

# Ferd Words:

The Weekly Newsletter of St. Ferdinand School



**For: Nov. 18-Dec. 1, 2022**



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*Thanksgiving Blessings to you and yours!*

**We are so grateful for your partnership in the academic, social, and spiritual education of your children! Have a wonderful, happy, safe, and healthy holiday!**

***-Principal Folino 🤗, Fr. Peter, and the St. Ferdinand School Faculty and Staff***

☹️ **PLEASE NOTE: DUE TO CONSTRUCTION DELAYS, OUR PICK-UP SCHEDULE WILL CONTINUE THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 21 and probably into the week of NOVEMBER 28 – BUT, WE WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED OF THE ROOF PROJECT STATUS WEEKLY** ☹️

**REMINDER: – Pick-up along Mason Avenue at staggered times during gym roof construction MUST BE FOLLOWED!**

**I know we are ALL fed up with the construction delays, but one more week of cooperation is tantamount to this procedure working as well as it did the first few weeks! PLEASE PARK ONLY AT YOUR CHILD'S DESIGNATED DISMISSAL TIME, COLLECT YOUR CHILD DURING HIS/HER 5-MINUTE WINDOW TIME, AND LEAVE THE PARKING SPACE QUICKLY SO ANOTHER PARENT OF AN OLDER CHILD CAN TAKE IT. We all look forward to being able to visit with other families in the back parking lot, and not having to be rushed in the process. Your cooperation, flexibility, and patience are much appreciated!**





Report  
Cards

**REPORT CARDS** - Report cards went home on Thursday, November 17. Please sign and return the ENVELOPE emptied of its contents by Monday, November 21!

## Thanksgiving Food Drive...is going **AMAZINGLY – ONE**

### **MORE DAY TO GO!**

We are collecting items for the St. Ferdinand Parish Food Pantry, which cooks and delivers hot turkey dinners on Thanksgiving morning to elderly, shut-ins, and families that might need one. We're making it a school-wide **contest** to see which class can bring in the most **AVERAGE #** of each item daily, and a highest **AVERAGE** of items brought in at the end of the drive, too! Why not take your child shopping for these items, and/or have them use their own money to purchase some of the goods? We are hoping both the givers AND the receivers are blessed through this outreach plan. **YOUR GENEROSITY HAS BEEN ASTOUNDING – THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!** 😊



**LAST DAY TO BRING IN ITEMS: MON., NOV 21:  
CANS OF SOUP**

**Which classes will have the highest average daily AND overall donations?**

*Also...do you know a family or shut-in that is in need of a hot turkey dinner this Thanksgiving?  
Please contact the Parish Office at 773-622-5900 with the family name and address ASAP.*



**IMPORTANT**

**SAFETY DRILL PRACTICE WEEK COMES TO FERDS – NOV 20-**

**21 - Please see the flier that went home and is on the website for further details on all of our important practice drills happening the next two days.**

**HOWEVER, PER STATE LAW, IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR CHILD EXEMPT FROM PRACTICING THE LOCKDOWN DRILL, PLEASE LET**

**PRINCIPAL FOLINO KNOW BY SUNDAY EVENING @**

**[efolino@saintferdinand.org](mailto:efolino@saintferdinand.org)**

**Queen of Hearts Raffle now at the Nest: *The St. Ferdinand School Queen of Hearts Raffle has returned!***

We have partnered with the Nest in hosting the raffle – Drawing will be held there every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 7:00PM (winner does not need to be present). **Our next drawing is THIS**



**Wednesday, November 23 – THANKSGIVING EVE (the biggest night of the year to head out!) @ 7:00 PM – Come join us!**

Queen of Hearts Tickets (\$5 each) are on sale at the Nest Bar & Eatery (6859 W. Irving Park Road), after the 8:30 Mass on Sundays, and in our School Office. **The Jackpot currently is \$5,800 and growing – purchase your ticket for your chance at 50% of the jackpot!!**

**CHRISTMAS GIFT CARDS! GET YOUR CHRISTMAS GIFT CARDS! -**



Order forms went home on Thursday for our annual GIFT CARD program! **Save yourself some running around from getting gift cards this holiday season, get a discount on tuition, AND help St. Ferdinand School by utilizing this wonderful service!** See the flier for details – orders due in early December!

