



Immaculate Conception School
223 South 14th Street
Fort Smith, AR 72901



Sunday, February 28, 2021

A Commitment to Christ ... A Commitment to Excellence

Dear Parents,

Ash Wednesday was Feb. 17 and, unfortunately, we missed it due to the snowy and extremely cold weather. But, we are rooted in the season of Lent, the most solemn season in the Catholic Church. At school, time is spent discussing and practicing what we are called to do as Christians during Lent: prayer, sacrifice, fasting, and almsgiving. We will emphasize almsgiving with our project, *Operation Rice Bowl (March project)*. The boxes for this project were in Friday's folders a few weeks ago.

Another special Lenten service is the Catholic practice of remembering Christ's walk to Calvary or "Stations of the Cross." Our students and staff will pray this journey as we attend prayer services and Mass during March. Stations of the Cross will replace the K-1 prayer service on Thursdays during March and will be prayed on Fridays beginning at 9:45 am followed by the celebration of Mass for grades 2-6. You are welcome to join us!

There are only a few months left in this school year! It is swiftly disappearing.

Prayers and blessings,
Sharon Blentlinger
Principal

*Habit of the Month: Seek First to Understand
and then to Be Understood*

Habit 5 is a timeless principle we all strive to practice ourselves and teach our kids; it teaches them to be confident when speaking to others while also teaching them the importance of listening to others when they are speaking. Habit 5 is about **communication**. The best way to teach someone how to communicate is by practicing it with them.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

The third quarter ends Friday, March 12, and P/T conferences are Tuesday, March 16th and Thursday, March 18th, from 2:00-5:30 pm for students in PS3's- 6th grade. The conferences will be virtual via Google Meet as they were in October. A notice regarding your conference time will be folders on Friday, March 12, and an invitation to attend will be sent to you. Call the school office if you absolutely cannot make the one scheduled, keeping in mind that there may not be other openings. Dismissal on March 16th and 18th is at 1:30 for K-6. There will be ASC on those 2 days with no charge until 3:30 for those families who are cannot pick up their child at 1:30.

NWEA Testing

Our spring and third NWEA tests will be the week of April 26 beginning at 8:30 am. Please try and refrain from scheduling absences and medical appointments during these times. It is very difficult to schedule makeups.

A Few Reminders

- Class pictures are on Monday, March 1.
 - K-6 students wear uniforms.
 - Need all order forms no later than 8:00am. After that time, parents will need to contact Heritage Portraits to order
- Remember to record your volunteer hours in FACTS (formerly RenWeb). I understand that Covid has prevented us from many activities so please do the best you can!
- Book Character Day is Thursday, March 4.
- Still undecided on whether we will be able to have Festival but proceeding as if this will happen!

Mrs. B