



Maternity of Mary-Saint Andrew Catholic School

592 Arlington Avenue West ♦ Saint Paul, Minnesota 55117-4222 ♦ 651.489.1459

www.mmsaschool.org

November 10, 2011

Dear Parent,

Enclosed you will find your child's Northwest Evaluation Association's (NWEA) Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) test results. These tests determine your child's instructional level and measure academic growth throughout the school year, and from year to year in the areas of reading, mathematics, and language usage.

MAP tests are unique in that they are adaptive tests your child took on a computer. That means that the test became more difficult the more questions your child answered correctly. When your child incorrectly answered a question, the test became easier. Therefore, your child took a test specifically created for his or her learning level. In addition, your child should have had the opportunity to learn the information presented on the test because the tests are aligned with the Minnesota state standards, therefore our curriculum.

Your child's NWEA-MAP results are reported in *RIT scores*. This is a different type of score than a typical test that provides a percentage correct. It is also different from many tests that provide results based on your child's score compared to others in his or her grade. Instead, the RIT score is an equal-interval scale, like feet and inches, that is independent of grade level. As a result, we can easily measure growth in learning. This type of score increases the value of the tests as a tool to improve student learning because it enables teachers to recognize where to focus attention for your child's learning.

One item to note, the District Average found within the report represents MMSA's grade average.

I hope you find the enclosed report informative. If you have questions, please contact Athena Novack at 651.489-1459.

For more information on resources for parents, download the *Parent Toolkit* under the "Current Parents" tab at the school's website: www.mmsaschool.org or access the companies website at www.nwea.org.

Thank you for taking an active interest in your child's education.

Sincerely,

Athena Novack - Principal