This Photo by

**12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS RAFFLE!** - Quickie fundraiser for December!

\$5 raffle tickets can earn you a chance to win one of 12 daily prizes as we head toward Christmas Break! Half the jackpot, \$100 off of Tuition for a month, Dennis Uniform gift card, Stocking filled with treats, etc., - all are up for the winning and all WELL worth the \$5 chance per ticket! Envelopes went home Thursday with 10 tickets in each – why not return anything from 1 to all 10 for your chance to win these great prizes?!?!?



**3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL ST. NICHOLAS EVENT** – be sure to save the date for a chance to visit with St. Nick on Monday, Dec. 5 – right outside our school's front doors! Bring your cameras – hot chocolate, cookies, and reindeer food will also be available for purchase. A cute way to kick off the holiday season! (Sponsored by Parents Club)

**HELP WANTED: TUTORS**

for the state-grant-funded-after-school program we are trying to bring to St. Ferdinand School! The delay has been caused due to the lack of tutors available in the nationwide teacher shortage. Do you know anyone who would be interested in this 3:00-5:00 PM job for 1, 2, or even 3 days a week? College student, retiree, stay-at-home parent? This is a paying job with rates beginning at \$25 an hour and a training and curriculum to use to center the tutoring sessions provided. Spread the word, and please



notify Principal Folino @ [efolino@saintferdinand.org](mailto:efolino@saintferdinand.org) if interested; she will put you in touch with the company that is organizing this program for SFS.



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## **FREE BREAKFAST is COMING TO FERD's!** –

We are already blessed to have FREE LUNCH for all of our Ferd students, but now, starting on Monday, Nov 28, all students will be eligible to receive a FREE cold breakfast (cereal, granola bars, pop tarts, etc., plus a beverage)!

**Those in Morning Extended Care will automatically receive their breakfast as part of the morning supervision and activities – but any student who would like a breakfast can enter the MAIN ENTRANCE between 7:15-7:45 AM daily to be directed to the breakfast-only room.**

## **FUNDRAISERS 2022-23:** Just a quick update on this. **This year,**

**we are looking to meet designated school budget funding to be raised primarily from profits raised by 2 MAIN EVENTS: a Parent-Only Dinner/Fun Night Out/Auction in early February and a Color Run Fun Run for the students in the Spring!**

Other than that, we will not be promoting a lot of sales of “things” for profit like our former Christmas Candle or chocolate bar sales. ***Instead, we are trying to offer chances at extra cash (monthly St. Ferd's Drawing, Holiday Quick Raffles – a “12 Days of Christmas-themed” one is out now – and the Queen of Hearts) and helpful ways to make families' lives easier, like dinners out at Dine-and-Shares and the Christmas Gift Card Program.*** Please know that we never expect everyone to donate to everything – please, pick and choose what you can afford/what interests you and/or helps out your family the most. **Our goal in choosing and promoting fundraisers is to reward/help our families out while still keeping St. Ferdinand School healthy financially. THANK YOU for your generous support in whichever way/s you choose to additionally monetarily help our school.**



**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](mailto:absent@saintferdinand.org)

**REMINDER:** Please label your child's uniform with his/her name – especially the sweatshirts and zip-up sweaters – as we are amassing quite a collection of unlabeled pieces in the Ferd Lost-and-Found left behind in classrooms and the gym when kids get too warm!



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

We'll be collecting them each day from Students in Grades 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, 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

## 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 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](https://www.amazon.com/smiles) and choose *St. Ferdinand School & Convent* as your organization of choice! Amazon will donate .5% 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**

Sunday, Nov 20	8:30 FAMILY MASS and Advent Wreath Activity
Week of Nov 20	SAFETY DRILLS WEEK @ FERD's! Monday: Lockdown and Tornado; Tuesday: Bus Evacuation
Mon., Nov 21	Report Card Envelopes due back!
Tues., Nov. 22	Thanksgiving Mass 8:15 Thanksgiving Break begins at 3:00!
Wed., Nov 23-Sun, Nov 27	THANKSGIVING BREAK – No School! 😊
Wed., Nov 23	Next Queen of Hearts Drawing 7:00 @ The Nest – Tickets \$5!
Monday, Nov 28	FREE BREAKFAST begins at St. Ferdinand – 7:15-7:45 AM Daily
Monday, Dec 5	1 <sup>st</sup> Day of the “12 Days of Christmas” Raffle!

Get your tickets in ANYTIME from Nov 21-Dec 20!

3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Evening with ST. NICHOLAS - 6:00-7:30 PM

