

Ferd Words:

The Weekly Newsletter of St. Ferdinand School



[Do you like our new title for our weekly newsletter? We will still strive to have it out to families via School Messenger on Thursdays (the same day any paper copies of fliers go home) – accompanied by important links to fliers that give further information on school events - but due to unforeseen circumstances that pop up in the office, publication may sometimes have to be postponed a few days. Thank you for your patience as we strive to release a thoroughly informative newsletter in written form about important school events and policies on a timely, weekly basis!]

For the Week of: September 3-11, 2022



☹️ **WE WILL NEVER FORGET: 9/11** – Please see our school Facebook Page for photos on how we commemorated the day AND honored our parent and community first responders! 😊

FOOD TRUCK NIGHT! - Our first Ferdinand Friday Family Fun Night of the school year brings back the popular FOOD TRUCK EVENT! Mark your calendars and pack up your lawn chairs for **FRIDAY, SEPT 16, from 6:00-8:30 PM!** Tacos,



shaved ice, cupcakes, hot dogs, and fancy coffees and hot chocolates are all on the docket for eats – and a bouncy house, Split-the-Pot Raffle, face painting, and DJ are being scheduled for added fun as well! Don your **favorite SUPERHERO t-shirt, costume, or cape** – and come out to have a MARVEL-ously delicious and fun time! See you there! 😊



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1st PARENT CLUB MEETING OF THE YEAR:

THIS **Tuesday, September 13 @ 6:30 in the Cafeteria!**

Please enter through the Activity Center doors to come and hear and share ideas for family fun and fundraisers – and how parents can play both big and small roles in the planning and execution of them!

TUESDAY

SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD - meets for the 1st time this school year



on the **NEW date of Thursday, September 22, 2022 @ the NEW TIME of 6:30 PM in the Activity Center.** All are invited to join; there is a time for the public to offer commentary; however, you are also welcome to come and observe what the School Advisory Board is and how the meetings are run.

Chess Academy – Chess Club is starting



up again Monday, Sept 12!

Please see the registration form that went home and is included in the links for more information.

Raffle Tickets

– Raffle tickets went home with each family at our Back-to-School/Ice Cream Social Night. These tickets are yours to sell, or to keep for yourself, as they were already paid for in the fundraising fee, which is incorporated into the first month's tuition. **Please return only the stubs (with all information filled out) to the school as soon as possible, as drawings will be monthly starting the first Friday in October!**

Again, you are welcome to sell your tickets to family and friends – but just be sure to collect the ticket stubs with their contact information and turn them in to the office (keep the \$ for yourself though!).



Illnesses/Absences from School - Just a reminder, all illnesses/absences from school must be reported to the school no later than 9:00 AM the day of absence. Please notify the school if your child will be absent by calling the office or emailing absent@saintferdinand.org

CELL PHONES, iPads from home, and APPLE WATCHES, oh my!

We'll be collecting them each day from Students in Grades 4th-8th, as we did before COVID. This is to ensure that the proper chain of command is well, in that teachers and office staff are contact to parents about the situation. It is tempting to do through Internet access and Students receive their devices back at the access messages as they are lining up to homeroom teachers. Students caught with cell phones that have not been turned in in the mornings



kept in place when students don't feel aware and remain the first point of also a measure against cheating that is texting through Apple Watches. end of the school day, and are allowed to depart, as per the specifications of their

will have them confiscated until a parent can pick up the devices and pay a \$25 fine. *Thank you* for your cooperation with this procedure.

HELP WANTED – FOOD SERVICE ASSISTANT - \$\$\$: Food Service Providers (FSP) is looking for a dependable, friendly, hard-working individual to work in the lunch prep program at St. Ferdinand School! The job is Mon-Fri, 3 hours per day (10:15 AM – 1:15 PM). Pay is \$15.40/hr. Come be a part of your child’s school day – and when school is off, you’d be off, too! 😊 Please contact Mary Clemente, SFS Food Service Coordinator via the School Office at 773-622-3022 for more information.



