



IMPORTANT DATES

FRIDAY, 03/13: STATIONS OF THE CROSS, 2:00PM, CHURCH

Fish Fry, 4:30PM—7:30PM

Sunday, 03/15: 9:15AM Mandatory Conformation Meeting

FAMILY MASS, 10:00AM CHAPEL

Prayer Rocks Activity, 11:00-12:00, Activity Center

TUESDAY, 03/17: St. Patrick's Day: Dress down in green

WEDNESDAY, 03/18: Open House, 5:00PM—7:00PM

THURSDAY, 03/19: St. Joseph's Day: Dress down in red

FRIDAY, 03/20: NO SCHOOL—Professional Development

SUNDAY, 03/22: Confirmation, 12:30PM Mass

TUESDAY, 03/24: Tuesday Tours & Toddler Time, 8:30AM-11:00AM

THURSDAY, 03/26: FIELD TRIPS: Gr. 3-4 to Grove, Gr. 5-7 to St. Pat's

SUNDAY, 03/29: MANDATORY **FINAL** 1st Communion Parent Meeting, 9:00AM, Activity Center

MONDAY, 03/30: DRESS DOWN FUNDRAISER, \$1 (DETAILS TBA)

MARCH 31—APRIL 03: ASPIRE Testing Officially begins

APRIL 09—APRIL 17: EASTER VACATION!

COVID-19 UPDATES

During the weekend, the Archdiocese emailed all parents a letter addressing COVID-19. A copy of this letter is included in this week's folder if you did not receive it. **PLEASE USE EXTRA CAUTION AND KEEP CHILDREN HOME WHEN THEY ARE SICK. IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN OUR POLICY THAT ANYONE HAVING A FEVER NEEDS TO BE FEVER-FREE FOR AT LEAST 24 HOURS BEFORE RETURNING TO SCHOOL.**

FAMILY MASS SUNDAY MARCH 15 (AND PRAYER ROCKS ACTIVITY!)

Join us this Sunday at 10:00AM in the Chapel for our next Family Mass! Afterwards, we will paint Prayer Rocks from 11:00AM-12:00PM in the back of the Chapel as a Lenten activity. Please join us for a morning of prayer and fellowship! Students that attend in full uniform and find Principal Folino will receive an out-of-uniform pass good for any day!

QUEEN OF HEARTS RAFFLE

We are pleased to announce that we are starting a Queen of Hearts Raffle! Tickets will be on sale for \$5 each during the Fish Fry, and in the school office. If your ticket stub is pulled and the number you selected reveals the Queen of Hearts, you will win half the jackpot! **Please see the enclosed flyer for more detailed information.** As of now, the jackpot is \$1,035, plus this week's sales. This raffle is for the benefit of St. Ferdinand School.

READING CHALLENGE

To promote reading, students will be keeping a log of hours read at home during the month of March. If the school reaches its goal of students reading 100,000 minutes during the month, Principal Folino will get up on the roof and dance for the school! 100,000 minutes may seem like a lot—but if every student reads every day for 20 minutes, this goal is easily attainable. Let's get reading!

FISH FRY

Fish Fry has started. Please consider joining us for an evening of fellowship and good food. If you have not already completed 10 Parent Service Hours, please volunteer at the Fish Fry so that you can complete your hours. **All hours must be finished by March 31, otherwise \$250 will be charged to your April tuition.**

CLIMATE, CULTURE, AND CATHOLIC IDENTITY SURVEY (3 C'S SURVEY)

Parents: Don't forget, you have to opportunity to participate in the Climate, Culture, and Catholic Identity Survey. This is a system-wide survey throughout the Archdiocese, and all schools are participating in order to gain insight into the inner workings of our schools.

If you have not already filled out the survey, please visit: <http://survey.5-essentials.org/archchicago/survey/parent/>

SUMMER CAMP 2020: FULL STEAM AHEAD

We are pleased to announce the return of our Summer Camp! This year, the theme will focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM). Registration may be completed online at: <http://saintferdinandschool.org/summer-camp/>

OPEN HOUSES

We have several Open House events coming up! **Parents, don't forget: If a family you refer to St. Ferdinand School registers and mentions you during registration, you will receive a free month's tuition in 2020-2021!**

Tuesday Tours (8:30AM – 10:00AM) and Toddler Time (10:00AM – 11:00AM) will be offered on the following dates:

March 24, April 07, April 28, May 12

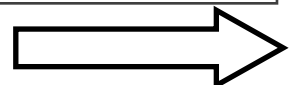
Take a tour and see our school in action! After you experience what it is like to be part of the St. Ferdinand School community, stay with your little one for a special playgroup in the gym!

Wednesday Evening Open Houses (5:00PM - 7:00PM) will be offered on the following dates:

March 18, April 22 (Primary Grades only and filled with Themed Fun!), May 20

Learn more about St. Ferdinand School! Teachers will be available to answer your questions as you take a tour of our school. If you are ready to register, you may do so at this time as well.

See Reverse for Ferd Word!





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 :)