

The Sentinel ~ December 9, 2020

Principal's Message

During the 2020-2021 school year, our capacity to provide virtual learning for students raises the question of whether instruction will continue on days when the facility is closed due to inclement weather. Although we anticipate being able to transition to online learning seamlessly, the continued observance of "snow days" provides an opportunity to maintain a degree of "normalcy" during an uncertain time as well as a chance to pause from the daily schedule in support of student and staff social/emotional well-being.

With this perspective in mind, I am pleased to share with you the following revision to our Inclement Weather Policy.

During the onset of a storm and/or predicted inclement weather, All Saints Catholic School will continue to follow the decision of Prince William County Public Schools regarding schedule changes for the first day impacted by the weather.

In subsequent days following an inclement weather event, All Saints Catholic School will make an independent decision which may include a return to in-person instruction or virtual learning for all students. Each decision will be influenced by a number of factors including weather conditions, technology considerations and the overall social-emotional well-being of our school community. (Example: If Prince William County Schools announces that schools will be closed on a Tuesday, All Saints would be closed that day and make an independent decision beginning on Wednesday.)

Decisions regarding schedule changes, both on those occasions when we follow the county as well as when we make an independent decision, will be announced to the community via SchoolMessenger.

Thank you to the many families who supported our recent "We Care Week" Dress Down Days. I am pleased to report that we collected a total of \$2,195.05 to benefit Catholic Charities. Even amidst a time of hardship for many, our school community responded with tremendous generosity. Many thanks!

All Things Work for Good for Those Who Love God!

A Prayer for Advent – Week II

Lord God, may we, your people, who look forward to the birthday of Christ, experience the joy of salvation and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Classroom Christmas Parties

Wednesday, December 16 (1:30 p.m.) – Snack & Activity

Thursday, December 17 (1:30 p.m.) – Movie

Room Liaisons have been asked to provide only individually wrapped, store-bought treats for the party on Wednesday. Virtual learners are invited to pick up these treats and party related items at the front office beginning on Tuesday, December 15.

Students are encouraged to wear Christmas accessories on both days, although not during the school Mass on Wednesday.

Junior Achievement Update

After discussion at last week's faculty meeting, we have decided to forgo the Junior Achievement program this year. Although we recognize the value of the curriculum and want to make it available to students, the lessons would need to occur on Fridays so as not to interrupt the already scheduled in-person instruction. This would present potential scheduling conflicts for families on Fridays and also require the oversight of a teacher to help facilitate and supervise the sessions. Additionally, from an instructional perspective, since many of the activities are designed for groups, there would be inherent challenges in hosting the program via Zoom.

In support of the program and in effort to provide students an introduction to the fundamental concepts, some of the faculty members are planning to incorporate content from the program in their "Morning Work".

P.E. Program Update – Message from Mr. Redman

As we have just concluded our first trimester using a hybrid educational model, this is a wonderful moment to review the effectiveness of procedures, goals, and expectations set at the start of the school year. The end of the trimester also coincided with the results of the recent Parent Survey in which many parents provided valuable information and suggested areas for improvement.

Given the recent feedback and upon reviewing my earlier goals, I do believe that some revision would be beneficial. Outside of classroom activity, students in grades 3-8 will now be assigned less work outside of their weekly Physical Education Activity log.

The PE Activity Log is a weekly assignment with a stated purpose to: 1) meet PE curriculum goals per Diocesan Guidelines, 2) encourage and promote student physical activity while away from school, and 3) increase the healthy behavior and well-being of the student population overall. Completed assignments are due the Friday of each week and count 20% towards the PE grade.

Some questions have been raised as to the criteria used to determine grading. Students are to complete 300 minutes per week of moderate physical activity for full credit. Students that

already participate in sports or clubs outside of school where they are active in practices and games will now receive credit for this work. Students that are not involved in an organized sport outside of school will be able to claim credit for sustained activity that is vigorous in nature. Activities that are acceptable include: running, walking, hiking, biking, swimming (laps), martial arts, gymnastics, soccer, football, basketball, baseball, hockey, weight training, dance, cheerleading, tennis, active play, etc. Once the activity is complete, students should access their PE Activity Log and record their Activity Type (what kind of activity), Time (how long they played or practiced), and Frequency (how often, dates, etc). Students then submit their work at the end of the week for credit.

Hopefully this information answers your questions as to what is expected with the weekly PE Activity Log. However, if you should have any other questions or concerns please feel free to contact me directly either by phone 703-368-4400 ext. 222, or via email at: predman@allsaintsva.org.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Applications & Re-Enrollment for 2021-2022

Applications for new students for academic year 2021-2022 are now available and may be requested through the school office.

All current families who wish to enroll a *new student* in grades Pre-Kindergarten through eight may request an application via email at the following address: schooloffice@allsaintsva.org. As requests are received, applications will be sent home to families with the youngest child currently enrolled in our school.

Note: Although a final decision regarding the re-opening of the Pre-Kindergarten has not yet been determined, we are optimistic that we will be able to re-start this program for the upcoming school year.

Re-Enrollment for current students will begin in the days ahead. All families are asked to submit both forms and the re-registration fee no later than Friday, January 15.

Report Cards

Have you had a chance to review your child's report card? If so, we need for you to acknowledge that you have reviewed the report card by digitally signing it.