ALSO WANTED – “BABY BULLS” PROGRAM INSTRUCTOR: We would LOVE to resurrect the Baby Bulls program for toddlers and parents in our community! To do so, we’d need a person interested in running a weekly school gym (probably Tuesday mornings – when the gym is most easily available - for an hour) that would consist of a structured story and song/movement time, as well as unstructured socializing and play time for Moms and Tots. This is a great, fun way of attracting future St. Ferdinand Preschoolers! Please contact Principal Folino for more details and incentives regarding Baby Bulls.



Queen of Hearts Raffle: The **Queen of Hearts Raffle** will pick up again in the fall! Keep watching for more details – the jackpot will pick up where it left off at **\$5,340!**



This Photo by

Student Information Forms – PLEASE RETURN – 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. These forms are extremely important, so that we have your correct contact information in the event we need to contact you. If you need additional forms, these are accessible online.



WE LOVE OUR CROSSING GUARD, Maria! Please help keep her – AND our STUDENTS and SCHOOL FAMILIES S-A-F-E by Mason and NOT crossing between cars, especially Belmont! With St. Patrick High School resuming (AND Principal Folino, for that matter!) is very safety at pick-up time and just wanted these reminders prefer to pick up on Mason. (Just a reminder: there is plenty of parking in our big lot, accessible off of Marmora! Why not give parking THERE a try?!) **NOT** double-parking on when parked close to classes next week, Maria concerned about everyone’s sent out to our families who



COVID Protocol Policy Remains the Same:

Last winter, the Archdiocese of Chicago released a letter stating that mask-wearing would be optional in its schools. This is in accordance with changes to Chicago and Illinois masking policies. However, because Covid is still prevalent, there will be times when masks may be necessary for the protection of all students in a classroom, especially when social for an extended period of time and classroom. Therefore, we ask that backpacks at all times to be worn continuing to distance children at from water fountains but only from surfaces and hands *many* times throughout the school day. If your child comes down with COVID, do relay that to the School Office ASAP. We will receive and relay back to you the Archdiocese and CDC “official” 5-days quarantine dates + 5 days returning masked protocol based on onset of symptoms and positive test date. Notes of COVID cases in the school and within a homeroom will still be issued. Of course, we encourage all children and families to get vaccinated and boosted; it is, however, at this point optional to share vaccination/booster status with the School Office, where it is kept in confidential files. It is the hope of the St. Ferdinand Administration, Staff, and Faculty that we can continue to mitigate the spread of Covid and keep our school community healthy by adhering to these practices and having students/staff don masks when needed. **THANK YOU** so much for your cooperation through the ever-changing COVID situation in the Chicagoland and St. Ferdinand School communities.



Amazon Smiles - If you do any online shopping, please log in through Smile.Amazon.com and choose *St. Ferdinand School & Convent* as your organization of choice! Amazon will donate .05% of the money you spend to our school! Please share this information with family and friends!

Box Tops for Education

BoxTops for Education is now online! Instead of traditional clips, there is now a BoxTops app where you **scan your receipt** awarded to the school. More information can be found at <https://www.boxtops4education.com/> or in the included links.



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IMPORTANT DATES

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| Tuesday, September 13 | Parents Club Meeting – 6:30 PM – Activity Center |
| Friday, September 16 | FOOD TRUCK FEST! School Parking Lot – 6:00-8:30ish PM! |
| Sunday, September 18 | Family Mass #1 – 8:30 AM – NEW TIME THIS YEAR! |
| Tuesday, September 20 | Catholic High School Recruitment Day – Gr 6 th -8 th |
| Wednesday, September 21 | International Day of Peace – Pinwheels for Peace Prayer Service |
| Thursday, September 22 | NEW DATE and TIME: School Advisory Board Meeting – 6:30 PM – Activity Center |
| Friday, September 23 | No Classes – Teacher Professional Development Day 😊 |
| Tuesday, September 27 | School Pictures! |