



# St. Theresa School

Compassion • Responsibility • Excellence in Learning

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Dear STS Family,

Believe it or not, I think today's storm may very well be our last Winter-weather experience for this season! Of course, there may be days with snow showers or flurries, but it seems that the worst will now be in the past. Whatever the case, we have used our two "snow days", so if anything else significant occurs it will be a remote learning day... unless, of course, we lose power.

We have begun the season of **Lent**, in preparation for Easter, with your children here at St. Theresa's. As with everything else this year, we're doing it in a different way, yet, it still will be done, and both in our Good Morning talks and in the classrooms we will be trying to present to the children the idea of prayer, penance and almsgiving as a way to grow closer to Jesus during Lent.

Now a few highlights:

- CONGRATULATIONS to the Class of 2022 (especially their parents) for sponsoring a very successful **Fish Fry** yesterday. It seems to have been enjoyed greatly by all those who participated in it.
- THANK YOU, again, for all those who have brought in their **Tricky Tray Baskets** and those who are helping to prepare and promote the event. It is all for the benefit of your children so it is greatly appreciated. If you haven't brought in your basket yet, please do so at your earliest convenience. Thank you.
- Once you have received your child(ren)'s **Progress Report**, should you have any questions or concerns, or wish to speak with a teacher, please email her directly to set up a convenient time for both. As we all know, the purpose of the progress report is to share with the parent how a student is doing; nothing is written in stone, so any student who has not done his/her best still has time to buckle down and improve their 2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester grades. Most of the time this benefits greatly from the cooperation and communication between home and school.

As a principal, *AND* in speaking with the teachers, it is evident that some children have fallen behind due to the effects of remote learning. That is why it is so important that we all - principal, teachers, parents – help in every way possible to support those children who are having difficulties. That said, if a child is not completing his or her assignments, doing his or her homework, not showing up for remote class (with cameras and microphones working), it will be extremely difficult for him or her to improve. The same (except for the cameras

and microphones) is true for the in-person learners. They need to do their part, to do their best... but with the support of each of us, if they are to be successful.

- After all that, I hate to bring up my next topic, but we are passing the middle of February, so I need to know if there will be a **change to anyone's instructional style choice** for their student: remote to in-person, or in-person to remote. Please let me know this by Thursday, February 25. If you are remaining in the same format, there is no need to notify us. Thank you.  
And just a reminder: from the beginning of the school year, we stated that **Remote Instruction would only be available on a month-to-month basis** OR in a situation where a student has an extended illness, or needs to remain at home due to a quarantine situation. Therefore, we will not be allowing students to remote in on a daily basis.

My final message to share with you is not a “bullet point” but it is VERY important. In speaking with our local Board of Health I was made aware that the number of school age cases of Covid-19 in our area has tripled within the last six weeks. That is very significant and I believe that this is causing some of our nearby public schools to switch to remote instruction in an effort to control this. AT THIS TIME, we will not be doing this at STS because, AT THIS TIME, there has been no in-school transmission of the virus in our school. That, of course, can change in the blink of an eye but I still feel the need to thank all those parents who have been so diligent in keeping their child(ren) home if they have shown any of the suspected Covid-symptoms; and all those parents who have contacted us of any possible Covid exposure; and all those parents who have quarantined themselves and their children when they have traveled to other areas outside of the NJ, NY, PA, and CT area, or for any other reason. It is only with this type of cooperation that we have been able to keep St. Theresa School safe for your children and it is greatly appreciated!

Have a wonderful week ahead! Stay safe and healthy!

God bless!



Sr. Lou Ann Fantauzza, FMA  
Principal