

November 23, 2020

Dear St. Germaine families,

- I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable weekend!

Please continue to check and monitor each of your children for fever, new or unusual cough, and/or shortness of breath **each day before coming to school**. If any of these symptoms are present, you must keep your child(ren) home (even if they are simply just not feeling well, they should stay home). *We all need to work together to help protect each other.* On that note, with the huge spike in cases recently and the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday, I feel it necessary to restate that we all have a personal responsibility to keep ourselves healthy/virus-free *to avoid spreading it to others*. I cannot and do not want to tell any of you what to do, BUT in the midst of this spike and in an effort to keep our school community safe, virus free, and OPEN **I would suggest that if you intend to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday weekend with extended family or friends (outside of your household) or take part in “non-essential” activities with people outside of your household without PPE, please consider delaying your return to school for a few days to monitor symptoms a few days longer and confirm that no one in your household was exposed to someone who had the virus or contracted the virus.** Your child may attend school virtually throughout their absence. If you choose to do this ahead of time, your child can prepare by bringing their belongings home before break and teachers will be aware and prepared to meet their needs virtually. In an effort to encourage this, **I am moving our LITTLE CAESAR’S LUNCH TO FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4**, please mark your calendars accordingly and pack a lunch for Monday, November 30 if your child is coming to school. I truly do appreciate all of you for your cooperation and support!

This week: A short week—Student Council will meet after school on Tuesday—We have a half day on Wednesday (11:30 – 11:40 am dismissal) and school will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday until Monday, November 30. Wednesday marks the mid quarter. Our Little Caesar’s Pizza lunch will be Monday, November 30 (if you ordered).

Our **bottle/can drive** ends November 30, the day we return from break. Collect bottles and cans from family, friends or neighbors, return them and turn in the proceeds to school. The class who collects the most will be treated to a popcorn, candy, movie day! So far, our 1st graders are still in the lead! Our **Toy Drive** collection runs through December 4 (see attached picture—amazing!). Each donation earns 1 service hour. **Donuts orders** are due December 4. Our Men’s Club is also offering an opportunity to purchase **spirit wear** to arrive before Christmas: <https://stgermainespirit2020.itemorder.com/sale>. Order forms for **Srodek’s** pierogis, kielbasa, sauerkraut and Dearborn hams for your Christmas meal will be coming home today or tomorrow—YUM!

Do you know anyone who is struggling with online/virtual instruction? We still have **open seats for students in grades 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6**. If you know anyone looking for in-person instruction please encourage them to contact us!

Of all that we’ve been through this year, count your blessings, my wish for you is that your blessings far outweigh your burdens, *sometimes we just need to stop and take time to reflect on them*. I am thankful for and consider all of our school families and our dedicated school staff a blessing. Stay safe, healthy!

Peace and blessings!

Mrs. DeGrez