Dear St. Walter School Families,

During this season of Lent, we are challenged to a more active prayer life, a willingness to sacrifice and a generous sharing of our resources with those in need. Our willing participation in the Lenten journey, focused on prayer, sacrifice and almsgiving, can give us the courage to enter fully into the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Our hearts can be transformed and renewed.

May the challenges of Lent be eased with the grace and peace of Jesus Christ, and may the blessings of Easter continue to transform our lives into active and joyful discipleship.

Mrs. Mary Lloyd
Principal

Reach Out with Him for Lent!

Pope Francis urges us to “reach out with Him this Lent” and that is just what the students of St. Walter School are doing. On Ash Wednesday, students began their Lenten journey by bringing in a gently used article of clothing from their own closets. Over four boxes of spring and summer clothing were collected. Their donations will support the Mountain Top children of the Philippines, a charity near and dear to Father Mario.

Students are also joining the parish-wide campaign to help the Christians being persecuted in the Middle East. Mission Banks can be found in each classroom, and out-of-uniform days are scheduled throughout the season to help the effort. Money collected will help Eastern churches provide support to hospitals and orphanages, refugee camps, elder centers and schools.

Students will end their Lenten journey here at St. Walter School by walking the Living Stations. Members of our Student Council will lead the Stations of the Cross for students in grades one through eight. Their re-enactment will portray the journey of Jesus Christ from the time he was condemned through his crucifixion and burial.

These faith-filled activities offer students an opportunity to strengthen and grow in their faith. They learn that “reaching out with Him” prepares them for the joyful celebration of the risen Lord.
Spartans Win
League Championship

Congratulations to the seventh grade boys basketball team, 7BC, who captured the League title.

Seventh Grade Boys 7BC Team Members
Front Row: Julian Rugano, Nathaniel Herr, Alex Francesco, David Deinling, Aidan Axs, Danny Rolly
Second Row: Coach Bollard, Tommy Cartright, Joe Bollard, Andrew Sommers, Ryan Northcutt, Andrew Georgiev, Coach Sommer

Big West Catholic League Basketball All-Stars

Congratulations to the following eighth grade students who were selected to participate in the Big West Catholic League All-Star end-of-season basketball games.


Honorable Mention – Hannah Alvarez, Leo Coulolias, Frank DeRosa, Sofia Isabelle, Audrey Koch, Hannah Mills, Nicolas Miranda, Edwin Ouimet, Sophia Pellegrini, Maria Provenzano, Luke Regaldo, Matthew Tavolacci, Claire Vosyka, Benjamin Zelinka

High Honor Roll – Despoina Alexakos, Cameron Bark, Ryan Cambien, Nicholas Chmielak, Kaylee Choi, Joseph Colapietro, Mary Kate Corliss, Nicholas Defina, Benjamin Fasana, Kyle Freeman, Caitlyn Gdowski, Abigail Hatfield, Gabrielle Husmillo, Emma Jahnke, Jessica Kaszubski, Leah Lanthorn, Rachel MacQueen, Joseph Majeske, Joseph Mangold, Szymon Mazur, Leah Morawa, Ariya Patel, Michael Pttulo, Isabella Rentmeester, Emi Scales, Connor Spoczynski, Emma Streck, Margaret Thiemann, Analise Tomasso, Elize Tzamouranis, Grace Walton, Isabella Zeliniska

Honorable Mention – Kateliny Bandovich, Tristan Berndt, Margaret Brady, Robert Bucaro, Joseph Chmielak, Roney Gourou, Vanessa Karantonis, Gina Kent, Nathan Kot, Talia Leuzzi, Theresa Mazza, Olivia Miller, Nicolette Miranda, Sydney Shannon, Peter Sheller, Olivia Silberbauer, Sophia Stubitsch, Jordan Wetmore


High Honor Roll – Allison Arndt, Joseph Chiaramonte, Anne Marie Ciccone, Alexa Cirrincone, Joseph Consoli, Ross Coulolias, Anthony DeFilippis, Joshua Dohnal, Andrew Georgiev, Liliana Gibas, Marco Leon, Liliana LoCascio, Michael Mangialardi, William McAteer, Angela Menchaca, Haley Mills, Caroline Nelson, Joseph Pelagio, Drew Psakowki, Brianna Velaszquez Riter, Emilia Rzeszutek, Andrew Sommers, Jacob Vera

