**THURSDAY TIMES**

**PRINCE OF PEACE MONTESSORI SCHOOL**

**Since 1974, Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration in the United States. It starts the last Sunday in January and runs all week, which in 2022 is January 30-February 5. The theme for Catholic School Week 2022 is “Catholic Schools: Faith, Excellence, Service.” Schools typically observe the annual celebration week with Mass, and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members. Through these events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions toour church, our communities and our nation.**

**Prince of Peace will celebrate Catholic Schools Week with a focus on our community parishes and supporting religious guidance, prayers and love between one another. We will ask all parents to join us for Mass on Wednesday morning of that week. We will celebrate the community and focus on the importance of service to others. When students take part in service activities they demonstrate the values and faith gained through Catholic education. We will celebrate our students with many activities. We will have enjoyable and meaningful activities for them and recognize their accomplishments as well. We will celebrate our staff and recognize the important role they play in our school. We will honor the work they do to make the learning environment very special for our children. We will celebrate our families: the parents, grandparents, guardians and other family members who play a vital role in Catholic education and our school. We know this special group of family members instill values and expectations for academic excellence in their children at home. Stay tuned for special emails and announcements coming next week as we prepare for one of the most special weeks of the year.**

**LAST CALL FOR THE NEXT AFTER SCHOOL CARNEGIE ART/THEATRE PROGRAM!Class will be held on Wednesday afternoon beginning on January 26th. The theme for this theatre class is “Casting Color”. Students will explore color relationships to create a cast of unique characters. They will enjoy creating live-action scenes starring their newly designed “color” character. Last year, the children enjoyed theatre so much it has returned for round #2! Cost is $38.00 per 6-week session. Class will go from January 26-March 2nd. Forms are in red folder. Please register by Monday, January 24th.**

**MASK REMINDER…As of today, masks are still mandated. As this order may change in the near future, if you are encouraging your child to be masked at school, we encourage you to supply your children with a good mask. We are experiencing a high number daily of children who do not come to school with a mask. Thank you!**

**REGISTRATION FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR IS COMING!**

**We would like to remind all parents that we will conduct registration for next year within the next two weeks. This is very important for the school because it helps us determine staffing, program, space availability and budget planning. All families are required to pay a $200.00 non-refundable registration fee. This fee is per family, not per child. The fee will be applied to your AUGUST TUITION. All in-house families are required to pay this fee by the school deadline. Also, a change to the application this year, you must indicate what parish you are currently attending if you are listing your family as in-parish tuition. This will be confirmed. If you will be applying for Scholarship/Financial Aid this is also a question on your application that must be answered. FACTS Management will open up the application process in February. Please remember your taxes must be complete to complete the application. All in-house families will need to have their application in by the close of school or you will not be considered for aid. \*This is a change this year. We appreciate all your support and we look forward to a smooth registration process this year.**

**MAP TESTING was completed this month for all students in Kindergarten through eighth grade. Results will be sent home soon. We hope to have everything ready by our second report card distribution in February. All Map Testing scores become part of each child’s permanent diocese file and transcript. A special thank you to Ms. Cathy Cool who oversees our testing as our Technology Specialist.**

**VIRTUS REMINDERS: January was an OPEN month for Virtus where the system gave us a chance to get caught up on all missed bulletins. If you are still having any issues with your account, please contact Mrs. Middendorf for assistance. We have updated our school list with all parents who have completed the process and are now Virtus trained and on the roster. If you are still interested, please visit the Virtus website for registration. Please remember you must do the following steps: Register, attend a one-time Virtus class, complete a background check ($25.00) and complete two pieces of additional paperwork that comes from the school office. Once, all of these steps are completed you will start receiving the monthly bulletins and be all set to volunteer. We welcome all parents, grandparents and guardians into our program once this process is complete.**

**OUTDOOR REMINDER:We make every attempt to get the children outside during the day for a recess period. Please make sure your children are coming with coats, gloves and hats during the winter months. We watch the temperature daily and will not go outside if we have below temperature weather but if weather permits, we strive to take them out for a short time. We appreciate your cooperation.**

**UPCOMING DAYS SCHOOL IS CLOSED:**

**Monday, February 21st…President’s Day!**

 **Friday, March 18th… Professional Development Day!**