged to wear a pink shirt (or blue, red, & white) to school and pledge to continue to support a safe and respectful Riffel environment. Our baking club also sold many different desserts at break and at lunch on this day with proceeds being donated to the Regina chapter of the Red Cross. We also "set up" this important day by designating the entire week as "Intentional

Acts of Kindness Week" (hopefully your child did something "extra" at home that week). Please visit our system website if you are interested in reading the RCS bullying prevention plan (<http://www.rcsd.ca/?q=node/345>).

- On Wednesday, March 2 Mr. Roth and Mr. Schmitz travelled with 32 of our students to Saskatoon where they attended the provincial WE DAY event at Credit Union Centre. WE DAY is a powerful, life changing event that combines the energy of a live concert with the inspiration of extraordinary stories of leadership and change. The day brought together world renowned speakers and award winning performers along with about twelve thousand youth from all over Saskatchewan to celebrate their contributions of volunteerism and positive change in their communities. One of the highlights of the day was Michael A. Riffel Catholic High School being recognized in a news article produced by the Star Phoenix about the student food drive for the Regina Food Bank. This article was given out to all 12,000 people in attendance. It was a exciting and inspiring experience for our students.



As you can see, Riffel "Spirit" is alive and well in our school community. Our students will continue to be generous, and we will continue to challenge them with the words of Mother Theresa: *"Let us touch the dying, the poor, the lonely and the unwanted according to the graces we have received and let us not be ashamed or slow to do the humble work"*

"CAPTURE THE CROWN"

With our winter sports and activities now coming to an end, we are proud of all of our students, coaches, and advisors and we would especially like to recognize the following:

- In curling, two of our junior teams and all of our senior teams made the playoffs.



Congratulations to our junior boys team (Drew Voss, Garrick Herbert, Gavin Herbert, Zach Kerstein) on winning the city championship and bringing home gold medals. Our senior boys team (Jared

Gudereit, Kale Stoll, Riley Cooper, Toby Omoyefa, Morgan Mutschler) advanced to the city championship game, and lost a very close match in bringing home RHSAA silver medals. The team did advance to regionals and finished in 4th place just missing out on qualifying for this year's provincial competition.

- In basketball, our boys and girls teams had very good seasons. Our junior and senior girls teams, as well as our junior boys, advanced to the playoffs and unfortunately lost in quarter-final games. Our senior boys team defeated Winston Knoll in a quarter final game and then lost a semi-final game to LeBoldus. They then defeated Miller to take home an RHSAA bronze medal and to advance to HOOPLA (provincial) competition that was held in Moose Jaw at the end of March. Congratulations to Kiana Wiens and Jesse Ducharme who were chosen as RHSAA senior all-stars. Finally, our minor officials team was recognized as the best in the city and four of our crew (Toby Omoyefa, Vineeth Suresh, Cole Erick, Vijay Suresh, Kienan Shepherd) worked the RHSAA city final senior games.



- Our hockey team defeated LeBoldus in a close semi-final game to advance to the city championship final against Winston Knoll. The Royals won the championship game by a score of 6-1 and brought home gold medals and the championship trophy for the first time in six years.
- Our senior improv team ("Mo Money, Mo Problems") won second place in the Online Wildcard Improv Tournament (competing against 19 teams from across Canada). The team then competed in provincial competition at Luther High School, winning opening night and finishing in 4th place overall. Congratulations to the advisors (Ms. Synk, Ms. Perrault, Ms. Kilkenny and Mr. Woloshin) and all team members on a terrific season. Our school also hosted the provincial junior improv competition on February 25, 26, and 27. It was a terrific event that was well attended each evening. Our junior team



("Critically Acclaimed") finished in third overall.

- Jacob Hall represented Riffel in the 77kg weight class at the RHSAA Wrestling City Championships. Jacob won his division and took home a gold medal. This allowed Jacob to qualify for provincials which took place in Saskatoon, where Jacob finished 4th overall.
- Our Vocal Jazz Coffee House took place on Tuesday, February 9 and it was a huge success. The evening featured outstanding individual and group performances. These, combined with terrific desserts, made for an excellent evening for all who attended. The vocal jazz group also travelled to the Brandon Jazz Festival in March and had terrific performances at the event.



Congratulations to the coaches and players of all our winter sport teams and clubs! They are all truly representative of the quality student athletes, musicians, singers, teachers, and coaches we have at Michael A. Riffel Catholic High School.

We would also like to congratulate our many Riffel athletes and performers for their accomplishments within our community. We have so many talented students who belong to community sport teams, clubs and organizations, representing our city and province proudly.

