

The Sentinel ~ November 4, 2020

Principal's Message

With the news last week of the “Bishop’s Holiday”, I know that families are beginning to confirm their plans for Thanksgiving as well as the upcoming Christmas season. With this in mind, I wish to share with you some guidance and resources that will help to ensure the health and wellness of our school community.

Families who plan to travel are asked to follow the guidance of the CDC in regards to health mitigation strategies. As the impact of the virus varies by region and the response is determined locally, the Virginia Department of Health is an excellent resource for up-to-date information and any restrictions that might exist. Helpful guidance related to travel as well as specific considerations for celebrating the holidays can be found at the following link.

[VDH - Travel & Holiday Guidance](#)

Consistent with CDC guidance, Virginia currently does not have any quarantine requirements for people arriving in the Commonwealth from other U.S. or international locations.

However, it is important to keep in mind that the guidance provided by the CDC and the corresponding restrictions implemented by the Commonwealth are subject to change and influenced by health data trends. For this reason, in the event that the Virginia Department of Health implements a quarantine requirement in the future, we would adhere to that expectation and ask that families follow up accordingly.

At this time there is no plan for all students enrolled at All Saints to participate in virtual learning for a period of time following the holidays. If for any reason future circumstances dictate that this becomes a necessary consideration, I will notify you as soon as possible.

Both Mrs. Snowden and I have been very pleased with the proactive approach of many families who have reached out to us to discuss their particular health situations. This

level of dialogue and the open lines of communication that exist position us well to work through any questions or concerns that might arise in the months ahead.

On another topic, I want to provide a brief update regarding PowerSchool, our Student Information System. Although our community is now using Schoology as the platform for communicating information related to student learning, it remains important that all parents have access to their child's PowerSchool account. This is particularly important at this time as we will be using this system in support of two initiatives in the near future, i.e. distribution of first trimester report cards and the completion of the re-enrollment (re-registration) process for 2021-2022. **For this reason, if you do not currently have log-in credentials for PowerSchool or cannot access the system for any reason, please contact Mrs. Pettyjohn, Technology Coordinator (tpettyjohn@allsaintsva.org).** Additional details regarding report cards and re-enrollment will follow in the weeks ahead.

Finally, I want to thank those parents who have already signed up to attend a Parent-Teacher Conference via Zoom. Those who have not yet done so are asked to complete this process no later than Friday. Should you have any questions or experience difficulty with the online registration process, please do not hesitate to let us know.

All Things Work for Good for Those Who Love God!

Note from the Nurse:

Hello All Saints Families! There is a new resource from the Virginia Department of Health from October 22 that I want to share in case you have not seen it. It is in booklet form and contains *Guidelines for Evaluating a Child with COVID-19 Symptoms or Exposure*. Pages 5-7 give step-by-step guidance on assessing children. It is very helpful and easy to follow.

[Child-School COVID-19 Booklet](#)

The Flu Vaccine Kickoff started October 1. Here is some information from the CDC site. During [2019-2020](#), CDC estimates that flu vaccination prevented 7.5 million flu illnesses, 3.7 million flu medical visits, 105,000 flu hospitalizations and 6,300 flu deaths. Of course this year there is added emphasis on getting the Flu vaccine due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic. A combination of these two illnesses could create a huge

burden on our communities and healthcare systems. Please consider visiting a local pharmacy or grocery store pharmacy to stop in for a Flu shot. If you have never had one before-maybe this is the year to start!!

Please continue to be diligent in all protective measures within your families. Handwashing, masks and distancing have kept transmission within the Diocese Schools very low! We are very Blessed to have such a caring community.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Patrice Snowden, RN

Virtues in Practice - November

Virtue of the Month: Humility

Definition: Accepting your limitations and God-given talents.

Saints: St. John the Baptist (K -2); St. Pio of Pietrelcina (Gr. 3-5); St. Therese of Lisieux (Gr. 6-8)

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Bishop's Holiday & Extension of Thanksgiving Vacation

All Saints Catholic School will be closed for the "Bishop's Holiday" on Monday, November 23. Additionally, school will be closed on Tuesday, November 24 which was originally scheduled as a half day.

To confirm, school will be closed the entire week of Thanksgiving so that our faculty, staff and families may enjoy an extended holiday.

Virtual Open House (November 5 @ 7:00 p.m.)

All Saints will host a Virtual Open House for prospective parents via Zoom on Thursday, November 5 beginning at 7:00 p.m. All parishioners and members of the community interested in learning more about our school are cordially invited to attend. Please share our story with friends, neighbors and colleagues and encourage them to join us for this online event. For more information, please contact Mrs. Nancy Weaver, Administrative Assistant, at (703) 393-1490.

Pilgrim Virgin Statue Program

Beginning in November, school families are once again invited to renew their devotion to Jesus through Mary by participating in the Pilgrim Virgin Statue Program. Each week one of the statues of Our Lady will travel to the home of one school family for a weeklong visit. (Note: As a health precaution, only one statue will be in rotation each week which will allow time for the statues and materials to be quarantined between visits.)

For more information about the program or to sign up to host one of the statues, please see the following link.

[Pilgrim Virtue Statue Program Sign Ups](#)

While the statue of the Blessed Mother is in the home, families are encouraged to pray together either part of or the entire five-decade Rosary for the intentions of our school as well as for their private intentions. New this year, we are also inviting families throughout our school community to participate in a virtual Rosary that will take place via Zoom. Look for more details in the near future.

Should you have any questions, please contact the rotation coordinator, Mrs. Maricel Pascua, at gmpascua@outlook.com.

Diocesan Prospective Teacher Information Meeting (November 18 @ 1:00 p.m.)

Are you interested in teaching for the Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Arlington? There are 44 schools within the Diocese offering instructional programs for all ages from pre-school through high school. Perhaps your certification has expired, or perhaps you are thinking of changing careers or returning to teaching after a period of absence. Do you have questions about qualifications to teach? Would you like to learn more about the mission of teaching in a Catholic School in a nurturing and caring, Christ-centered environment? Plan to attend the Information Program for Prospective Teachers on Wednesday, November 18 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. in Father Kelley Hall.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, November 5

- School Mass (White Cohort/K2/1B/ - 9:30 a.m.)

- Virtual Open House (Zoom/7:00 p.m.)

Tuesday, November 10

- Coffee with the Principal (Zoom/9:00 a.m.)
- PTO Executive Committee Meeting (Zoom/7:00 p.m.)

Wednesday, November 11

- School Mass (Blue Cohort/K1/1A/2A - 9:30 a.m.)

Thursday, November 12

- Half Day
- Parent-Teacher Conferences (Zoom)

Friday, November 13

- Parent-Teacher Conferences (Zoom)

Sunday, November 15

- Discover Catholic Schools Week

Wednesday, November 18

- Diocesan Prospective Teachers Meeting (FKH/1:00-3:00 p.m.)

Thursday, November 19

- School Mass (White Cohort/K2/1B - 9:30 a.m.)
- Enrollment Management Team Meeting (Zoom/7:00 p.m.)

Monday, November 23

- **Holiday – Bishop’s Holiday**

Tuesday, November 24

- **Holiday – Thanksgiving**
- End of Trimester I

Wednesday, November 25

- Holiday – Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 26

- Holiday – Thanksgiving

Friday, November 27

- Holiday – Thanksgiving

Monday, November 30

- Classes Resume

Tuesday, December 1

- Re-Enrollment for 2021-2022 Begins
- PTO Executive Committee Meeting (Zoom/7:00 p.m.)

Thursday, December 3

- 8th Grade High School Placement Test

Friday, December 4

- Used Uniform Pick-Up