



# LOURDES Home & School Newsletter

JANUARY 2021



## MESSAGE FROM LOURDES

Greetings, Families!

I hope your Christmas break was peaceful and filled with lots of family and friends. It is great to be back at school!

A reminder that the Board of Education meets on the third Tuesday of each month (via Zoom until further notice) at 6:00 PM. Contact Tom Melchert, President, or go to this link for more information about meetings. Our next meeting is at 6:00pm on Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup>.

SCRIP is the primary fundraiser for Home and School. Profits from SCRIP sales benefit all students in multiple ways. Here are just a few:

- Academic competitions (i.e. Lego Robotics, Mock Trial, Spelling Bee, Battle of the Books, etc.)
- Field trips (Biz Town, Finance Park, Field Day, etc.)
- Educational resources (Music textbooks, language arts materials, library books)
- Technology (I-pads, student Chromebooks, desktop computers for the lab)

Ideally, we would like every family to purchase \$100 of SCRIP each month. Once you try it, the ease and convenience of supporting Lourdes through SCRIP is clear. For more information about SCRIP, go to this link.

Are you looking for a way to give of your time and talents? Because of Covid-19, we have been limiting the number of volunteers, but we are allowing a few, if scheduled in advance and if volunteers are willing to follow our guidelines (sanitizing, masking, social distancing). Send me an email if you are interested in volunteering, and I can find something that might be a good fit for you – classroom help, library time, etc. .

May God Bless You,

*Jennifer Alongi*

Jennifer Alongi  
Lourdes Catholic School Principal

# A MESSAGE FROM LOURDES FAMILIES OF REMOTE LEARNERS

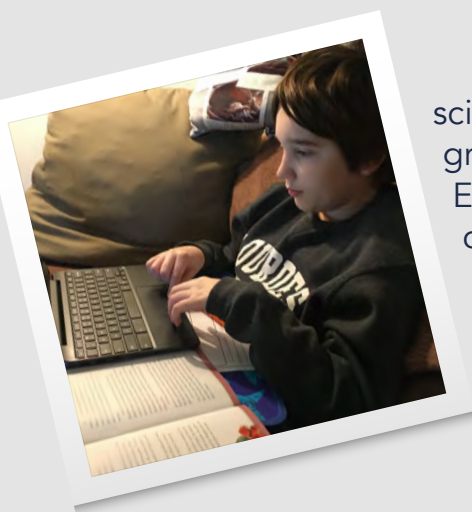
We feel blessed to have had the opportunity to keep Eliana home when we felt it was best for her. She's done virtual and in person throughout the year.

While the virtual certainly isn't the same as being with her classmates, being able to zoom into classes and interact with her class virtually has been a blessing for us. We look forward to getting her back into the classroom soon.

Katie and Brett Adams  
*Parents of Ellie (1st)*

Sawyer has enjoyed zooming for science and seeing his fellow 5th graders. They are learning about the Earth, ecosystems, and food chains/webs. He truly misses everyone at LCS and looks forward to rejoining classmates sometime soon, we hope

Brooke Heckinger  
*Parent of Sawyer (5th)*



## UPCOMING *Events*

- JAN 4 School Resumes
- JAN 6 K-8 Early Out
- JAN 8 NUT (No Uniform Today) Day!
- JAN 13 K-8 Early Out
- JAN 14 Parent University via Zoom
- JAN 15 End of 2nd Quarter  
K-8 Early Out (11:30am)
- JAN 18 NO SCHOOL
- JAN 19 Board of Education Meeting
- JAN 20 K-8 Early Out
- JAN 27 K-8 Early Out
- JAN 31 Catholic Schools Week Begins





## PRE-REGISTRATION FOR 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

Hard to believe, but pre-registration for the 2021-2022 school year begins this week for our current families. New families will be able to pre-register starting in February, so if you want to guarantee a spot, you will need to pre-register by the end of this month. An email was sent with the subject line "Hold-the-Spot/Pre-Registration." This year, rather than returning a paper form, you will pre-register online.

You might be wondering why we ask for your commitment so early. The primary reason is so that we can offer all of our wonderful teachers contracts for next year. If we don't have enough students pre-registered by the end of March, then a teacher will get a letter stating that he or she might not get a contract for the next school year. If not enough families commit to Lourdes for next year, we might have to cut one or more homeroom teachers, or at least postpone offering him or her a contract until we have enough students to justify the need. Without a contract, a Lourdes teacher may feel anxious and begin searching for a teaching job somewhere else. We are then at risk losing a really great teacher to another school.

## REMINDERS & UPDATES

### TO DO: SIGN UP FOR SCRIP

Scrip is a major fundraiser for Lourdes Catholic School. You earn money for our school without spending a single additional penny. You can purchase Scrip cards from Hy-Vee, Target, Walmart, Starbucks, and many other local & national merchants.

You can use eGift cards and physical gift cards to earn on gas, groceries, eating out, clothes—the list goes on. It's easy, it's rewarding, and it fits right into your busy schedule.

Merchants that you shop at every day offer a rebate back to Lourdes. For example: You purchase a \$100 gift card for Hy-Vee for your weekly groceries. You purchase the gift card for exactly \$100. Hy-Vee pays back to Lourdes a rebate of 3%. Rebate amounts vary by merchant.

Learn more and sign up here: <https://lourdescatholic.org/school/get-involved /scrip/>

### MASKS

We now anticipate that masking will be needed through the end of the school year. If you haven't already, please talk to your child about the importance of wearing his/her mask, and wearing it correctly.

If Ms. Alongi gets a "good report" from all of the homeroom teachers, she will be awarding an extra NUT day once or twice a month, January through May, to all K-8 students.

This would be an additional NUT day or two beyond the one we always have on the first Friday of each month.

### SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

"I have grasped you by the hand; I formed you, and set you as a covenant of the people, a light for the nations."

- Isaiah 42:6



## HOME & SCHOOL

Happy New Year to our Lourdes Family!

I hope you all had a blessed holiday and enjoyed making new memories with your family.

I know this year has been tricky and hard but we look forward to all the things 2021 has in store for our kiddos and our school community. We are excited to have some brand new twists on our regular activities coming up

this semester.

We look forward to celebrating Catholic Schools Week and highlighting all the reasons we send our children to Catholic schools. Additionally, we look forward to our biggest fundraiser Starry Night. This year will again be virtual but we have some fun ideas planned that will make it a 'can't miss' event!

Stay positive for 2021 and join me to "believe that I enter a glorious new year to be filled with prayer and praise...Oh I believe that this is God's new year."

Many blessings,

Megan Stopulos  
Home & School President



## THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS BEGINS

When the carols have been stilled,  
When the star-topped tree is taken down,  
When family and friends are gone home,  
When we are back to our schedules,  
The work of Christmas begins:  
To welcome the refugee,  
To heal a broken planet,  
To feed the hungry,  
To build bridges of trust, not walls of fear,  
To share our gifts,  
To seek justice and peace for all people,  
To bring Christ's light to the world.

- by Michael Dougherty, a variation on Howard Thurman's 'When the Song of the Angels is Stilled'