Our extracurricular spring season is now underway. Badminton officially started at the beginning of March as well as auditions for our spring Drama performance. Track and Field will be starting after Easter break and our track coaches are looking for all runners, jumpers, and throwers who are willing to be part of our Track team. Track experience is not necessary and sign-ups will take place in early April. Please see Mrs. Lamb, Ms. Romanyk, or Mr. Bresciani if you are interested in joining Track.

THAT'S POSSIBLE THEATRE

Ms. Kilkenny, along with our FIAEP students, have partnered to write and develop a collective theatre production that will highlight the importance of Friendship in our lives. Our FIAEP students, their

buddies and our teacher advisors have been rehearsing and will deliver an outstanding performance on May 25 at 7:00 p.m. Tickets for the performance will be available after Easter break from our main office. More information will be emailed to our families early in April.

BAND NEWS



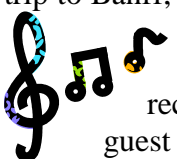
Our Band students had successful performances at the Optimist Band Festival (earning three silver level adjudications) that took place March 16 to March 18 at the Conexus Arts Centre. This, along with our upcoming RCS Band Days (April 11 to April 16), is certainly a showcase event for our talented band students. We wish all involved in Band Days the best of luck, and we encourage everyone to consider attending the Grand Concert that takes place on April 16 beginning at 7:00 p.m. It will feature alumni performances as well as terrific performances from many groups and ensembles. Congratulations also goes out to our band students who were chosen to participate in Saskatchewan Band Association Intermediate Honour Band: Emily Janisch, Tim Belcourt, Marissa Joyce, Yu Na Hong, and Kaden Trenker.

RIFFEL READERS!



The Riffel book club is enjoying a third year of meeting and discussing a number of different selections. The second novel the group is reading this year is *Speak* by Laurie R. King. The group has had excellent discussions on the book and these will continue after Easter Break. One more selection will be chosen to read and the year will end with a pizza party. Ms. Beach invites any students interested in joining our Book Club to see her at any time. New members are always welcome and they certainly add to the group's overall enjoyment of each book they read.

CHORAL



Our choral group is currently planning for their May trip to Banff, Alberta. The group will be performing at a number of venues including the Banff Springs Hotel, and they will be receiving instruction and guidance from a guest conductor. Finally, the group is looking forward to their final choral concert of the year which will take place on Monday, June 1.

CSCC

The Riffel Catholic School Community Council (CSCC) is a non-fundraising parent body who act in an advisory manner. Our parent council has been meeting on a regular basis since September of this academic school year. The meetings focus on information sharing (from school administration, teacher representatives, parents, and Riffel students) and on discussing ways that we can continue to improve our school to better meet the needs of the students and community we serve. To be effective, the council needs the creative ideas and input of all parents.

On behalf of the committee chair, Connie Kozak, we invite all parents to attend our monthly meetings, the next taking place on Tuesday, April 12 beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Riffel main office area.

CO-OP GAS BAR & GROCERY

If you are purchasing gas/products at the Co-op gas bar or groceries at the Co-op grocery store and you do not have your own co-op member ID, please keep in mind that Riffel High School does have a member ID. Please consider using **member ID number 93699** for any Co-op purchases and this will allow a percentage of your purchase to be returned to the school. All money the school receives from Co-op is utilized to support school programs.

MOVING IN FAITH

Please join us on Sunday, May 15, 2016 for the RCS annual **Moving in Faith** event. This event gathers together all the important parts of the Regina Catholic School Division family: students, teachers, administrators, parents, priests, parish members, and community supporters. It's a relaxed event featuring family friendly Dino Bouncers, face painting, balloon animals, and a walk/jog/run/wheelchair together to end the day. Register for a fun Sunday afternoon of activity by going online to www.rcsd.ca/movinginfaith.

RIFFEL SPIRIT WEAR

The Royal Mart (located in our commons area) is open every Wednesday at lunch for those students and parents/guardians interested in purchasing Riffel spirit wear. The Royal Mart will also be open on Parent/Teacher/Student Conference day (Thursday,

April 14). Please visit our school website (<http://www.rcsd.ca/riffel/Students/Spiritwear.htm>) to view available spirit wear and associated costs.

STUDENT TAX WORKSHOP

Mrs. Perrault will be conducting a tax workshop on Wednesday, April 20th and Thursday, April 21st over the lunch hour in Room 126. All interested students are asked to come with their T-4's; they will leave with a completed tax return.

SBTA

The SBTA is putting on its 5th Annual Saskatchewan Business Teachers' Association Conference and Student Case Competition in Saskatoon on Thursday, May 5th and Friday, May 6th. It is an amazing growth opportunity for interested students with opportunities to win scholarships and make some great connections with U of R and U of S. It will be held at the U of S this year. There is no cost for students. There are two different events. One is an Entrepreneurship Case Competition and the other is a Personal Finance Case Competition. Students will be in teams of three.

