

We received a letter from the Office of Catholic Education notifying us that we've earned a 2019 Archdiocesan School of Distinguished Instruction award. This recognition acknowledges schools where more than 90% of the students have achieved a full year of academic growth at every grade level in every content area as measured on the TerraNova (TN) exam. Academic growth is determined by an analysis of Normal Curve Equivalent (NCE) scores on the TN. When the NCE is the same for two consecutive years (or the second year NCE score is higher than the first year NCE score), the grade has demonstrated a full year of growth.



The awards ceremony was held on Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup> and presided over by the Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia Overseeing Catholic Education, Bishop Michael Fitzgerald, and the Secretary of Elementary Education for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, Dr. Andrew McLaughlin. Across the Archdiocese, forty elementary schools were acknowledged at the ceremony. Bishop Fitzgerald pointed out the number of schools recognized doesn't diminish the honor; instead, it speaks to the quality of Catholic education in the Philadelphia area. Michelle Stetler, Director of Institutional Advancement, and I were honored to accept this award on behalf of Monsignor Hagan and our faculty and staff.



Our second set of accolades was announced by the Bucks County *Intelligencer*. Our fourth grade teacher, Mrs. Dawn Brooks, was recognized as the "Best of Bucks" in the Teacher category, and Our Lady of Mount Carmel School was honored as "One of the Best of Bucks" in both the Preschool and the Private School categories. Although I've always been proud of our school and confident that we offer an excellent educational experience to our students, it's wonderful to be recognized as such by the Archdiocese and our community.

Here's to a fantastic school year!

God bless,

*Dawn Parker*

