

Thursday Thoughts: The Weekly Newsletter of St. Ferdinand School



November 05, 2020

NEWS

Candle Fundraiser - St. Ferdinand School is kicking off their 1st annual candle sale! These candles would make nice gifts for your friends/family, and are nice to have around the house. (Ms. Margaret and Mrs. Quinones already placed their orders!)

Order forms and an introductory letter went home with students last week, and can also be found in today's links on the website. **The sale will end on November 12: All orders are due by this date.** All orders will be shipped to the school and will be here in plenty of time for the holidays.

Due to COVID-19, we are encouraging families to use the internet / email / telephone to spread the news to family and friends.

*Please do NOT go door-to-door to sell items!

If all families sell 2 candles each, we will meet our fundraising goal!

Soup-er Bowl Challenge - Our Soup-er Bowl Challenge is going strong! We already have over 200 cans of soup! Students are asked to please bring in canned soup for our Soup-er Bowl competition. Each day, teachers will submit how many total cans their homerooms have brought in from Monday, November 2 - Friday, November 20. This is a great way to help the hungry during the holiday season, and your generosity is appreciated!

Veterans Day Out of Uniform Fundraiser - For Veterans' Day (Wednesday, Nov. 11), students will be able to purchase an out-of-uniform day for \$1. All money will be donated to a veterans' organization. We hope to see many students in red, white, and blue this day!

New Thermometers! - We would like to extend a big thank you to the Hansen family, whose generosity has helped keep our students safe and made morning arrival more efficient. They generously donated 3 new infrared thermometers that are free-standing- allowing students to take their temperatures quicker and with more accuracy. We definitely appreciate the new equipment and the ease of morning arrival!

Report Cards - Report cards will be going home on Thursday, November 19. Please make sure all your accounts (tuition, extended care) are up to date by this time – in order for students to receive report cards, accounts must be current and not past-due.

Heroes Work Here - We love our Catholic schools' employees! Teachers, leaders and support staff have worked tirelessly over the summer and the start of our school year to bring exceptional in-person and remote learning to families during this unprecedented time. To recognize their fantastic work, the Office of Catholic Schools is excited to introduce the #SchoolHero program. Educators and staff who have gone above and beyond in order to ensure a safe and productive learning environment will be highlighted through social media and the web. All school employees and families can nominate a school hero by completing a brief online form at <https://schools.archchicago.org/nominate-your-school-hero>

Free Lunch Extended: - The Illinois State Board of Education in partnership with the Food Service Professionals will be providing FREE lunch for all of our students for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year. This is certainly a wonderful blessing for every family

Typically, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) requires families to complete an application for free or reduced lunches. This application is not necessary this year for meals during the school year however, it will be necessary for children to continue to receive free or reduced meals if they are in a summer program. In addition, the application process will allow students to be preapproved for the fall of 2021 as the school year begins.

FSP sent home letters/applications last week ... please review the letter and application carefully, fill it out and return it ASAP, and contact Mary Clemente at stferdinand@fspro.com with any questions.

Illnesses/Absences from School - Just a reminder, all illnesses/absences from school must be reported in advance. Please notify the school if your child will be absent by calling the office or emailing absent@saintferdinand.org

REMINDERS

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 ... students should now be in pants, NOT walking shorts.** 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.

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday, November 5: Parish Town Hall Meeting #1, 6:00PM CHURCH

Wednesday, November 11: Veteran's Day: Out of Uniform for \$1 today, red/white/blue

Thursday, November 12: All Candle Fundraiser Orders due

Friday, November 13: No School: Staff Development Day

Sunday, November 15: 2nd Grade Parents 1st Communion Meeting, 10:00AM, Torba Center

Sunday, November 15: Family Mass, 11:30, Church

Monday, November 16: Lou Malnati's Frozen Pizza Gift Certificate fundraiser starts today

Thursday, November 19: Report Cards go home

Thursday, November 19: Family Reading Night (details to follow)

Thursday, November 19: Renew My Church Parish Town Hall Meeting #2, 6:00PM CHURCH

Wednesday, November 25 – Friday, November 27: No School, Thanksgiving Break