STUDENT SERVICES

Our academic counsellors, Mrs. Barnes-Pitka and Mr. Arsenault, in conjunction with our division consultants are continuously putting together opportunities for our senior students in regards to exploring possible careers. With this in mind, please note the following:

- **Campion Registration Day** - Gr. 12's who have been accepted into Campion College at the U of R will be able to meet an Academic Advisor and choose their classes for the fall term on Thursday, April 14 at 9:30 a.m. Please note this is a non-school day for the students so they will not miss class time to attend this special meeting involving just Riffel students at Campion. They will receive quality advising when selecting their classes and Campion will enter their class choices for them when the schedule for first year students opens on May 6. Invitations to attend will be sent out from Campion outlining parking instructions.
- **UR Beginning** - Newly admitted students to the U of R will soon be able to register for Fall courses! Attend the kickoff to registration on **Friday, May 6, 2016** and get to know your soon-to-be home - the University of Regina. You will be among the first to register and can participate in additional sessions and activities offered throughout the day. The day includes a welcome

session with important, practical information as well as an advising/registration session where you'll get to meet your Academic Advisor. You may also want to find out what to expect at university in the "Conquering Your First Semester" session, browse display booths, participate in a faculty or residence tour, or go on a campus tour to **get your photo ID and purchase your parking pass**. Please see a guidance counsellor for more information and obtain a permission form to attend.

- **Sask Polytechnic** - This website has a link showing Programs with Seats available for the fall term. If you have not applied to a program, check this out. There may be something there for you! Many of the programs are First Qualified First Admitted and may still have room for applicants.

If students are interested in any career exploration opportunities or post-secondary information, please visit the student services online site at <http://riffelstudentservices.weebly.com/>.

Also, as our grade 12 students become aware of scholarships they are offered/receive, we ask that they please notify a counsellor in Student Services.

STUDENT WELL-BEING & SAFETY

Thank you, also, to all of our parents/guardians who diligently drop-off and pick-up students each day. We appreciate your willingness to not park in the designated bus/taxi lane at the north entrance of the school, and to utilize pick-up locations across the street from our building. We also continue to suggest that during morning and after school pick-up times, vehicles avoid attempting to turn left (heading west onto Rochdale) out of our student parking lot. Instead, if a right turn could be made onto Rochdale (heading east) and then Lakeridge Drive or McIntosh Street be utilized, students can then safely proceed towards their particular destinations. With a school population of 700 students coming and going at around the same times each day, anything that can be done to help with traffic congestion and to ensure student and driver safety is greatly appreciated.

As "Mother Nature" cooperates and the weather warms, spring clothing will finally be an option for all of us. In this regard, we will be reminding all students about the **RCS clothing policy**. All members of the school community are expected to dress appropriately, in keeping with Catholic values, and to maintain appropriate personal hygiene along with maintaining reasonable standards of taste in

dress and grooming. As a result of this policy, students who wear clothing that is considered to be inappropriate because of immodesty, lack of cleanliness, or because the clothing bears images or messages contrary to the philosophy of the School Division, will be sent home or asked to change immediately into appropriate attire before being re-admitted to class. Furthermore, the following specific dress code regulations (which can be found on pages 5 & 6 of the electronic handbook found on our website) must be adhered to by all students and will be strictly enforced:

- Midriff type and bra-type tops, off the shoulder tops, halter tops, spaghetti strap tops, muscle shirts and generally immodest clothing, as determined by the administration of the school, are not permitted.
- **At no time should a student's under-garments be visible.**
- Health regulations require that students must wear shoes in the building at all times.
- For safety/security purposes administration requests that coats/outdoor jackets not be worn in class. Students are encouraged to have warm clothing (sweaters/sweatshirts) available at their disposal in the event that there is drastic disparity in temperature from classroom to classroom.
- Headwear (toques, caps, bandanas that need to be tied) **must not** be worn anywhere in the school at any time.

We are all aware of the risks that **alcohol and other drugs** pose to everyone in society, especially teenagers. With this in mind, we have had our RCS Drug & Alcohol Educator, Mr. Rand Teed, presenting important drug-related topics to our students by grade (all grade 9's, 10's, 11's, and 12's will be involved in two grade presentations by the end of this academic year). The key emphasis in Mr. Teed's presentations is always on understanding that life is precious and must be treated this way, with a real focus on not abusing drugs and/or relying on them in creating a good time for oneself. Mr. Teed's Drug Class website (www.drugclass.ca) is well worth visiting for the excellent information it contains in regards to the effects of drugs, the pressures teenagers face, and some excellent advice in regards to helping parents/ teachers evaluate where kids are at in relation to their substance use.

