

Dear 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents:

For four class periods beginning April 21, I will be instructing the 6<sup>th</sup> grade in Family Life Education (FLE). The information presented will review some concepts from 5<sup>th</sup> grade FLE and build upon what students have already learned. The curriculum comes from Chapters 7 and 8 in level 6 of the Benziger Family Life series, and includes the following topics:

1. Expecting a Baby (2 classes)
  - Children are a blessing from God
  - Happiness and concerns of expectant parents
  - Preparations necessary for a new baby
  - The whole family is affected by the arrival of a new baby
  - The community welcomes a new baby
2. New Life in the Womb and The Miracle of Birth (1 class)
  - New life begins
  - Development of a new baby through the nine months of pregnancy
  - Three stages of birth
  - What a pregnant woman can do to stay healthy
  - Common questions related to birth
3. A Baby Arrives (1 class)
  - Loving attention is vital to the health of newborns
  - The whole family shares in a baby's upbringing
  - Baptism begins the formation of Christian identity

This year's class will assume a basic understanding of female and male reproductive anatomy and functions, which were taught in 5<sup>th</sup> grade FLE. If you are not sure whether your child understands these concepts, there are several things I can suggest:

- Clarify what you can with your child, and let them know why the information is important to understand;
- Purchase a book for your child, such as *It's So Amazing: A Book about Eggs, Sperm, Birth, Babies and Families*, by Michael Emberley. There are many others, and you can find what you feel is most appropriate;
- Notify me if you would like me to review these concepts with your child or answer any questions with him or her (or you) individually before class begins.

The classes will take place during 6<sup>th</sup> grade religion class periods on April 21, 23, 28 and 30 (Tuesdays and Thursdays); Mrs. Houck's class from 1:20 to 2:08, and Mrs. O'Dowd's class immediately following from 2:08 to 2:55. Parents are welcome to attend. Please sign and return the attached form and indicate whether you will be able to come, so we can insure enough seating for all. Meanwhile, please contact me if you have questions, concerns, or would like more information about what is being presented. My extension is 45. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Sara Cummings  
School Counselor

Child's name \_\_\_\_\_

Homeroom teacher \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the attached information regarding the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Family Life Education class.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will be attending with my child.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will not be able to attend with my child.

Parent's signature \_\_\_\_\_