



Dear Parents,

May the peace of Christ be with all of you!

This spring, along with our five other sister dioceses and the Archdiocese of Miami, the schools in the Diocese of Orlando will administer an updated version of the Terra Nova test, the Terra Nova NEXT. The Catholic schools in the state of Florida have been administering the Terra Nova Third Edition Complete Battery test in past years, but review of the Terra Nova Third Edition Complete Battery assessment revealed the need to have the assessment reflect updated content-area knowledge and skills. The Terra Nova NEXT better addresses those needs. Additionally, the Terra Nova Next is designed to support the preparation for other forms of testing our students will face as they continue their educational journey.

This first administration of the revised test should be considered a baseline by which future growth can be measured. The Terra Nova Third Edition Complete Battery and the Terra Nova NEXT are two different assessments, so it will not be appropriate to try and compare last year's test to this year's to show growth. It is also important to note any standardized test presents a single-day snapshot in the academic progress of children. It should be just one of several ways in which your child's growth and progress can be measured. All assessment, including standardized test results, comprises the data that we use to inform and revise classroom instruction in order to better meet the needs of your children.

Should you have questions or concerns about your child's academic progress, please do not hesitate to contact your child(ren)'s teacher or principal. He/she will be better able to review all assessments to more clearly determine your child's current growth and progress.

In the Diocese of Orlando, we take great pride in preparing our students to be faith-filled leaders as they move from school to college and the workforce. It is our mission to ensure that we bring to fullness all the gifts and talents (emotional, social, spiritual, intellectual, and physical) that God has blessed your child(ren) with in our care.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Henry Fortier".

Henry Fortier
Secretary for Education/
Superintendent of Catholic Schools