

## From the desk of Darlene Braun

It is such a blessing to be able to celebrate Catholic Schools Week! Thank you for assisting your child with the dress for the day. We hope to see many grandparents or special family friends join us for mass and our morning routines on Friday. Then of course, the week ends with the carnival in the gym! It is always fun to bring the young and elderly together! Thank you Lindsay Strohfus for all your efforts.

Catholic Schools-Learn, serve, lead, succeed. Learn/Succeed-95% of the sixth graders from SJS are on the Georgia Morse Middle School Honor Roll and 90% of our graduates in high school are honor roll students! This speaks loudly of the quality of the education the children are receiving.

The Presentation Sisters in Aberdeen are offering to Catholic students the chance to receive a \$750.00 scholarship toward next year's tuition. The application form includes writing about the value Catholic education. I encourage families to apply as we have had many students take advantage of this. Please stop by the office to pick up an application or download it from their website at [www.presentationisters.org](http://www.presentationisters.org) The forms need to be postmarked by Friday, March 2.

Valentines' Day is not celebrated at SJS. Over the years, we have experienced too many hurt feelings and too much candy. Please do not send cards or trinkets to school. I know some parents are disappointed in this decision and I am sorry. Take advantage of the holiday and celebrate it with your families.

Lent begins on Wednesday, Feb. 14. The children will attend mass at 10:00. All children, regardless of religion, will receive ashes on their foreheads. They symbolize penance and contrition. We will have special religion lessons throughout Lent focused on scripture, fasting, prayer, and almsgiving.

Father will also have 7:00 AM mass that morning. Unfortunately, dismissal will be over our drop off time. Feel free to come a bit later that morning. Children will have until 8:15 that morning before being marked tardy.

Please continue to promote SJS to your family and friends. Our kindergarten orientation is Feb. 22 at 6:00 PM in McGuire Hall. If someone is considering SJS invite them to attend orientation.

Plan on completing your registration form for next year at Parent/Teacher Conferences.

SJS car decals are on the table outside the office. Please help yourself!

We have a surplus of mittens, gloves, hats, jackets, beach towels, boots and even a fairly new pair of shoes in the lost and found. Please check the north entrance to see if they belong at your household.

Gift Planning Officer – Pierre Catholic Foundation

The Pierre Catholic Foundation is seeking a dynamic individual with a passion for evangelization and the ministries of the Catholic Church, with a particular emphasis on Ss Peter and Paul parish and Saint Joseph School. The Gift Planning Officer will manage and develop key donor relationships resulting in current and future gifts for both local ministries and those of the Catholic Church in eastern SD. The qualified candidate will create an awareness of the importance of living as stewards by building relationships with priests, parishioners, and community partners, and will work in concert with the pastor as well as the Catholic Community Foundation for Eastern South Dakota and other Catholic Foundations in Eastern South Dakota. Successful applicants will be self-directed with excellent oral and writing skills in addition to demonstrating strong interpersonal skills. The position may involve extensive travel in and around Pierre and eastern South Dakota. This position may be full or part-time based on the individual. Salary is negotiable based on employment in full or part time capacity as well as qualifications and experience, and may include benefits.

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter and resume to Pierre Catholic Foundation President, Ss Peter and Paul Parish, at [sspeterandpaulcatholic@gmail.com](mailto:sspeterandpaulcatholic@gmail.com) or by land mail to 304 N Euclid, Pierre, SD 57501.

The position will close March 1, 2018.