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October 22, 2020

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Halloween will soon be upon us. This year Halloween falls on Saturday. Although we will not be holding a dance a thon this year, there will still be fun. Teachers may have activities that can be done in class that follow all the safety rules required. Students are also welcome to wear costumes to school on Friday October 30th. Remote learners may also wish to dress up and share. When selecting a costume, we ask that students refrain from wearing violent costumes and ask that no replica or toy weapons be brought in or shown by remote learners. Please also note the following:

1. **Culture is NOT Costume:** Please refrain from using costumes that represent a cultural group or ethnicity.
2. **Masks are Discouraged (Except for PPE):** Wearing masks during the school day can compromise the safety of the community. We should always be identifiable in our community so we can avoid having unwelcome guests. As well, staff and students must wear their mask/face covering as regularly required.
3. **Awareness of Costume Appropriateness is Important:** Discourage costumes that are not appropriate to the moral tone of our Catholic Schools.
4. **Awareness of Fear and Evil:** Be aware that Ghoulish costumes can terrify some students
5. **We Must Be Trauma Sensitive:** There may be members of our communities who have traumas that can be triggered by certain costumes.
6. **When in Doubt, Think Saint:** Hallowe'en precedes All Soul's and All Saint's Days. Encourage students to dress as saints and religious figures.

A reminder that we are unable to have students bring in treats to share or even to give to other students to take home. If any treats are brought in to distribute, they will be returned to you. As well, please ensure any candy and food brought in for personal consumption does not contain nuts, tree nuts, coconut, kiwi, or shrimp.

Sincerely,

Mr. Amos

