

Dear Parents and/or Guardians:

Bishop O'Gorman Catholic Schools is deeply committed to providing your children with a high-quality education that fosters their spiritual, intellectual, and emotional development. To support this goal and enhance our approach to individualized learning, we are introducing a new assessment tool this year: **NWEA MAP Growth**. NWEA MAP Growth will replace several assessment tools that have been used in the past including Renaissance STAR, iReady, and Terra Nova.

What is NWEA MAP Growth?

NWEA MAP Growth is a nationally respected assessment designed to provide teachers with real-time data on student progress in key areas such as reading, language arts, and mathematics. Unlike traditional assessments, MAP Growth adapts to each student's ability level, creating a personalized evaluation based on what they already know and what they are ready to learn next. This individualized approach ensures that your child is neither overwhelmed nor under-challenged during the assessment process.

Why the Change?

We believe that NWEA MAP Growth offers several significant advantages for our students:

1. **Personalized Learning:** The adaptive nature of MAP Growth allows each student to receive questions that match their learning level, helping teachers better identify areas for targeted instruction.
2. **Frequent Feedback:** Since MAP Growth is administered multiple times throughout the school year, we can track each student's progress and growth more effectively, allowing for adjustments in instruction as needed.
3. **Actionable Data:** Assessment results are available shortly after testing, enabling teachers to use the data right away to inform classroom instruction and develop individualized support plans.
4. **Alignment with Standards:** MAP Growth is aligned with both national and state academic standards, giving us a clear picture of how students are progressing on their educational journey.

How Will This Impact Your Child?

MAP Growth will be administered three times during the school year—fall, winter, and spring. This allows us to monitor academic growth over time and set meaningful goals for your child's learning. You will receive detailed reports outlining your child's progress, and the results will be discussed during parent-teacher conferences.

We are confident that NWEA MAP Growth will be a valuable tool in helping your child reach their full potential. By providing more personalized and actionable insights, this assessment will support our continued commitment to helping students grow both academically and spiritually.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher or the school office. We look forward to partnering with you in making this school year a successful, faith-filled journey for your child.

Sincerely,
Regan Manning
Holy Spirit Elementary Principal