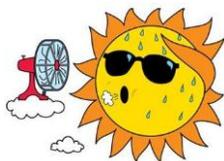


St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School



August 24, 2020

THE NOTE!

As the heat moves in, so does my ability to be thankful we are still at school and learning face to face! Continue to encourage your kids to wear their masks and social distance so our time together goes on! Keep those affected by the virus in your prayers!

Please know that I trust your decisions as parents. I know that you will keep your kids home if they have what might be COVID symptoms, but we do not require them to be COVID tested to return to school. If you go to a doctor, have them give you a return to school note, but again, this is not required. If you don't see a doctor and the symptoms dissipate on their own, send them back. There is so much going around right now on top of the seasonal allergies that are affecting so many. I won't tell you to stay home and avoid large crowds on the weekends, it's a free country, but that is probably the best way to avoid the situation.

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Monday: CC, SB, and BB practices

Tuesday: CC H Casey 4:30, BB practice, No SB practice

Wednesday: All-School Mass (7), BB and SB practice, No CC practice, Booster Club 6:00 @ KC Hall, Confirmation/1st Communion preparation session 6:30

Thursday: Head checks in A.M., BB @ Casey 4:30, SB @ Charleston 4:30, CC practice, Confirmation/1st Communion Preparation session 6:30

Friday: Bus Evacuation Drills 8:30, JCJH Sports pictures, SB H Casey 4:30, BB H St. Anthony 4:30

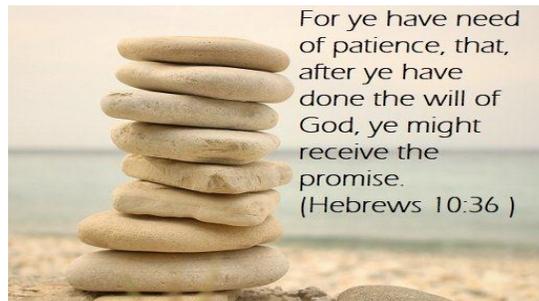
(Isn't it nice to have our weekends free!)

Our athletic teams are off to a great start. The kids are doing well and the coaches are working hard to prepare them. Thank you Mike, John, Craig, and Jason for all you do for our boys!

ATTACHED/IN PACKETS: Bus slips, School Mall fundraiser information

- You probably received a call/text from Mr. Johnson yesterday or this weekend some time about the App they are using for COVID symptom checks. Originally I was told we would need to use that App if our kids were riding the buses in the morning, but that is not the case. You need to **fill out the bus slips** that Lori sent home in the packets if your child(ren) are riding the bus in the morning. If your child(ren) are not riding the bus, you don't need to fill out anything. We will not need to use the app at all because we are temperature screening the kids before they come in our building. I'm sorry for the confusion!
- **School Board** meetings will begin next week, the first Wednesday of each month in our library. This is a 3-year term. We have three who have completed their terms. If you are interested in being on the board, please let me know.
- Our first **Booster Club** meeting is scheduled for this Wednesday at 6:00 at the KC Hall. I will bring snacks. Two of our officers graduated their youngest child, so we need to fill in those spaces. Hope to see several of you there. I'll buy the first round!
- If you or your kids normally participate in **ministries at church**, please watch the bulletin so that when you're scheduled, you are there. I hope that many of you are back to attending church or at least still attend remotely. With our first mass under our belts, we can see that some haven't been there for a while. We'll work on getting back them back into the habit. You can sign up to attend church on the web sites.
- **Parents of 3rd graders** who would like to go ahead and schedule Confirmation and 1st Communion with Father Dean should attend **one** of the sessions on the calendar this week, either Wednesday or Thursday evening at 6:30.
- We were excited to hear from the Jasper County Soil and Water Conservation District that several of our students placed in the **5th and 6th grade poster contest** last spring. Those students were:
1st place – Allie Hermann and 3rd place – Sadie Iffert
Runners Up: Ava Earnest, Madison Keller, Lucy Bierman, Alex Gier, and Kylie Higgs
Way to go Saints!
- **Congratulations to our own, Mrs. Kim Zuber**, who wrote and received a grant for her classroom from the Meemic Foundation. Way to go Mrs. Zuber!
- Just a reminder to **those attending our baseball and softball games** to try very hard to social distance and to wear masks when moving around. The **IESA** wants our kids to play, but we have to try to follow those rules. There are people reporting schools for not following the rules – let's do our best so that our kids can continue their season!

- **Keep selling** that detergent. We are hoping to have all of our fundraisers this year, but you never know. Thanks to Jason and Marie Kuhl for allowing us to do this fundraiser and to Susanne Schackmann for her organization and help. We will start trash bags at the end of the month.
- Coming home today is a fundraiser called **School Store**. The letter explains how to email your family members to see if they'd like to participate. Last year our families and friends donated almost \$2000 to our classrooms for our teachers to use. This is not required! If you send out the emails, there will be a code to write on your paper and send back. When you do this, your child will receive a prize.



From I Heard God Laugh by Matthew Kelly:

If your life isn't working, what are you willing to do about it?

The danger zone is marked by comfort. We gravitate toward comfort, and it's amazing how comfortable we can get with things that are uncomfortable or worse.

Sometimes we justify to make ourselves feel better about things we know aren't good. Instead, let's pray hard and work hard to make changes to better ourselves and our families.

Mother Teresa said, "What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight: Build anyway."

