



Saint John Paul II School

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From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I would like you all to know that for the past few weeks our middle school students have been working on an anti-bullying project for the school as part of their technology class with Mrs. Hoover. The 6th graders have been putting up bulletin boards and signs detailing the dangers of cyberbullying. The 7th graders designed a program and spoke to the primary elementary grades about the dangers of bullying and this morning a group of 8th graders presented a powerful program on Bullying and cyberbullying to grades 5 through 8. During Catholic Schools week last November, we had Mr. Kevin Dowd from Boston College do an anti-bullying assembly for the school. Mr. Dowd speaks and presents nation- wide on this subject. In the near future, grades 3,4 and 5 will have a cyber safety program as part of their classes. This program is designed by Cybersafety Consulting and the program is being used in all the schools in Diocese of Norwich.

These kind of programs in addition to our daily religion classes where we teach that all persons need to be respected and treated with kindness are necessary as our school stands up to this behavior that seems so common in today's world of social media. We have a diverse student body at St. John Paul II and we teach our students to be accepting of all races, colors, and nationalities. All our students need to be included and respected. Any behavior contrary to this will not be tolerated.

As we approach the liturgical season of Lent I ask that you communicate with your children about social media, acceptance, and respect. These conversations will help both children and adults.

May God continue to bless you and your families.

Larry Fitzgerald, BS, MS, 6th Year
Principal