

# Ferd Words:

*The Weekly Newsletter of St. Ferdinand School*



**For: Dec. 2 - Dec. 8, 2022**



☹️ PLEASE NOTE: DUE TO CONSTRUCTION DELAYS, AND AS EXPLAINED IN THE SCHOOL MESSENGER BLAST THAT WENT OUT ON FRIDAY EVENING FROM OUR ARCHDIOCESAN VICARIATE DIRECTOR RAY COLEMAN, OUR PICK-UP SCHEDULE WILL CONTINUE THROUGH CHRISTMAS BREAK ☹️

**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 your 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!



**SHARE YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS!** We would love to hang up our Ferd Families' Christmas cards on the School Office door! Please send one in to us, whether a photo card or not. 😊

**SAFETY DRILL PRACTICE!** - Our kids did GREAT at practicing our Lockdown (with CPD Officers), Tornado, and Bus Evacuation (with DePaul Prep bus driver and St. Ferdinand parishioner John M) drills before Thanksgiving! They were quiet and respectful. Due to a roof construction complication, we also had our FIRE ALARMS triggered on Tuesday! The whole school



exited quietly and quickly during that surprise false alarm during which MANY CFD firefighters descended upon St. Ferdinand School! We pray for safe days ahead, but are confident that our kids are prepared and knowledgeable in what to do should these emergencies occur.

### **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**

**Wednesday, December 14 – @ 7:00 PM – Come join us! IF YOU BUY A**

**TICKET ON 12/14 AT THE NEST, YOU GET 10% OFF YOUR ORDER!**

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 non-holiday Sundays, and in our School Office during school hours.

**The Jackpot currently is \$6,100+ and growing – purchase your ticket for your chance at 50% of the jackpot!!**



### **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?!?!? DRAWINGS START MONDAY, DECEMBER 5!!!



**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)



This Photo by...

**FREE BREAKFAST @ FERD's!** – We are already blessed to have FREE LUNCH for all of our Ferd students, ALL students are 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.**



**Amazon Smiles** - If you do any online shopping, please log in through [Smile.Amazon.com](https://Smile.Amazon.com) 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!

**Illnesses/Absences from School** - illnesses/absences from school must than 9:00 AM the day of absence. will be absent by calling the office or



Just a reminder, all be reported to the school no later Please notify the school if your child 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

## 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.



distance guidelines cannot be maintained sickness or a case of COVID breaks out in a students keep a mask handy in their during such situations. Know that we are lunchtime, do not permit direct drinking water bottles, and still sanitize eating

## 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

Sunday, Dec 4	December Family Mass @ 11:30 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmandi Rite of Enrollment at The Mass
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 Mitten Tree Social Outreach Program begins!
Wed., Dec 7	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday Early Dismissal – 1:30-2:00 for Teacher PD
Thurs., Dec 8	8:15 School Mass for Holy Day of the Immaculate Conception
Fri., Dec 9	Student Council Candy Cane Grams Sale Orders Due!
Mon., Dec 12	8:15 School Mass for Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe
Tues., Dec 13	Big Shoulders Christmas Caroling Day @ Ogilvie Station for Children’s Choir Members
Mon., Dec 19	CHRISTMAS PAGEANT! 7:00 PM (in classrooms starting at 6:30)
Tues., Dec 20	PAJAMA DAY! LAS POSADAS PROCESSION in SPANISH CLASSES! LAST DAY TO BRING IN MITTENS, HATS, & SCARVES FOR MITTEN TREE CHRISTMAS BREAK BEGINS AT 3:00 PM! 😊