

Dear Parents,

March is here and so is Terra Nova testing for the mandated grades of 3, 5 and 7. All students in the Title I program in grades 1,2,4,6 and 8 are also required to take this standardized test. The test measures the students' academic progress according to the State Standards. Whereas the Chicago Public School students take the ISAT, the Catholic School students take the Terra Nova. Testing always begins the first week of March; therefore, we do not take Pulaski Day off. Please make sure your child eats a light breakfast before coming to school. Also, you can send a light snack, such as a snack bar, fruit snacks, raisins, trail mix or celery, carrots, etc... for a snack during the 15 minute testing break. Hunger plays a major role in a child's academic progress. They have difficulty focusing if they are hungry or their stomachs are growling.

All students will receive a Progress Report on the 3rd. It just amazes me that some students never gave their parents the report card that was given to them on January 20. If you are in doubt of anything, Parents, just call us. Don't hesitate to contact the teachers after reviewing the Progress Report. Some teachers are requesting a conference at this time. Communication with each other can help put your child back on the right track.

The office of the City Clerk will be here on the 12th with their Chicago Kids ID Program. You will receive a form this Wednesday to fill out and return to school by the 11th. This service is FREE.

Second graders are in charge of this month's Family Mass at St. Kilian on the 14th. We need all of our students and parents at Mass praying together.

The Junior High School Students have a Black History Project that must be turned in on the 15th. They have a copy of the rubric that will be used for assessing their work. Spring pictures will be taken on the 17th. Money is due when you receive the pictures.

Officer Regina Stewart will begin the G.R.E.A.T. program on the 17th with

The sixth grade class. The program runs for 13 weeks with a graduation at the end. Parents will be invited to attend.

The seventh graders will take the Federal and State Constitution tests on the 18th and the 25th. Students must score a minimum of 80% on both, in order to pass.

There is no school for K-8 on the 19th. The teachers have to attend a Professional Development workshop. We are offering All Day Care on the 19th. And, the preschool will be open for regular hours. The preschool program is closed on major holidays, Christmas and spring break. On days when the other students are not here, their curriculum is not interrupted. It is not a play day. We just ask that you bring a lunch.

An extremely important Parent Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, March 21, 3:00 in the Harold Washington Assembly Hall. We have exciting information to share with you about the upcoming school year. Be here to get the information first hand. No, we are not closing. Yes, we are going to implement some changes for 2010-2011.

On the 22nd at 1:00, there will be a live performance of "Sara's Story, A Fugitive Slave" for all grades in the Harold Washington Assembly Hall. You are welcome to join us.

"Muffins for Moms" on the 24th gives all Moms, Grand Moms, Step Moms a chance to meet their child's friends Moms, have refreshments and engage in their child's lessons.

And, it wouldn't be right to leave out the Dads, so we have "Donuts for Dads" on the 31st. You will also be able to meet other Dads, Grand Dads, Step Dads, etc... for lively conversation, refreshments and opportunities to sit in on your child's class.

The junior high trip to Naper Settlement was AWESOME! It was a real eye opener to some of our students and a very valuable history lesson.

The trip to the Harris Theater exposed our students to the visual arts and dance. They were very intent on watching the dancers and the blending of the artwork into the scenery. Did your child tell you about these trips? Initiate a conversation because their feedback is important to us.

Tuition for '09-'10 must be paid in full by May 15. NO PERSONAL CHECKS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER MAY FOR '09-'10.

Congratulations to the following 8th graders on their acceptance into Chicago Public Magnet High Schools:

Ebony Crusoe- Morgan Park, Gwendolyn Brooks, Lindblom Science Academy
Symone Jackson – Morgan Park
Aubrey Smith- Rick Over Academy
Lydia Edwards – King High School
Angel Buckley- King, Gwendolyn Brooks, Walter Payton and Whitney Young High Schools.

Way to go Class of 2010!

Upcoming Events

Scholastic Book Fair – March 8-12
Graduation Picture Proofs Due March 12
Report Card Conferences – April 1
***Gym Attire Changes- Shorts and Tee Shirts under your Uniform – April 1**
Spring Break – April 5-9
Mother Son Dinner Dance – May 1
Father Daughter Dinner Dance – June 5
Graduation- PK, K and 8 – June 12

Start Spreading the News about Our School....and Get Rewarded!

Have you ever said to yourself, "I wish I had a dollar every time someone asked me about a school..." and wished it really amounted to something? Well, it can. Your new admitted family referrals can actually help you save money on tuition. There'll be more information about our parent referral program in this month's upcoming parent meeting, so don't miss it! Be sure to tell everybody you know who's looking for a school about us and we'll show our appreciation by rewarding you for every new admitted referral who joins our St. Ethelreda family.

Pam Jefferson-Waits
Marketing and Development Director