Here are the Instructions to digitally sign the report card:

1. Log into PowerSchool Parent Portal: Click here to begin: [PowerSchool](#)
2. On the left side, click on "Forms" and select "Diocese of Arlington _ Grade Report Card".
3. Review the report card, and scroll down to the bottom and click "YES" and type in your name.

If you would like video instructions on how to approve your child's report card, click in the link

below.

[How to Digitally Sign Report Cards](#)

All Saints Virtual Book Fair

TIS THE SEASON TO READ! What a great celebration this past week as NY Time best-selling author Raymond Arroyo kicked off the All Saints Virtual Book Fair. Find Mr. Arroyo's beautiful Christmas book and more selections online now! All orders will be delivered directly to your home but order soon to get your books before the holidays. Thank you for supporting our fundraiser.

Click on the link to shop and feel free to share the link!

[AllSaintsSchoolOnlineBookstore](#)

This year with the new school norms the All Saints Catholic Virtual Book Fair will operate much like an online Book Store and extend a large selection of items for all ages PreK-Adult. There are book recommendations, teacher wish lists, and so much more to explore! We are excited to support a locally-owned business and offer Bookworm Central's collection of books, educational games, and other fun stuff available online. Enjoy great additions to your home library or purchase gifts for others while helping to raise money for our school literacy programs.

All Saints Yearbooks for the 2020-21 School Year

Commemorate the year at All Saints Catholic School with your own copy of the 2020-2021 yearbook.

[All Saints Yearbook Flyer: 2020-2021](#) **Early Bird Discount until 1/17**

Take advantage of our early bird discount by ordering your yearbook now through January 17th at a discounted cost of \$20 per yearbook. After January 17, the price will increase to \$23/yearbook until April 2, 2021.

All orders must be placed online. Here is the information that you will need to place your order:

- Please visit the Lifetouch website to order online: www.ybpay.com.
- The All Saints school code is 13273521.
- Please note that personalization of your yearbook is available for \$5.00.
- If you have candid photos that you would like to submit for possible inclusion in the yearbook, please send them by March 1 to Janis DeVore at jdevore@allsaintsva.org with "Yearbook" in the subject line. *Please remember to include your child's name and grade in the body of the message.*

School Messenger Reminder

On Friday, December 4, SchoolMessenger was integrated with PowerSchool, the Student Information System for schools in the Diocese of Arlington.

In order to ensure that you receive emergency notifications sent via SchoolMessenger, it is important that you verify that your contact information in PowerSchool is accurate and up-to-date.

As of today, approximately half of our families have updated their contact information. In the event of a weather or school emergency, it is important that we can reach each family in a timely manner.

Step-by-step video instructions for updating your “contact data” can be found at the following [Parent Portal Video](#) as well as in the written directions, [Parent Portal Written Directions](#).

Should you have any questions about this process, please do not hesitate to contact the school office for more information

FACTS Tuition Assistance Applications 2021-2022

The online application for tuition assistance through FACTS Grant & Aid for the upcoming school year is now available. For more information about the diocesan tuition assistance program and the application process, please see the links below.

[Tuition Assistance Program - English](#)

[Tuition Assistance Program - Spanish](#)

High Schools (early verification)- **January 18, 2021**

- 2019 tax returns and W-2s are required for early verification
- If submitted after January 18, 2021, 2020 W-2s and tax returns will be required.

Elementary Schools- **March 17, 2021**

- 2020 W-2s and tax returns are required for verification

Should you have any questions about the application process or tuition assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Nancy Weaver, Administrative Assistant, at 703-393-1490 or nweaver@allsaintsva.org.

#JustOneYes (JOY)

During this Advent, all families are encouraged to follow in the footsteps of Mary of Nazareth, a simple girl whose “yes” to God changed the world. Commit to daily Rosary, daily Mass, your favorite prayer, an extra holy hour a week, to volunteer at your parish or anything that brings you closer to Christ.

Register your #JustOneYes at [JustOneYes \(JOY\)](#) and receive daily meditations during Advent and Christmas.

#JustOneYes to God could change you, your family, your community. Like Mary’s “yes” to God, it can change the world!

Open House for 2021-2022 School Year

All Saints Catholic School will host an *Open House* for prospective parents on Thursday, January 7 via Zoom beginning at 7:00 p.m. All parishioners and members of the community interested in learning more about our parish school are cordially invited to attend. For more information, please contact Mrs. Nancy Weaver, administrative assistant, at (703) 393-1490.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, December 10

- Picture Day Make-Ups
- Confessions – Grades 3-8 (10:00 – 11:30 a.m.)

Friday, December 11

- Deadline: Parent Signatures – 1st Trimester Report Cards

Wednesday, December 16

- Students may wear Christmas accessories (except during Mass)
- School Mass – Blue Cohort/K1/1A/2A (9:30 a.m.)
- Christmas Parties – Snack & Activity (1:30 p.m.)

Thursday, December 17

- Students may wear Christmas accessories
- Christmas Parties – Movie (1:30 p.m.)

Friday, December 18

- Final Day of School (eLearning) Prior to Christmas Holiday

Monday, December 21

- Christmas Holiday Begins

Monday, January 4

- Classes Resume

Tuesday, January 5

- PTO Executive Committee Meeting (Zoom/7:00 p.m.)

Thursday, January 7

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

Monday, January 11

- Scantron Testing Begins (Through January 29)

Thursday, January 14

- Enrollment Management Team Meeting (Zoom/7:00 p.m.)

Friday, January 15

- Deadline: Re-Enrollment Forms & Fees