

M A R C H 1 , 2 0 1 7

# St. Bede Catholic School

## Family Newsletter



### Principals' Message

Ash Wednesday is a special time in our liturgical year when we have the opportunity to spend the next forty days in **prayer**, **sacrifice** and **reflection**. Palms from last year are burned, and the ministers at Mass place the ashes on our foreheads saying, "**From dust you came, and to dust you shall return.**" This symbolic gesture serves as a reminder of our mortality and the importance of transformation in our lives. During this season of Lent we are encouraged to **fast**, **give alms** and **pray**. Often people give up something they like for forty days. The purpose of this fasting is to help us reflect on the experience of Jesus' temptation in the desert and allow us to be aware of the needs of others in our world. This leads to almsgiving, the act of sacrificial giving and acts of kindness that help us to be compassionate towards the neediest of our brothers and sisters. As we express generosity and love towards our neighbor, we grow in our relationship with God. Finally, this Lenten journey is a time for us to slow down and be faithful in prayer. **Please take advantage of this beautiful season to grow closer together as a family of faith.**

Here are some Lenten resources for your family to share together:

- **Lent at Home**-[www.loyolapress.com/lent-at-home.htm](http://www.loyolapress.com/lent-at-home.htm)
- **Lenten Activities for Children**-[www.catholicicing.com/lenten-activities-for-children/](http://www.catholicicing.com/lenten-activities-for-children/)
- **Diocese of Oakland**- [http://www.oakdiocese.org/ministries-pastoral/worship/copy\\_of\\_2017DioceseofOaklandResourcesforLent.pdf](http://www.oakdiocese.org/ministries-pastoral/worship/copy_of_2017DioceseofOaklandResourcesforLent.pdf)

You are also welcome to pray with our school community every Friday during Lent for the Stations of the Cross at 2:00 PM in the Church.



### Calendar Updates

Thurs, 3/2	Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss! Read-In Pajama Day
Fri, 3/3	2nd Trimester Ends
Sun, 3/5	10:30 AM Mass for 5th & 6th Grades
Mon, 3/6	Financial Aid Application Due
Tues, 3/7	Spring Pictures
Wed, 3/8	6:30 PM-Lenten Mini-Retreat for Parents
Fri, 3/10	<b>Diocesan Inservice (No School)</b>
Mon, 3/13	<b>Spring Holiday (No School)</b>
Wed, 3/15	<b>Read-a-Thon Logs and Money Due Report Cards Go Home</b>

### Hornet's Nest Activities

Wed, 3/1	Bible Pastry
Thurs, 3/2	Hangman Challenge
Fri, 3/3	Bingo
Mon, 3/6	Pictionary
Tues, 3/7	Lenten Cross
Wed, 3/8	Rice Krispies Cross

## Supporting Our Read-a-Thon

On **Thurs, Mar. 2nd** we celebrate the birthday of Dr. Seuss so our school will participate in our annual **“Read-In” Pajama Day**. Students may bring pillows, sleeping bags, stuffed animals, and most importantly, plenty of books to read. We will have council members reading to our students and our school will enjoy a birthday celebration.

This year the money raised from our Read-a-Thon will go towards supplemental reading resources. Each class and our resource program will receive an equal amount of money to purchase various types of books, including class sets of novels, Math stories, Science resources, guided reading packets and books on poetry. **We encourage all students to bring at least one \$5 pledge which would start us out with at least \$1,250.00. For the past two years we have raised over \$6,000!** With 100% school participation we will have a field trip to Weeks Park where students will be able to compete against teachers in various games. **All reading logs, pledge forms and money collected are due on Wed, Mar. 15th since there is no school on Mar. 10th.**

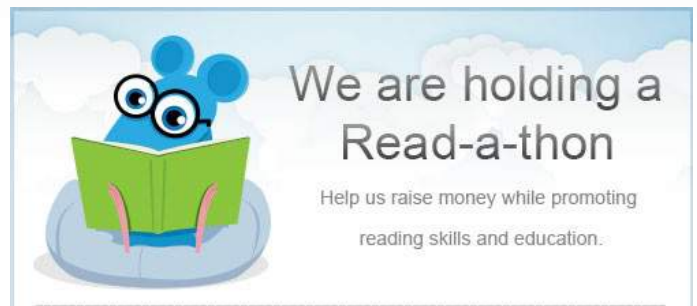


## Receiving Financial Assistance

Any family who would like financial assistance for the 2017-2018 school year must complete a **FACTS application**. All families that are currently receiving financial assistance must **apply every year**. Please be sure to turn in a **printed application with your 2016 income taxes to Linda Tikkanen by Mon, Mar. 6th** so she can thoroughly review your application before turning them in altogether.



**“You’re never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child.”**  
-Dr. Seuss



## Raising “Smart” Kids

Want to learn how to raise “Smart” kids? This **FREE** mini-workshop for parents will show you the latest research on what it takes and will give you practical ideas and strategies for what you can do at home and at school to support your child in becoming his/her smartest self. **This FREE parent workshop will take place on Thurs, Mar. 2nd from 7:00-8:30 PM at the Dominican Sisters Auditorium in Fremont.** For more info, please see the attached flyer.

