

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.

Even though your child(ren) are in a remote school plan they may take the Scantron testing at home, preferably at the same time their class mates are testing in school. The tests are untimed. If your child does not finish in the time allotted they can complete the test at your convenience by just logging back into the testing site. Attached to this letter are documents you will need for your child to take the tests at home.

Testing will begin 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