



Dear Parents and Guardians,

This week's weather pattern makes it difficult to believe that it is Summer! I am certain that sleeping in later and not having the schedule of drop-off and pick-up and the night time routine of completing homework might be a good indication that the summer break truly has arrived. This message is intended to inform you of two important dates for the 2011-2012 school year so that you can plan accordingly.

School will begin for grades 1-8 on Wednesday, August 31, 2011.

Kindergarten orientation will be held on Friday, September 2, 2011.

PK3, PK4 orientation will be at staggered according to the number of days per week that children will attend school, i.e. 2 days per week, 3 days per week or 5 days per week. Further explanation will be included in the Summer Mailing in August.

Transitions orientation will be held on Tuesday, September 6, 2011.

Each year the National Catholic Educational Association holds its convention the week immediately following Easter. Boston has been selected as the site for the 2012 NCEA Convention. Every diocese in the six New England states will participate in this event which offers more than 500 professional development sessions, curriculum and materials exhibitions and Masses that annually bring together 7,000-12,000 Catholic school educators, religious education directors and pastors from across the country, the Caribbean islands and as far away as the Philippines.

The Catholic Schools Office of the Diocese of Worcester typically schedules 4 professional days annually. Next year only one day has been scheduled to allow teachers, staff and administrators to attend the 2012 NCEA Convention the remaining 3 days. St. Bernadette School faculty, staff and administrators will be among the thousands attending the convention at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston. Please be aware that **St. Bernadette School will be closed from Good Friday, April 6 until classes resume the Monday after April vacation break, April 23.**

Traditionally St. Bernadette School is closed from Good Friday until the Tuesday after Easter. Since the 2012 NCEA begins on the Wednesday after Easter and concludes that Friday, it has been determined that it would be difficult to bring students into school

for only one day. Therefore the April calendar will reflect the Easter schedule, the NCEA Convention dates and the week-long April vacation break.

There will not be any childcare available from April 6-April 16, 2012. As in the past, there will be a Vacation Camp during school vacation week running from Tuesday, April 17 to Friday, April 20, 2012. Information concerning sign-ups for camp will be distributed during the next school year.

It is our hope that notifying you of these calendar dates will allow you ample time to plan for an extended break during April. It may provide you with a window of time to plan a vacation, visit family and friends or take care of other concerns that may need more time than usually available.

The NCEA Convention in Boston will be an outstanding opportunity for St. Bernadette School faculty, staff and administration to collaborate with educators from across the United States and beyond in professional development focused on the mission of Catholic education.

Yours in Christ,
Deborah O'Neil
 Principal

April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6 Good Friday	7
8 Easter Sunday	9	10	11 NCEA	12 NCEA	13 NCEA	14
15	16 Patriots Day	17 Spring Break:	18 ED available	19 4/17-4/20	20	21
22	23 Return to School	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					