

Laps for Learning Letter Writing Guidelines

WHAT IS L4L? This is an event in which *THE CHILDREN* encourage friends and family to “sponsor” them as they run or walk laps around the school. It is modeled after popular fundraiser events (i.e., the Susan G. Komen 3 Day walk for Breast Cancer). It not only benefits St. Rose school, but it teaches the kids the importance of supporting causes that matter!

WHO SHOULD READ THIS? Any parent or teacher new to this process *AND* parents and teachers who have been involved in L4L for years.

WHY THE IN-CLASS LETTER WRITING EXERCISE? This day is set up to teach the kids *HOW* to write a good “appeal” letter, taking developmental abilities into consideration. Unless absolutely necessary, please do not allow the kids to take this home and do it on their own.

SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS: Please talk to your students about the “job” that they have before them. We want them to know that:

- it is important to support causes you believe in (e.g., how much you love St. Rose, the value of catholic education).
- It is important to explain what their donation can do (e.g., raise money to improve the technology/tech curriculum at our school).
- It is important to show gratitude in their letters, right from the start. (e.g., thank you in advance for any contribution you can give, thank you for supporting me as I walk to raise money for St. Rose).
- It is important to include a special personal touch in any letter, as appropriate (e.g., it was so nice to see you last Sunday, can’t wait for your next visit).
- It is important that the letters represent the exemplary education St. Rose is providing (e.g., good handwriting, in cursive for 3rd graders and up, good mechanics, etc.).
- This letter DOES NOT have to be perfect. Mistakes are allowed and expected because they’re kids. But, a show of effort is crucial for a good financial appeal letter.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION/COMMENTS FOR MIDDLE SCHOOLERS:

- They are understandably less interested in this “walk,” but the actual *MONEY RAISED* is directly because of their effort. We hope they can find that motivating!
- The quality of their work matters here just as much as any graded document.
- Writing a good, persuasive letter of this type is a life skill. They will write far more documents like this in their adult life than they could ever imagine.

THANK YOU to all teachers and parents who worked with the students today!