

Thursday Thoughts: The Weekly Newsletter of St. Ferdinand School



October 01, 2020

FAREWELLS

Last week, we said goodbye to Mrs. Linda Ward, our Physical Education teacher. Due to a budget shortfall (brought on by a system-wide drop in enrollment due to COVID), we had the difficult task of cutting staff members and reducing hours.

We thank Linda for her years of service to our students, and for all the extra effort she has put into the craft of P. E. during her tenure. She began her career in this building as the P.E. instructor for Notre Dame High School for Girls and Athletic Director. During the past 13 years, she diligently sought out ways to make sure students remained fit, learned healthy habits, were exposed to sport rules and play, enjoyed learning dance and yoga moves as part of their warm-ups and cool downs, and played fun holiday games - - - whether the students were experiencing P.E. in-person or via distance learning. Thank you, Linda , and God bless you always. :)

NEWS

Pet Blessing - We will have a Pet Blessing at 3:00PM in our Parking Lot on Friday, October 2, to celebrate the Feast of St. Francis. Please make sure your pet is either leashed or in a carrier. Masks are required for people that are participating.

Halloween Car Parade - We will have a Halloween Car Parade next Friday, October 9th, from 6:00PM – 7:00PM. Please see the linked flyer for additional information.

Progress Reports - We are half-way through the 1st Trimester! Paper progress reports are going home for students in grades 1 & 2 today. **Grades 3-8 will view their grades in PowerSchool and will return a signed acknowledgement form indicating they have reviewed**

the grades – these are due back on Tuesday, October 06. *If you are a parent in Grades 3 -8 and do not have access to PowerSchool, please contact Margaret Brumann in the office.*

Parent-Teacher Conferences - This year, conferences will be held via Zoom (On **Friday, October 23rd**), as in-person meetings are not allowed yet. Sign-ups will begin soon Stay tuned for an email with directions on how to sign-up for your time.

GRADES/HONOR ROLL - Please note, the grade scale for Specials Classes (Physical Education, Fine Arts, Spanish, Technology) has changed. **These classes are now using the +, S, and – grade scale.**

+ (outstanding work)
S (satisfactory work)
- (unsatisfactory work)

For the A/High Honor Roll, Grades 4-8 students need to have all A's in the subject areas still being graded, and +'s in the Specials.

For the B Honor Roll, Grades 4-8 students need to earn a combo of A's and B's (no C's or lower), and have all +'s and S's (no -'s) in the Specials.

Gym Uniforms - Please make sure you have the correct gym uniform! Last year was the final transition year for uniforms. This year, all gym uniforms should be the navy blue ones, as offered through **Dennis Uniform**. ***If you do not have the correct uniform, this will start to be reflected in your grade.*** Even though we had to say farewell to Mrs. Ward, Mrs. Folino and Ms. Margaret will be covering gym classes so that students still have the opportunity to exercise and learn healthy habits during the school day.

Sweaters/ Uniforms - As the weather is getting colder, please remember to dress appropriately. Make sure to bring your St. Ferdinand School fleece sweater jacket (the Dennis Uniform one) to wear during the school day. Due to COVID, we do need to keep the windows open to provide more ventilation – and as the temperature drops outside, so does the temperature in the classroom.

REMINDERS

Masks – Don't forget, masks need to fit properly in order to be effective. **Masks should fully cover the mouth and nose, and not slide down. If your mask is too big, please either adjust it**

or get one that fits properly. Additionally, masks with valves/vents are **not** allowed, per Archdiocesan guidelines.

Extended Care - **Extended Care will now be billed through your FACTS account**, and payments will be made through FACTS. **Please wait to pay until the charges appear on your FACTS account, as pre-payment makes keeping track of payments difficult.** If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Ginny Quinones at gquinones@saintferdinand.org

Illness / Absences from School – if your child is ill, you need to report him/her absent to the office. If a child shows any symptoms of COVID during the school day, he/she will be sent home. In order to return, either a doctor's note, negative Covid test result, or 10 days of quarantine since symptoms appeared is required. If a student has been exposed to someone that has been diagnosed with Covid, he/she will need to quarantine for 14 days. **If your child or anyone in your household tests positive for Covid, please notify the school immediately so that we can make arrangements to begin e-learning for individuals or cohorts as needed.** It is essential that the office is notified of Covid / Covid exposure. We will work with you to navigate the policies. We will also help you get connected to remote learning and arrange for pick up of books/materials so that your child is able to work at home while quarantined.

Earlier this month, **an Agreement to Adhere to Covid Protocols** went out via email. **Please sign and return this form if you have not already done so.**

A summary of our Covid protocols went home previously with students (it is included in the links from August 27 under the Thursday Thoughts tab on our website as well). **Please note, these can be subject to change based on current guidelines from local health authorities.**

Spirit Wear - **Every Friday will be Spirit Wear day!** Students may wear PE shirts or dress down as long as their shirts have the St. Ferdinand School logo. Pants/shorts must be modest and school-appropriate. We will be sending out a form to order additional St. Ferdinand Spirit Wear this fall (which can also make great holiday gifts!).

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday, October 1st: Progress Reports (Grades 1-2, paper Grades 3-8, Powerschool with Acknowledgement sheet)

Friday, October 2nd: Rosary Blessing (please bring one if you have one)

Friday, October 2nd: Pet Blessing: 3:00PM, Parking Lot

Saturday, October 3rd: Rescheduled First Communion for 3rd Graders, 5:00PM Mass, Church

Wednesday, October 7th: Early dismissal, 1:30

October 8 – October 23: Spirit Wear Sales

Monday, October 12: No School (Federal Holiday)

Tuesday, October 13: Dine & Share at Chipotle (see flyer)

Sunday, October 18: Confirmation Meeting for 8th Grade Parents, 10:00AM, Torba Center

Sunday, October 18: Family Mass, 11:30AM, Church

Friday, October 23: Parent-Teacher Zoom Conferences, 11:30 dismissal

Monday, October 26: No School, Professional Development

Tuesday, October 27 – Friday, Oct 30: Scholastic Book Fair

October 27 – October 30: Red Ribbon (Anti-Drug) Week

Friday, October 30: Halloween Dress-down Day (Details to follow)