Dear Parents,

- **Kindergarten Inventory of Developmental Skills (K.I.D.S.) will be Administered Next Week:** All the students of our current Kindergarten class will have NO SCHOOL NEXT WEEK, from February 22 through Friday, February 26. This will enable our Kindergarten Teachers and Aides, as well as our Learning Consultant, to get know our incoming kindergarten students for the upcoming 2016-2017 school year. Classes for our current Kindergarten students will recommence a week from Monday, on February 29.

- **The National Catholic Educational Association’s (NCEA) National Convention Comes to Saint Louis:** In last week’s principal’s letter you saw more than 20 of the significant dates associated with the 2016-2017 school year, such as the first and last days of school, the start and end of Christmas vacation, etc. A lot of people need to know these dates and others, such as the dates for spring break, so they can begin making vacation and/or day care plans. You may have noticed that, during the third week of April, Incarnate Word School will be off not just for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Monday after Easter, but that we are scheduled to have Tuesday through Friday of Easter week off as well. The reason for this is that the NCEA is holding its 2017 National Convention in St. Louis. Last year in 2015 the convention was in Orlando, this year in 2016 it is in San Diego. NCEA traces its official beginning to a meeting held in St. Louis, Missouri, July 12-14, 1904. Most recently the NCEA national convention was last held in St. Louis in 2004. The convention’s being in St. Louis is, as you can see, an infrequent occurrence. But it is also an unparalleled opportunity for the Catholic school educators of St. Louis and the surrounding area. As we all know, the national conventions of major organizations usually feature the most creative, knowledgeable, and inspiring speakers, as well as the most forward-thinking leaders in the field of the particular organization. The NCEA convention’s being in St. Louis next year represents an outstanding opportunity for professional development for our teachers. Our school will be closed those days so our teachers can enhance their professional development and, at the same time, be able to act as hosts and hostesses for the many Catholic educators who will be attending from all over the United States.

- **Stations of the Cross** are planned for five Friday’s during Lent this year. Come to our church next Friday, February 26 at 2:30pm and hear the 7th Grade present Stations of the Cross. The school will also have Stations of the Cross on March 4th presented by the 6th Grade, on March 11th by our 5th Grade, and on March 18th by our 8th Grade. Exact start times (between 2:00 and 2:30pm) will be announced each week on the calendar in the principal’s letter. Join us please.

- **St. Louis Center for Hearing and Speech** will be at Incarnate Word School the morning of Thursday, March 3, 2016 to conduct HEARING and VISION screenings. For more information, see this week’s Friday folder for a letter from our school nurse, Ms. Mary Ann Wiegers, RN, along with a signup sheet on the reverse side of her letter. In addition to this two-sided paper copy, the letter and sign up sheet will also be in digital form in the electronic Friday folder with this the Principal’s letter.
• **Science Olympiad:** If you attended this wonderful event last night, you KNOW how worthwhile, enjoyable, and educational it was. Nearly 40 exhibitors shared the wonders of science. More information will be available in my letter next week. Many thanks to the CPTO team who made this happen. Remember the words of Albert Einstein: “Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is to not stop questioning.”

**Calendar for February 22-26, 2016**

*Note: K.I.D.S. Testing All Week, No School for Kindergarten*

**MONDAY**

**Feb 22**  **Day 4**  **No School All Week for Kindergarten**

8:30-10:15am  8th Grade Right START begins for 8th Grade  
*Parent Lunch/Recess 11:20am-1:10pm: Simmons, Simon Sink, Slade, Slemmer*

3:00pm  Weekly Winners Draw

**TUESDAY**

**Feb 23**  **Day 5**  **No School All Week for Kindergarten**

8:40am  All School Mass: 3A Reads; 6A Serves  
*Respousorial: “To the upright I will show the saving power of God.”*

*Parent Lunch/Recess 11:20am-1:10pm: SmithB&B, Smyth, Smythe, Spicuzza, Spranaitis*

3:15-4:15pm  Chess Club for Grades 1-5

3:15-4:15pm  Engineering: Medical Madness

**WEDNESDAY**

**Feb 24**  **Day 6**  **No School All Week for Kindergarten**

8:30-10:15am  8th Grade Right START continues for 8th Grade  
*Parent Lunch/Recess 11:20am-1:10pm: Sprunt, Stagner, Stassi, Strait, Strickland*

**THURSDAY**

**Feb 25**  **Day 1**  **No School All Week for Kindergarten**

7:30-8:10am  Junior High Math Club Meeting

8:30-10:15am  8th Grade Right START concludes for 8th Grade  
*Parent Lunch/Recess 11:20-1:10pm: Sullivan, Swiderski, Thurman, Tobey, Trout*

**FRIDAY**

**Feb 26**  **Day 2**  **No School All Week for Kindergarten**

"Salt of the Earth" Spirit Shirts May Be Worn Today.

8:40am  All-School Mass: 3B Reads; 6B Serves  
*Respousorial: “Remember the marvels the Lord has done.”*

*Parent Lunch/Recess 11:20am-1:10pm: Tubbe, Twellman, Utterson, Vierling, Vigna/Withrow*

11:45-12:45  Cupcake Sale in Cafeteria by 2nd Grade

2:30pm  Stations of the Cross for all K-8 in Church presented by our 7th Grade

4:00-7:00pm  Knights of Columbus Fish Fry

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Mike Welling  
Principal

*Growing in Mind and Spirit..............................We Live . . . Alive in Christ  
Rooted in Family..............................................We Love  
Nourished by Faith...........................................We Believe  
Strengthened with Knowledge.............................We Understand  
Reaching for Excellence ....................................We Achieve . . . Wisdom and Compassion  
Bearing the Fruit of Leadership through Service ......We Build the Kingdom of God*