

## **Mr. Watters Message- January 2020**

Happy New Year and welcome to the third quarter! Time is flying by as we just finished the second quarter of the school year on January 17. Report cards will go home Monday, January 27 so please keep a lookout for them. MAPS testing resumed this week and will continue into next week. We will have one more round of MAPS testing this spring.

Thank you to Dr. Piercey and our teachers for putting together the beautiful Christmas program. It is a lot of work and we are grateful for her time and talent.

Our annual appeal is down this year as we're only halfway to our goal of \$7,000. This is our main (non-event) fundraiser and we are still accepting donations payable to St. Mary School. Speaking of fundraisers, the annual Gala is set for Saturday, April 18. This is our one event and biggest fundraiser where all school families are required to volunteer. Please contact Mrs. Brejcha for more information on what areas we need help. The Gala committee is asking that every school family sell 20 cash raffle tickets. They are \$20 each. They will be distributed after the next awards ceremony on February 6 at 8 a.m. If you will not be attending the awards, you can pick them up in the school office or ask them to be sent home with your oldest child. These tickets are not to be returned to the office as we feel that over three months is plenty of time to either sell &/or purchase these tickets. All money collected must be promptly turned into Mrs. Brejcha.

Our STREAM/Robotics program was very successful this year. The 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade FLL team qualified for the State of Michigan Championship in Mason. They won a trophy for Mechanical Design at the Clare qualifier and at the State Championship. The 4<sup>th</sup> grade FLL team won the Strategy and Innovation Award at the qualifier in Clare. The FTC robotics team (the Thundercolts) won the Connect Award at both the Petoskey and Allendale qualifiers. They also qualified for the State of Michigan Championship in Battle Creek. Thank you to all our mentors and sponsors that make it possible for our students to have these programs.

Catholic Schools Week is January 26 through February 2. See the daily bulletin for our planned daily activities. It's a very special time for us to celebrate our catholic school and faith and to share that with as many others as possible. We are always open for enrollment so please send any interested families to me.

Feel free to contact me directly should you have any questions or concerns: 231-796-6731 or [jbwatters@stmarybr.org](mailto:jbwatters@stmarybr.org).

Thank you!

JB Watters