

Thursday Thoughts: The Weekly Newsletter of St. Ferdinand School



September 10, 2020

NEWS

Big Shoulders After School Virtual Clubs - **Big Shoulders is offering a wide variety of virtual after school programs at no cost.** Clubs will begin the week of September 21st, and will run through December 14th. These clubs are open to any St. Ferdinand School student; even those students normally in the Extended Care program after school will be given devices with which to participate. Because they are FREE, it is asked that each family be able to commit to at least 9 of the 12 sessions that the clubs will meet. To see the list of offerings, please click here: <https://bit.ly/33gf9E6>

Registration will close on September 17th. To register for a no-cost virtual club made possible through the generosity of Big Shoulders, please click: <https://forms.gle/gDNE5F2j7rygS7i76>

Yard Signs - Did you receive our St. Ferdinand School yard sign? If not, please contact the office! If you did, submit a picture of it on display to school@saintferdinand.org in order to be entered into a drawing for a fun prize! Our drawing will be held during next week's Facebook Live (Thursday, Sept. 17). If you know someone who is interested in having a sign, please contact the office as well, as well have extras available. Thank you for your support of St. Ferdinand School!

Raffle Tickets - Don't forget to turn in your raffle ticket stubs! Our first monthly drawing will be in October. Each month, 1st Prize is \$300, 2nd Prize is \$200 (2 winners), and 3rd Prize is \$100 (3 winners). All tickets remain in the drawing each month (even if you you're your ticket gets put back into the drawing!) There are 8 monthly drawings.

If you know someone that is interested in purchasing raffle tickets (or if you wish to purchase more), please contact the school office at school@saintferdinand.org. Tickets are \$10 each.

Fall Footin' It For Ferds Fun Run – We will have our Fall Fun Run Fundraiser on Thursday, September 24th (raindate Thurs., 10/1)! Please look for the Pledge Sheet that was sent home today in each child's backpack. We are looking to make this a fun experience for the kids with a DJ and treats as part of their cohort's Fun Run time! As in-person fundraising events are limited by COVID regulations this school year, your support in giving and getting pledges is greatly appreciated!

Hot Lunch - Because of the pandemic and government support of education/nutritional programs, we are pleased to announce that **every student (even distance learners with pick-ups a couple of times a week) will be able to receive Hot Lunch at St. Ferdinand School for free until December 31, 2020!** This is tentatively set to begin the week of September 13. If you have already paid for lunch, FSP will work out how to issue you a credit. Additionally – we are switching back to meals that are cooked in our kitchen (as opposed to the current pre-packaged lunches we have been receiving). Please be patient as we sort out the menu (and the details!) for everything. More information will follow as we receive it.

Dine & Share at Dog Stop - Our Dine & Share Fundraisers are back! Our first one will be at the **Dog Stop Restaurant on Thursday, September 17th, from 4:00PM – 9:00PM.** Please either show the flier that went home, or mention St. Ferdinand School when you order, and enjoy a meal out while supporting a neighborhood business! (Have ideas for other local, neighborhood Dine-and-Share's for future months? Let us know your ideas!)

Calendar Change/Family Mass – Our first Family Mass of the year has been rescheduled to take place THIS Sunday, September 13th, at 11:30AM, in the Church (note the new time and place). Please make sure to sign up at <http://www.stferdinandchurch.com/> (Sunday Masses still require advanced registration since there is a limit on how many people can attend due to the current pandemic). Registration will be available after this weekend, and information will be emailed next week with how to sign up for our Family Mass.

REMINDERS

Student Information Forms – Last year, each family received an envelope with forms (family index, emergency contact, walking permission, photo release, medical and emergency notification, school directory) to fill out and return at the beginning of school. **If you have not already returned these, please do so now.** If you need additional forms, these are accessible online.

Additionally, the **Cell Phone Use Policy, Learning Agreement, and Covid Protocols** were sent electronically prior to school starting. **These forms were due last week.** If you did not already

fill these out and return them, they are included in the links for this week's news section. If you need a paper copy, please contact the office.

Health Forms – Students in **grade K needed updated physicals/immunizations, as well as dental and eye exams.** Students in **Grade 2 needed an updated dental form** (or waiver). Students in **Grade 6 needed updated physicals/immunizations, as well as a dental exam** (or waiver). These forms are due at the beginning of the year – if you have not already turned yours in, please do so. **If you are e-learning, you still need to turn your medical records in, as the school is required to report each fall.**

Asthma Inhalers / Epipens – Don't forget, **if your child carries an inhaler for asthma or an epipen for allergies, the correct forms must be on file with the school office.** These forms are updated yearly. A doctor's order is required for epipens. Students that can self-administer asthma medicine do not need a doctor's order, but the school does need the parent signatures as well as the prescription label. The correct forms are linked on our website. Please call the office if you have any questions.

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.

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 with students last week (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.**

Extended Care - **Extended Care will now be billed through your FACTS account,** and payments will be made through FACTS. Charges will be entered weekly. **Please make sure**

you sign out on the correct line and write the time when you sign out so your can be billed correctly. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Ginny Quinones at gquinones@saintferdinand.org

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

Friday, September 11th: First School Mass (Junior High goes to Mass, all others watch Livestream of Mass) – Blessing and Tokens of Appreciation for First Responders; Blessing of the Classrooms and Teachers as Catechists as well after the Mass!

Sunday, September 13th: 3rd Grade Rescheduled Parent Meeting for students receiving 1st Communion, 10:00AM, Torba Center

Sunday, September 13^h: Family Mass, 11:30AM, Church, with blessing for Grandparents

Thursday, September 17th: Dine & Share at DogStop, 4:00PM – 9:00PM

Tuesday, September 22nd: Picture Day

Thursday, September 24th: Fall Footin' It For Ferds Fun Run Fundraiser

Friday, September 25th: No School, Staff Development Day

Monday, September 28th: 3rd Grade 1st Communion Rehearsal – all day in school, students only

Wednesday, September 30th: 3rd Grade 1st Reconciliation and Rehearsal, 5:30PM, Church

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