



The Ferd Word

...weekly spotlight on a word to know at St. Ferdinand School



What is i-Ready?

i-Ready is a diagnostic, on-line learning tool that emphasizes individualized learning and instruction for students. St. Ferdinand is part of a second wave of i-Ready-piloting schools for the Archdiocese of Chicago as decisions are made to incorporate its capabilities into the teaching curriculum and/or to use it as a form of student learning assessment data within all Archdiocesan schools. You may have heard of the program, as it is utilized in the Title I program.

After initial diagnostic tests, in which questions in both Reading and Math are given and adjusted according to ability level, students in grades kindergarten through 8th are provided leveled instruction and further practice that promote emphasis in skills that reflect their learning needs. This style of learning is intended to complement teacher instruction - allowing teachers to easily tailor instruction to meet the varied ability levels of the students in her room - and will be incorporated into both reading and/or math classes approximately two times per week. Students may be assigned i-Ready practice activities to complete online at home, too - - - and some may even request to practice on their own time to unlock different levels and prizes within the system!

Students also complete further diagnostic tests as the year progresses to measure the growth of their skill sets. This also prepares them for the spring ACT Aspire testing.

Fun fact: schools that piloted the i-Ready program last year saw significant gains in standardized test scores from the previous year.

We are hopeful St. Ferdinand School students will also come to enjoy both learning at their own levels with iReady - as well as see increases in their standardized scores!

Teachers are excited to begin implementing this program at St. Ferdinand School, and will attend a total of four professional development days on it.

Please make sure your child comes to school with his/her own set of earbuds so that i-Ready use is readily accessible to all students.

If you have any questions on this new and innovative learning program at St. Ferdinand School, please contact your child's teacher or Principal Folino at efolino@saintferdinand.org .