



The

Ferd Word

...weekly spotlight on a word to know at St. Ferdinand School by Principal Folino 😊 March 12 2020

CALM AMIDST CORONA



As I finish typing this edition of *The Ferd Word*, it is dawn on Thursday, March 12. If I were to flip on the news, the latest on the havoc to industry, economy, society, and even to human life the CoronaVirus, or COVID-19, is having both locally and internationally would be all that I would see. Spiritually, I want to pray for everyone affected by this virus and to ask that God continue to watch over the world as this virus continues its spread. One prayer that came across my desk these past few days, which sums up my feelings so succinctly, is as follows:

PRAYER FOR RELIEF FROM THE CORONA VIRUS



Almighty and merciful God, who show Your love to all creation everywhere, hear graciously the prayers we make for all those affected by the Corona Virus in various parts of the world.

We come before You asking for a quick control of the outbreak, for a healing of those affected, for the victims and their families.

We pray for the doctors doing research that an effective vaccine to combat the sickness is speedily found.

We pray for the Government and health authorities that they take appropriate steps for the good of the people.

We make this prayer through Christ Our Lord. Amen.



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In reality, I also want and need to do all I can to keep our students and school community safe and healthy. To that end, I wanted to reiterate that St. Ferdinand School is following the protocol outlined in the email from Archdiocese of Chicago Superintendent Jim Rigg in the email that was blasted out to all parents and guardians of Catholic school students over the weekend from the Arch using email addresses on file in PowerSchool. These preventative measures include:

All principals and teachers are being asked to:

- ***Provide plenty of hand sanitizer, cleaning wipes and tissues through their offices and classrooms.***
- ***Clean and disinfect transmission points (doorknobs, light switches, desks, tables, hand railings, water fountains, etc.) regularly throughout the day.***
- ***Ensure school maintenance staff has additional resources needed to increase sanitation/cleaning activities.***

All rooms in which children have classes have received Clorox wipes, boxes of tissue, and containers of hand sanitizer. In addition, teachers have been reminded to have children either wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before all snacks and lunch. Our maintenance man and cleaning crew have been instructed and given extra supplies toward the wiping down of the common surfaces listed above at various times of the day.

On the homefront, please make sure your child stays home if he/she is ill, especially with a fever, and reiterate the importance of clean hands, covering one's mouth when coughing or sneezing, and not touching one's face to them. Please also kindly inform the office of the type of illness from which your child is suffering as well when you phone your child in as absent.

Finally, know that we are following the latest directives that will continue to be handed down from the Archdiocese regarding COVID-19, which will reflect best practices determined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

(<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>) and the Chicago Department of Public Health

(https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/cdph/provdrs/health_protection_and_response/svcs/2019-novel-coronavirus--2019-ncov-.html) . .

Here's to a healthy spring ahead :)