High Honor Roll – James Biernacki, Thomas Biernacki, Michael Breslin, Timothy Buranicz, Liliana Castelli, Alyssa Choi, Alyssa Colapietro, Nicholas Degen, Caroline Derango, Isacie Dominguez, Isabella Dudas, Daniel Feutz, Dylan Freeman, Madelyn Hatfield, Matthew Johnson, Sarah MacQueen, Ariana Marchese, Charles O’Leary, Grace Oleksyk, Mathew Oleksyk, Olivia Perez, Ann Poremb, Genevieve Rentmeester, Julia Sokowicz, Gianna Saverino, Patrick Scales, Jr., Morgan Schoebel, Maxim Strzelecki, Andrew Thennes, Ella Walsh, Michaela Wilson, Alyssa Wojtowicz, Jamie Ziegler

Honorable Mention – Summer Balaskovits, Gianna Bucaro, Julianna Chiappetta, Francesco Console, Olivia Essary, Donald Falk, Giacomo Fanizza, Emilio Filippo, Jack Finn, Trey Gora, Quinn Jaeger, John Jimenez, Matthew Kazmirak, Sarah Kruse, Patricia Lachowicz, Emma Mangialardi, Kattyn McGehee, Samantha Miranda, Frank Parente, Anthony Ptello, Sebastian Przybylski, Ashley Ptak, Kayci Regaldo, Sebastian Schlab, Emily Swiderski
Art Exhibition Showcases Student Talent

Bloomingdale Park District and the Roselle Library are hosting Student Art Exhibitions in honor of “Youth Art Month.” The exhibitions feature original works of art using a variety of media including watercolors, linoleum prints and crayon drawings from area elementary and high schools.

The Roselle Library’s exhibit is available for viewing through Friday, March 31.

The Bloomingdale Park District Museum & Art Gallery art exhibition will run through Saturday, April 8. The Bloomingdale gallery is located on Bloomingdale Road and Franklin Street in Bloomingdale. For gallery times, please call 630-539-3096.

### Bloomingdale Art Exhibition

- **Grade 1**: Ryan Alvarez, Matthew Ciccone, Starr DiSilvestro and Skyler Kutchinski
- **Grade 2**: Alex Biernacki, Sophia DiMaria, Milla Mickus and Kiernan Smith
- **Grade 3**: James Griffin, Glenn Mytych, Abhi Patel and Jenna Wetmore
- **Grade 4**: Ava Arenz, Leo Bianchi, Landon Peandro and Sofia Shuff
- **Grade 5**: Hannah Dufek, Audrey Koch, Braden Sabin and Alan Schabelski
- **Grade 6**: Nicholas DeFina, Olivia Miller and Arya Patel
- **Grade 7**: Lilly LoCascio, Will Rath, Isabel Salter and Andrew Sommers
- **Grade 8**: Nick Degen, Julia Sakowicz and Aly Wojtowicz

### Roselle Library’s Celebration of “Youth Art Month”

- **Grade 1**: Chloe Bianchi and Aadi Mehta
- **Grade 2**: Dianni Koehler and Amaani Patel
- **Grade 3**: Sierra Dempsey, Sophia Shah and Rovic Santos
- **Grade 4**: Alessia Bavaro, Sebastian Douglas and Nora Locascio
- **Grade 5**: Emily Degen and Maria Provenzano
- **Grade 6**: Abby Hatfield and Leah Morawa
- **Grade 7**: Lilliana Gibas, Marco Leon and Jacob Nowakowski
- **Grade 8**: Annie Poremba, Morgan Schoebel and Capri DeRosa

### Students Perform in Solo Band Contest

St. Walter School band members participated in the Solo Band Contest at St. Francis High School in Wheaton. The annual contest enables band students to demonstrate their playing proficiency. Participants play a musical selection of their choice before a panel of professional musicians. St. Walter School students received high evaluations for their performances. We congratulate our participating band students and Mr. Uriel Portillo, Band Director, for their outstanding achievement.

**Solo Competition Participants & Awards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trophy Winners</th>
<th>Cameron Birk</th>
<th>Sebastian Schlau</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gold Medal</td>
<td>Andrew Sommers and Cameron Birk</td>
<td>Caroline Derango and Jacob Braun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver Medal</td>
<td>Nysa Olsade and Katiyln McAbee</td>
<td>Marissa Furiano and Nora Locascio</td>
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### Gifts of the Spirit

On March 4, eighth graders from the parish received the Sacrament of Confirmation. The sacrament was administered by the Most Reverend Joseph M. Siegel, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Joliet. Bishop Siegel told the students to use the spiritual gifts of wisdom, knowledge and faith in their daily lives and to serve others freely.

