

Ferd Words:

The Weekly Newsletter of St. Ferdinand School



For the Week of: October 24-30, 2022



THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! – Pick-up along Mason Avenue at staggered times to avoid gym roof construction continues to go really well! Your cooperation and flexibility is much appreciated!



PLEASE NOTE: Now that everyone has had a week to adjust to the temporary pick-up times and procedure, if your child is not picked up during his/her pick-up window time, he/she will be escorted to Extended Care, where charges will begin to accrue. You may pick up your child/ren at Extended Care through the Polish School Entrance during this construction period.

Trunk or Treat: This year's Trunk or Treat will be in the St. Pat's Parking lot (enter from Belmont Ave.) **from 12:30pm – 2:30pm this Sunday, October 30th**. Cars may start to arrive at set up at 12:00, "trunk-or-treating" will start at 12:30pm.

All Souls Day Ofrenda - This year St. Ferdinand School is organizing a school wide ofrenda for All Souls Day, also known as Día de los Muertos. If you would like to have your deceased loved one be featured on the ofrenda, please send a photo with your child or email a digital image to knoble@saintferdinand.org. We are also asking for parents to donate flowers, candles, or decorations for the ofrenda. The ofrenda will be in the Activity Center for everyone to see. It will be up on November 1st and November 2nd.





Picture Day Retakes: Picture Day retake will be this **Thursday, November 3**, in the morning. Please see attached flyer for more info. *Please note: If you are retaking your picture because you do not like the original, you must return the original package, as the retake will replace the original. Absent students will be able to order their packages online.*

Queen of Hearts Raffle ... Location Announced! The

Queen of Hearts Raffle will pick up again before the holidays! We will have our first drawing on Wednesday, November 9th – at our new location, The Nest! The Nest has agreed to host our Queen of Hearts Raffle. After our Dine and Share there on the 9th, drawings will be held every other Wednesday. The jackpot will also pick up where it left off at **\$5,340!** Stay tuned for more details!!!



This Photo by



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 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.



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

WANTED - "BABY BULLS" PROGRAM INSTRUCTOR:

We would LOVE to resurrect the Baby Bulls program for in our community! To person interested in program in the school Tuesday mornings – most easily available -



do so, we'd need a running a weekly gym (probably when the gym is 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.

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.



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 distance guidelines cannot be maintained for an extended period of time and classroom. Therefore, we ask that students keep a mask handy in their backpacks at all times to be worn during such situations. Know that we are continuing to distance children at lunchtime, do not permit direct drinking from water fountains but only from water bottles, and still sanitize eating 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** for credit to be awarded to the school. More information can be found at <https://www.boxtops4education.com/> or in the included links.



IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, Oct 24-Oct 28	TENTATIVE Emergency Drill Week (tornado, bus, intruder, fire)
Saturday, October 29	Parish Activity: Holy Ghost Bingo! 7:00 PM Torba Center
Sunday, October 30	Trunk-or-Treat in the St. Pat's Parking Lot! 12:30-2:30 PM
Monday, October 31	Happy Halloween! (Costume Day, Parade, and Classroom Celebrations)
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Tuesday, Nov 1	All Saints Day 8:15 Mass
Thursday, Nov 3	Picture Day Retakes
Friday, Nov 11	Veterans Day Mass and Speakers
	FAMILY READING NIGHT – 6:30 PM Torba Center
Thursday, Nov 17	TENTATIVE Parent Club MOVIE NIGHT! ☺
Friday, Nov 18	NO SCHOOL – Teacher Professional Development
Wed., Nov 23-Sun, Nov 27	THANKSGIVING BREAK – No School! ☺