

+J.M.J.

February 16, 2022

Dear SMS Families,

Monday was St. Valentine's Day, a martyr in the Catholic Church. I always think about the famous passage from St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians around this time:

"Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, [love] is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails." -1 Corinthians 13:4-8

A good daily examination of conscience is to replace "love" and "it" with your own name. I see places where I fail at this every day in so many ways. Yet, every day, we are presented with more opportunities to grow in love. St. Therese boldly declared, "My Vocation is Love!"

Around the School:

- We wrapped up our **Penny War to benefit AWARE** on Friday! Thank you to all who sent in cash and coins to fill our jars! We raised over \$480.00!! The winning class, with the most positive points was GRADE 8! Congratulations to all!
- **Applications for financial assistance through the diocese for the 2022-2023 school year (STAR and BTAP) were sent home with students on Monday.** These applications, along with an application fee are to be mailed to the diocese by April 15. An internal financial aid packet will be coming home within the next few weeks.
- **Please return your Letter of Intent by Tuesday, March 1.**
- A survey to gain your input on Catholic Schools Week was emailed on Monday. Please take a few minutes to share your feedback with us.
- **The deadline to place an order with Daffin's is TOMORROW: Thursday, February 17.** Please refer to the purple paper and Daffin's order forms that went home with students for more information!
- **Tomorrow is a regular Jeans Day.** Students may wear jeans with their uniform shirt, SMS spiritwear, or CSW shirt!
- **Open gym for basketball (PreK-8) will held again Friday, February 18, after school until 3:30pm.** Students attending may bring a change of clothes and should also bring a water bottle. Pick-up will be at the back door of Lateran Hall.
- There will be a **CAR RAFFLE planning meeting on Monday, February 21, at 6pm in the large meeting room of the church. This is the BIGGEST FUNDRAISER for our school, and we REALLY NEED YOUR HELP!** Please mark the date and time on your calendar and join us to make this event successful!
- Our **snow make-up days** will be remote Flexible Instruction Days (FID): Monday, February 21 and Monday, March 21. Packets of work will be sent home with students on February 18

and March 17 respectively. Completed packets will be counted for attendance for those days. No students or staff will be reporting to the school building on those days.

- **Please prayerfully consider nominating another parent, teacher, or yourself to serve on the PTO Executive Board for the 2022-2023 school year.** A Google Form was sent out on which you can submit your nomination(s). Open positions for next year will include President, Vice President, Secretary, and Co-Treasurer. **Elections will take place at our next open PTO Meeting: Monday, March 14 at 5:30pm in Lateran Hall.** *Thank you to our current Board: Shannon Thomas, Leighanne, Tina Sheirer, and Shalyn Martin for all you have done and continue to do to support our school!*
- **Do you have your clearances with us (or would be willing to get your clearances) and like working with our littlest students? We can use your help as a PreK Aide Substitute!** This will be a volunteer role, and only needed occasionally throughout the rest of the year. Call the school's office to get on our sub list!
- **YOU and your CHILD are the best PR for SMS!** Please share positive stories with your friends, family, and neighbors: in person and on social media to help bring more students and families into our community!
- Join the **40 Club!!** It is one of the biggest fundraisers for our school!! You can win 100s and even 1,000s of dollars! Call the church or school for more information! Spread the word to your family and friends!
- **Please bring your families to Mass! St. Michael School is a mission of and an integral part of St. Michael and St. Margaret Church!** Going to Mass on Sundays, I miss seeing and praying with young families, especially our school families. Our parish offers 4 Masses each weekend: 4:30pm on Saturday, 7:00am, 11:00am on Sunday (this is the Mass I always go to!) at St. Michael in Greenville and 9:00am on Sunday at St. Margaret in Jamestown.
- **Please be on the lookout for COVID symptoms in yourselves and your children.** If you suspect any symptoms, please have your child or you tested. In order to maintain a safe environment for all, please practice and help your children practice COVID protocol: proper mask wearing at all times, social distancing, and frequent hand washing with warm soapy water. **If your child is sick, please keep them at home!!** Kindly contact the school if you or your child does develop any symptoms and also check with your child's doctor for next steps. Talk with your doctor and your child's doctor about whether the COVID vaccine is right for you and your child. **COVID vaccines are available now for children ages 5-12.** Speak with your child's pediatrician about the right decision for your child.
- **If your child is in need of a uniform, please let us know!** We can save you a lot of money! We have a PLETHORA of uniform shirts and pants that we are willing to give away at no charge. If your daughter is in K-4, we have plaid jumpers of many sizes! If you have a daughter in Grades 4-8, we have a LOT skirts of many sizes as well! All plaids from us are \$20. If you are *exchanging* a plaid, there is NO COST!

Thank you for partnering with us to make our students' year a great one!

Have a wonderful evening!

St. Michael, pray for us!

Many Blessings,

Emily Zgone 😊

Principal

"Open wide the doors of your heart to Christ! Do not be afraid!" - St. John Paul II