

Dear Parents,

**Dates:**

Feb. 21- Mardi Gras Festival- 5:00 to 8:00  
 Feb. 24- PTO meeting at 7:00 PM  
 Feb. 26- Ash Wednesday  
 Feb. 28- End of 2nd Trimester  
 Feb. 28- **Last day for Guaranteed and Priority registration**  
 March 1- No More Out of Uniform Passes Accepted  
 March 4- Faculty Meeting  
 March 6 -Report Cards go home  
 March 9- IOWA testing begins  
 March 20- 8<sup>th</sup> grade pilgrimage to Maria Stein  
 March 23- Beginning of Spring Break

**News:**

- Looking forward to attending the Mardi Gras event this evening. You can get a sense of what this event means to the students by the energy and noise level exhibited during the school day. The students are definitely “pumped” for tonight. Big thanks to all of the parent assistance in preparing for the event, and please express your gratitude to Mrs. Sparks for her leadership in making this event happens!
- This past Thursday we had an issue in the morning car rider line that created some havoc. One of our car drivers had a medical event. I believe all is OK at this time. Thank you for notifying us of what was occurring in the parking lot. Morning arrival is a mass of automobiles and people in a hurry to drop off their child. I cannot emphasize enough to drive slow, be alert and use caution while in the parking lot. Mr. Rasor, Rob and myself are looking at the possibility of opening up access to the north and west side of the building for an additional “drop zone”. This would need to be coordinated with the arrival of our buses, so we are doing some study to see if this is a feasible idea. It would assist in eliminating the back-up, especially at the 7:45 am “crunch time”. More information will be forthcoming.
- Uniform survey will be closed on Sunday, Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>. Thank you for your participation.
- As you may or may not know, the students receiving the EdChoice Scholarship are required to take the State testing. I want to eliminate the perception that EdChoice students bring down the academic excellence in your building. At St. Chris this is not true! Of the nine 3rd graders required to take the reading test, two scored in the advanced range, three in the accelerated range, three proficient and only one at basic. Well done students!
- **Note from Mrs. Lauterbach: Please remember to send in your registration as soon as possible for the upcoming school year. All registered parish members are encouraged to complete the Christ-Bearer Scholarship application, and are reminded that there is no financial qualification; we only ask if you are Catholic and a registered parish member. If you are not receiving EdChoice, or other additional financial assistance, the full award will apply. EdChoice recipients who are Catholic and registered members of St. Chris parish may qualify for the scholarship to make up the difference between the tuition rate and the EdChoice pay-out.**
- As I had stated before, I wanted to provide recognition for those students who have had perfect attendance and/or made the honor roll (Principal’s List, A honor roll or B honor roll) These students received a pass for an out of uniform day- designated for Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup>.
- This is a special invitation for you to attend the Ash Wednesday services on February 26<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM with your child. All in attendance, Catholic on Non-Catholic, are invited to receive ashes. This is symbolic of our mortality and our need to repent in order to gain eternal salvation. Our Catholic schools are entrusted with the important mission of promoting the Gospel and providing a pathway for our students in their journey through

life to find their way to heaven. Simply put, one of our goals at St. Chris School is to “save souls.” When receiving ashes, the distributor will state either, “Repent and believe in the Gospel”, or “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

- **Principal’s Search:** The committee has interviewed four candidates for the school principal position at St. Chris School. After discussion by the committee, we have provided Fr. John with two finalists. Both interviewed extremely well and can be seen as the next leader of the school. In order to protect their current positions, the committee is not free to announce to the public who the two individuals are. My hope is that at the latest we will have a new principal named by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Highlights of the Week:**

-I was venturing into the last part of a 6th grade PE class that was having a co-ed game of basketball. The first thing I experienced is a young man driving the lane to shoot a basket when out of the clear blue (Obi Toppin style) this young lady comes out of nowhere to block the shot and send the ball into the corner. It was pretty impressive the timing and the jumping ability of this young lady. She received many a “high five” for that move.

-The best part of my job is getting around to the different classrooms and observing our teachers in action. It is very impressive to see how the teachers are utilizing technology in their instruction. Case 1- Mrs. Kallenberg’s 4th grade science class is studying two types of metamorphosis. The students will create “stop motion” videos to post on a private You Tube account and then share with each other. The students will have pictures of different types of organisms that represent complete and incomplete metamorphosis. Case 2- Mrs. Vore’s 5th grade social studies the students ‘ were using their chrome books and a web based application called Flip Grid to develop classroom presentations on John Smith and the first American colony in Virginia. It was impressive to see how involved and engaged the students were with their learning.

*“If you want to be successful, it's just this simple. Know what you are doing. Love what you are doing. And believe in what you are doing.”*

*-Will Rogers*