We congratulate the newly confirmed students and their religion teacher, Mrs. Claire Adachi.

### Standing Strong for Kelsey

A big thank you to everyone who was able to support the Kelsey McNeela fundraiser through St. Walter School. Kicking it for Kelsey, raffles, out-of-uniform days, and donations made at the school’s annual gala added up to over $6,000! We thank you for your generosity!

Our Student Council presented Kelsey with the check that will provide much needed financial assistance with her upcoming medical procedures. We will continue to keep Kelsey in our prayers and we pray for a cure for Multiple Sclerosis (MS).

### Students Love Coding Class!

The Hour of Code, offered to students in grades 2 through 6, is igniting a lot of excitement! The new program started as a one-hour introduction to coding designed to broaden participation in the field of computer science. Driven by the Advisory and Review Committees of Computer Science Education Week, and an unprecedented coalition of partners including Microsoft, Apple and Amazon, it has become a global movement reaching tens of millions of students in 180+ countries.

The Hour of Code class, taught by Mrs. Jane Malouf, teaches students the fundamentals of coding, a skill that will serve them well in virtually any future career path they might choose. The lasting benefits build on such skill sets as logical thinking, problem solving, collaboration and communication.
**Upcoming Events**

- **Spring Break**
  Begins Friday, March 24
  Classes Resume, Monday, April 3

- **1st Communion Picture Day**
  Friday, April 28

- **1st Communion**
  Saturday, April 29

- **May Crowning**
  Tuesday, May 2
  10:00 AM, Church

- **Spring Band Concert**
  Thursday, May 4
  7:00 PM, Gym

- **Spring Musical**
  Wednesday & Thursday, May 10 & 11
  7:00 PM, Gym

- **Volleyball Clinic**
  May 15, 16 & 17

- **Four-Year-Old Preschool Celebration**
  Friday, May 19
  10:00 AM, Church

- **Parent & Graduate Dinner Dance**
  Tuesday, May 23
  6:00 PM, Gym

- **Graduation**
  Wednesday, May 24
  7:00 PM, Church

- **Kindergarten Celebration**
  Thursday, May 25
  10:00 AM, Church

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**Volleyball Clinic**

On May 15, 16 and 17, we will be hosting a volleyball clinic for St. Walter School students entering grades 5 - 8 next year. The three-day clinic is designed to develop game knowledge and reinforce skills of beginners through advanced players. Sign-up and fee information will be sent home in April.

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**School Board News**

**Endowment Gala**

We send our thanks to everyone who so generously supported the 24th Annual Gala – Masquerade Ball. Whether you donated a gift, purchased or sold a Golden Raffle ticket, are one of our many sponsors, volunteers and/or attended the event, we are grateful to you.

A very special thank you to the following for their extraordinary efforts in planning and organizing this year’s gala.

- **Event Coordinators**
  Kris Campton
  Angela Cosenza
  Amie Sailer
  Carrie Sperling
  Beth Sommers
  Catie Van Valkenburg

- **Decorating Committee Chairs**
  Melissa Christensen
  Chrissy Essary

- **Golden Raffle Coordinator**
  Kris Campton

- **School Raffles Coordinator**
  Christina Coulillas

- **Class Art Project Coordinators**
  Christina Coulillas
  Michele Wardynski-Weber

- **Trivia Night Chair**
  Beth Sommers

- **Daddy-Daughter Dance**
  Yvonne Consoli

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**Golden Raffle Winners**

St. Walter School would like to thank everyone who purchased a Golden Raffle ticket this year. This year’s winners are:

- **Grand Prize Winner**
  $20,000
  Ticket # E1629 - Mikol Family

- **Secondary Prize Winners**
  1st Prize
  $1,000
  Ticket # E0432 - Susan Gaffey

  2nd Prize
  $500
  Ticket # B1739 - Nowakowski Family

  Bonus Drawing
  $1,000
  Ticket # F1026 - Kim Seger

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**St. Walter School 2016-2017 School Board**

- **Rob Burns** – President
- **Catie Van Valkenburg** – Vice-President
- **Kris Campton** – Secretary
- **Michael Butz**
- **Angela Cosenza**
- **Carl Olofson**
- **Beth Sommers**