

Dear St. Ethelreda Parents,

February came in with a bang....the first snowstorm of 2008! The students were given a notice explaining the Emergency Closing Procedures on January 23 and again on February 5. I do hope that you have this notice posted in a prominent place in your home. It lists the steps you can take to find out if our school is closed when the weather is extremely bad or cold.

Have you checked out the website lately? We have three new additions to our staff. Their pictures and teaching assignments are posted also. If you have the opportunity, take a moment to introduce yourself and welcome them to our school. The junior high students are singing their praises every day. Sr. Bruno, Ms. Finn and Mr. Pittman have all expressed their happiness at being a part of the St. Ethelreda Faculty.

After reading your February calendar, you probably noticed some changes. Family Mass has been moved to the third Sunday. The Black History Program has been moved to March. The Science Fair is scheduled for April. Easter comes early this year. Therefore, the students will work on their science projects during spring break. Terra Nova tests will be taken during the week of March 3-7. The seventh graders are going to take the Federal and State Constitution tests before spring break. And, all snow days will be made up before the last day of school.

The Student Council has planned two events this month, Pig out Day and Red and White Day. Pig out Day is taking the place of Fat Tuesday. Students can purchase such goodies as nachos, pickles, juice, candy, etc. during their lunch period. February 14 is Red and White Day. Students can wear any combination of red and white or red tops and black skirts/pants. They will have to pay .50 to dress out of uniform. These events are fund raisers for the Student Council to pay for the Honors Luncheon in June.

The Booster Club is sponsoring its annual Valentine's Day Steppers Set on Saturday, February 16. If your child is a member of any of our athletic teams, you are automatically a member of the Booster Club. The money raised by this fund raiser helps to pay the league fees, purchase uniforms and awards and pay for the Athletic Banquet at the end of the year. The cheerleaders are included in this banquet. The Pom Pom squad will receive certificates at a special pep rally in the

spring. The tickets are \$10.00 and each athlete's parent is asked to sell tickets, buy two tickets or make a twenty dollar donation by February 13. Ms. Jennifer Doucet will have tickets in the school office every day after school. You can meet her then or send your money or ticket request to school in an envelope addressed to her.

Your presence is needed at the following meetings:

- February 13...PTO MEETING...6:00
- February 20...BOOSTER CLUB MEETING...6:00
- February 21...EIGHTH GRADE PARENT MEETING...6:00

GUEST SPEAKER...MR. WEBB EVANS...President of United American Progress Association...close friend of the late Mayor Harold Washington...will share his knowledge of "our" history with the students on February 22 at 10:00 in the Harold Washington Assembly Hall. Mr. Evans spoke at our "Meet the Author" program and graciously accepted our invitation for a return engagement during Black History Month.

NO SCHOOL...NO SCHOOL...NO SCHOOL...NO SCHOOL...

- February 18...PRESIDENT'S DAY
- February 28...PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY
- February 29...PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

THE PRESCHOOL WILL BE OPEN AND ALL DAY CARE IS AVAILABLE ON ALL THREE DAYS.

Please add these two dates to your calendar:

- February 12...Asthma Van visit
- February 19...Basketball team and individual pictures taken...Look for a special picture note next week.

Today marks the first day of the Lenten Season. We receive ashes on our forehead as a sign of conversion. We begin a fast of some sort or we try to add some good habits to our life for the next forty days. Lent is a time of renewal that can change our lives. It's a time when we can come to know Jesus better. Let's enter this special season with our whole heart. If we do, we will truly find the Lord.