



March 2017

Dear Honor Roll Student,

Earning the President's Honor Roll for the third quarter of 2016-2017 is a wonderful accomplishment. It reflects your curiosity and your diligence.

I also hope you are learning to say "not yet" to challenges.

I will illustrate this idea with a story. A famous social scientist, Carol Dweck, asked a group of 10 year-old students to do some very difficult math problems. So difficult that none of the students could solve them.

When asked about their experience Carol heard two types of responses. Some students were angry and upset because they felt inadequate and frustrated. They said that if they had hard problems like this again they would cheat to do the problem next time or not even try.

Other students said they enjoyed the challenge and that next time they would try other methods to solve the problem. They said they would get the problem figured out eventually, just "not yet."

What do you say when you face a difficult, even seemingly impossible challenges? Can you say "yes, I will figure this out, I just don't have it yet?" Learning how to face challenges is just as important as getting the right answer. This applies to all areas of life: your athletic endeavors, your spiritual journey, your relationships, the organization of your life, and your school work.

I hope and pray that you will face each difficulty, learning assignment, or failure, with the idea that you will find a way to learn, solve your problem, get help, and overcome. I urge you to face all of life's tough challenges with persistence and resilience, so even if you fail, you say, "I do not understand this, not yet anyway!"

Love and blessings,

Lindsey R. Gilbert, Jr.
President and Head of Menaul School