Rand also organizes classroom presentations for our students, covering a variety of topics: the nature of

addiction, the concept of denial, the addictive nature of drugs, marijuana usage and its effects on individuals, treatment models, the 12 Step Program, abstinence versus harm reduction, and mental well-being. One emphasis Rand continues to make with all high school students is on the reality of alcohol as still the number one drug-related issue for young people. With this in mind, Rand suggests the following articles which may be of interest:

<http://drugclass.ca/index.php?pageid=Blog&id=261>

<http://drugclass.ca/index.php?pageid=Blog&id=260>

<http://drugclass.ca/index.php?pageid=Blog&id=259>

<http://drugclass.ca/index.php?pageid=Blog&id=259>

Student and staff safety was a major topic at our semester two grade meetings. We discussed with our students the protocol and procedures we have developed (in consultation with central office and the Regina Police Service) concerning the following three emergency situations:

1. **FIRE** – schools have traditionally developed evacuation routes and practiced fire drills to ensure that the school building can be evacuated in a suitable period of time. We have had two fire drills in semester one and we will have another two fire drills in semester two.
2. **SECURE THE BUILDING** – in a situation where danger is reported in the community surrounding our school (and on the request of the Regina Police Service), our outside doors would be locked and the entire building secured. All students would remain in the school until an “all clear” is provided from the Regina Police Service or another emergency agency.
3. **LOCKDOWN** – we believe our school is a safe place for all staff and students, however in a case where a threat were inside our building, we do have protocol in place to secure our students and staff safely in rooms. Such protocol includes all that the Regina Police Service would do in an emergency lockdown situation. We have had one lockdown rehearsal in semester one, and a similar practice will occur again in semester two.

GRADUATION & GRAD ELIGIBILITY

Our counsellors have had an opportunity to visit with all grade 12 students on several occasions this school year. Our grade 12's have been reminded that in order to participate in the graduation mass and exercises, a student attending a Regina Catholic High School must be deemed graduation eligible. Graduation eligibility is defined as a student who has the potential to earn a **minimum of 24 credit units**, including Christian Ethics 30 and the compulsory requirements outlined by the Ministry of Education, **by June 29 of the 2015-2016 school year.**

A determination of a student's eligibility will be made on **Friday, June 3, 2016** and will be dependent upon a student having a passing grade in all required courses. Summer school will no longer be considered when determining graduation eligibility.

The Graduation booklet and all information pertaining to graduation can be found on Riffel's website <http://www.rcsd.ca/riffel/Students/Grad.htm>

TIMELINE

March/April/May - Updated Graduation Eligibility list posted

March 21, 2016 to March 24, 2016 – Payment of Graduation Fees (\$100.00). Early May – Students will receive tickets for the Grad Mass & Exercises.

May 28, 2016 – Grade 12 Prom (Banquet and Dance) 5:00 pm, Delta Hotel. All grade 12 students are allowed to attend.

June 20, 2016 – Period 3 – Rehearsal Assembly – All graduands **MUST** attend. This rehearsal is absolutely essential and its importance cannot be overemphasized. We will assume that students who do not attend the rehearsal will not be attending the graduation ceremonies. Any absence from this rehearsal must be cleared in advance with school administration.

June 24, 2016 – Graduation Mass – Holy Family Parish beginning at 7:00 p.m.

June 27, 2016 - Grad gown pick up at school between 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

June 28, 2016 – Graduation Exercises – Resurrection Catholic Parish beginning at 1:00 p.m.

2016-2017 School Year Calendar

The 2016-2017 RCS school year calendar has been approved. Please visit the RCS website (www.rcsd.ca) to access the 2016-2017 calendar.

LET US SEE YOUR GLORY IN THE ASHES



The season of Lent began on February 10, with Ash Wednesday. Lent is the most important season in the Church year and we have done a number of things within the school to help our students as they prepared for this important Church Season that culminated with Holy Week and the observance of the Easter Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday); leading us prayerfully to Easter Sunday on March 27. Throughout the season we emphasized the idea of intentional acts of goodness – those times when we can purposefully look at ways of doing good. Our charitable collections in February and March were definitely opportunities for our students to do just this, however, they have also been encouraged to look at intentional acts of goodness that they could take on within our community, especially with acts of prayer and almsgiving for those in Haiti and the Philippines.

As we now anticipate the Easter Season, we are encouraged to maintain a focus on celebrating the many things we have to be thankful for, and to identify ways that we can continue to provide help and support for those around us.

Yours in Education,
Mr. Dave Ripplinger
Principal

Mr. Geoff Gilbert
Vice Principal

Catholic Easter Prayer



**Lord, the resurrection of Your Son
has given us new life and renewed hope.
Help us to live as new people
in pursuit of the Christian ideal.
Grant us wisdom to know what we must do,
the will to want to do it,
the courage to undertake it,
the perseverance to continue to do it,
and the strength to complete it.**

source: New Saint Joseph People's Prayer Book