

Saint Ferdinand Connection

School Phone: (314) 921-2201

School Website: www.stferdinandschool.org

THE WEEK AHEAD:

Monday, September 29, 2008:

- The students who participate in Beginning Band will have class this afternoon rather than on Thursday afternoon. Advanced Band will meet after school today rather than after school on Thursday. Mr. Bozzi will be contacting the band families directly regarding this change in schedule.
- Hot Lunch Entrée: Chicken Rings

Tuesday, September 30, 2008:

- Hot Lunch Entrée: Pepperoni Bosco Sticks

Wednesday, October 1, 2008:

- Right S.T.A.R.T. Parent Meeting for eighth grade parents will begin tonight at 7:00 p.m. at Saint Ferdinand in the gym. Miss Gearon apologizes that she will not be able to attend this meeting as she has another meeting off campus.
- Hot Lunch Entree: Toasted Ravioli

Thursday, October 2, 2008:

- Today is Team Uniform Day and the children are reminded to wear their team shirt with khaki pants. Students who are still waiting for their team shirts should wear their khaki pants with a white school shirt.
- All of the children (K-8) will gather in the gym this morning for a special presentation regarding our new student recognition program. Evaluating the Falcon in Flight program was one of the activities identified in the plan of action we drafted during the School Improvement process we participated in last year. The faculty decided to implement a new program that we hope the children will find inspiring. More details will be shared with families after the program is introduced to the children. Mrs. Nirgenau will meet the Preschool students in front of Church.
- Our Pet Blessing will take place after school today on the field behind the Main Building. Families who will be remaining after school for this special event are asked to park in the two pick-up lanes closest to the fence to allow for the other families to exit the lot in a timely manner. As you enter the parking lot, please notify the staff member on duty directing traffic that you are staying for the Pet Blessing and you will be directed to a parking lane. When the dismissal bell rings, please meet your child on the field so that the children are safe and not engaged in caring for their pet amidst the cars that will be preparing to leave the parking lot.
- Hot Lunch Entree: Cheese Pizza

Friday, October 3, 2008:

- No school today due to a faculty in-service day. The faculty will be looking at our curriculum. Dr. Karen Tichy from the Catholic Education Office will meet with the faculty to assist us in our curriculum review and revision process. This is an outgrowth of the School Improvement process that we participated in last year.
- Hot Lunch Entree: No Hot Lunch

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:

- McTeacher Night will be held on Tuesday, October 7, 2008 at the McDonald's located at 1090 Shackelford. Students are encouraged to check-in with Miss Gearon as the **TEAM** with the most students in attendance will receive an ice cream treat at school on Thursday, October 9.

CONFERENCE SIGN-UPS:

- Conference sign-ups began following the September Home and School meeting. These sign-ups are continuing and the forms are available outside the school office during office hours. Parents are encouraged to stop by and sign-up for a time that fits their schedule. Conferences will be held on Thursday, October 30, 2008 and each family is expected to schedule a conference with their child's homeroom teacher. Families are reminded that parents and students are to attend this important meeting.

TUITION STATEMENT EMAIL OPTION:

- Families who would like to have their tuition statements emailed to them are asked to send Mrs. Wilcox (bwilcox@stferdinandschool.org) an email from the address they would like their statement delivered to.

DISMISSAL PROCEDURES:

- The faculty and staff would like to thank everyone who has been so cooperative with the changes to the dismissal process. The fact that so many of you are willing to honor the process rather than try to find ways around it truly does mean a great deal to us.
- We feel that things have gone smoothly. According to our stopwatches, everyone has been able to exit the lot within 10 minutes. This does not seem like too much time to help ensure that no child is injured by a moving vehicle.
- Thank you also to those parents who have recognized that student safety is the reason for this change and who have expressed their gratitude to us for our willingness to extend additional effort to care for the children. We truly appreciate these individual's ability to recognize that we are not trying to inconvenience anyone; we are simply trying to care for the children to the best of our ability.

STUDENT SAFETY:

- In an effort to ensure student safety during the school day, the Primary Parking Lot will be closed to incoming/outgoing traffic from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. each day. Individuals will continue to have access to the recycling dumpsters through the driveway between the main building and the Duchesne Center. This driveway is only closed between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
- Preschool morning pick-up will be from the front parking lot. The teachers will walk the children across the parking lot to meet their rides under the walk way overhang in front of Church.

- Preschool afternoon drop-off will also be from the front parking lot. Mrs. Nirgenau will meet the children under the walk way overhang near the front of Church and she will escort the children across the parking lot to the Primary Building. Students who arrive late will have to be escorted from the front parking lot to the Primary Building by the adult bringing them to school.
- This is being done in an effort to avoid cars pulling on the lot while the children are changing classes or having recess. We regularly experience cars pulling on the lot and continuing across the lot when the children are present even to the point of driving directly through a group of children who are outside for recess. The teachers do attempt to get the children to safety; however, oftentimes the cars simply keep driving and ignore the directions from the teachers. We feel the safety risk far out weighs any potential inconvenience.

PRE-K FALL FESTIVAL:

- School Board and Home and School will sponsor this event for preschool age children on Saturday, October 18, 2008 from 10:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Donations of bagged candy, snacks, and small trinket items are needed. If you are able to donate something, please send the items to the school and mark them "Fall Festival". If anyone has a wagon they would be willing to let us use for our mini-hayrides, please call the school office. We are also still looking for older students willing to work from 10 – 12 the day of the festival. Please call the school office if your child is available to help out.

CRITICAL THINKING CLUB:

- The Critical Thinking Club is about to get started. This year the Club is open to all 7th and 8th graders. This is not a competition club. There are no dues. No contracts to sign. No upfront money. Just bring an open mind and desire to pull off those blinders that keep one from solving everyday and not so every day problems. Oh! And a snack to munch.
- We will solve problems such as: Lucky you! You have nine tennis balls.... and four shopping bags...Your challenge is put all the balls in the bags in such a way that there is an odd number of balls in each bag. That is, each bag must contain 1, 3, 5, 7, or 9 balls. Can this be done? ...Hint: Yes, it can, but there's a trick to it!
- The past Critical Thinking Wednesdays have been fast paced and packed with a variety of problems to solve. Many of the problems are not math related. For example: There are 5 bits of paper in the palm of your hand. You need to blow them off. - But one by one- How can you do this?
- The Critical Thinkers will meet on various **Wednesdays** of a month. The first two meetings are the **8th and 22nd of October. We will meet at 2:55 and end at 3:30, most of the time.**

SIXTH GRADE FUNDRAISER:

- The St. Ferdinand 6th Graders are having a car wash on Saturday, September 27th from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on the front parking lot of St. Ferdinand. We are raising money for 6th grade camp. We will also be selling candy bars during the car wash. Please come out and have your vehicle cleaned by the kids and buy a few candy bars to help them raise money.
- Also, our 6th Graders will be selling candy bars during fish fry and after masses. Please support their efforts and buy a few candy bars. Thank you!!

- If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION NEWS:

- Basketball sign-ups will be on Sunday, September 28 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. in the Duchesne Center and on Monday, September 29 6:00 until 8:00 p.m. in the gym.

FISCHER'S SCHOOL UNIFORMS:

- Fisher's is now offering an online ordering option. Families can access this through their website: www.fischersuniforms.com.