

August, 2020

Dear Parents,

Schools in the Catholic Diocese of Richmond will again be using the Performance Series Assessments by Scantron this year as a diagnostic instructional tool.

Performance Series is a web-based, computer-adaptive assessment that is given three times per year and administered to students in grades 1-8, in the areas of reading and mathematics. As an instructional tool, the data is used by teachers to create and tailor instruction to meet the needs of all students throughout the school year.

The first round of assessments is given now, in the fall to collect baseline skill development data, the winter assessments, given in January, allows schools to monitor student academic growth, and the spring assessments, given in May, provided schools with a snapshot of student performance over the course of the school year. It is important to remember that this is one source of data used throughout the school year to measure student learning and progress.

Teachers use many types of assessments throughout the school year to monitor student growth and tailor instruction, and we look at Performance Series as one piece of the instructional puzzle.

We are committed to providing our families information on this topic and value your partnership in educating your child. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions you may have.

Testing will be next week with our Middle school students:

Tuesday, September 1	Reading Grade 7	1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Periods	8:15 - 9:45
Tuesday, September 1	Reading Grade 8	3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Periods	9:45 - 11:15
Friday, September 4	Reading Grade 6	5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> Periods	11:15 - 12:45

Testing in Mathematics will be scheduled after Labor Day.

Thank you and God bless you!

Sincerely,

Mark Zafra, Principal, St. Pius X Catholic School