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SMS217.ORG

November 16th, 2017

Dear, St. Malachy Parents/Guardians

To protect children from possible exposure to lead in drinking water, Illinois passed Public Act 99-0922, effective January 17, 2017. The Act requires all Pre-K through 5th grade schools built before January 1, 2000 to test the level of lead in the water from every outlet that could be used for drinking or food preparation. Each water outlet must be sampled twice with 30 seconds between the first and second draw. Any sample exceeding 5ppb (parts per billion) of lead requires schools to notify parents and submit the results to the Illinois Department of Public Health.

On Oct. 26th, 2017, we tested 10 water outlets. We are pleased to report that all of the faucets where students drink from tested below 5 ppb; however, two sinks in our kitchen area tested above the state requirement, but below the federal. In order to address the results identified above and under the recommendation of PDC Laboratories, the school will take the following steps:

- Sinks that tested above a 5 ppb will only be used for hand-washing and not for cooking, until they have been retested and pass regulations.
- First, clean the screens, flush the faucets, and retest two samples from each fixture. If results are non-compliant, the fixtures will be shut off, removed and replaced and tested again.
- In addition, the test results were sent to Illinois Department of Health (IDPH) and this electronic notification is being sent to parents/guardians through TeacherEase. The full report can be found on our school website at www.sms217.org .

Please note: the level set by the state is significantly lower than the federal government threshold of 15 ppb for public water systems and 20 ppb recommended by the EPA for school outlets. We are addressing this in a timely manner. Additional information about lead in drinking water can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water> . If you have any additional questions/concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Yours in Christ,

Mrs. Stacie Gianessi, Principal

And Jesus said, "Let the little children come unto Me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." ~ Matthew 19:14

ALL ARE WELCOME TO TAKE LEARNING
TO THE HIGHEST† POWER!