

"Together We Are a Vine of Strengths Rooted in Christ"

Saint Augustine of Canterbury School

www.staugustinenj.org

September 19, 2018

- **Congratulations to Grades Pre-K-8** for making the first weeks of school a great one.

Saint A's On the Map!

- **We** are traveling on course to a new school year filled with many possibilities. Our school goals are set for the year as we anticipate the re-accreditation of AdvancEd. Our school goals are set for the year. "Renewing The Promise" is full of hopes and dreams. Reading and Writing are definitely part of the Promise. Student enrichment and leadership are at the top of the list rooted and strengthened in Jesus.
- **Professional Development.** The teachers participated in a Spirituality Workshop in August. Mass was celebrated by Bishop James F. Checchio and the Pastors of our schools. A presentation to nearly 700 teachers was given by Thomas G. Phillips III, Vice Chancellor and Assistant for Administrative Matters. His stories and reflections were delivered with a sense of humor and wisdom as the teachers begin the new school year.
- **In Math all grades Pre-K to 8** are learning how to apply mathematical skills to solve word problems.
- Kindergarten has a head start. They are leading forward in Reading. Hands on activities and I Pads are favorites.

Writing Skills Emerging in the Early Years

- Grades 1 & 2 are off to departmental reading and writing twice a week. Grades 5-8 will continue with writing scheduled in the writing classroom with the Writing Teachers.
- Through literature, the integration of grammar and "Kick Your Socks Off" Vocabulary the writing is improving. *We have many resources in our midst that facilitate learning at Saint Augustine School.*
- *Grade 4 is now using Discovery Science and the new Vocabulary Program.*
- September 11th was celebrated with a beautiful prayer service in the gym due to the inclement weather. The prayer service reflection was shared by Mr. M. our Social Studies Teacher. The students with hands over their hearts also took the Vocation Pledge which is in their new Catholic Homework pads. The service concluded with the Pledge of Allegiance, God Bless America, and a prayer to the Blessed Mother, Patroness of the United States. The students were reverent and reflective.

Pre-K just completed their first week of school. They have made new friends and are learning how to share and are becoming more familiar with the routines and schedules of the day. One of their favorite free play activities is to build. It looks like we are going to have many creative engineers. They love building!

