



Grapevine

Prayer Kids

Monday - Michelle R. (8), Noble C. (9)
Tuesday - Jan Carlo S. (10), Amelia A. (K)
Wednesday - Yesenia A. (K), Iva B. (K)
Thursday - Olivia B. (K), Sierra F. (K)
Friday - Jordyn P. (K), Jesse Y. (K)

What are Prayer Kids?

At the start of each day as a part of our morning prayer, we as a staff will pray for the two students listed for each day. We also ask our parents to join us in praying for these students each day. Let's utilize the power of corporate prayer for our students and watch the Lord work in wonderful ways!

Dates to Remember

Jan. 15 - End of 2nd Quarter
Jan. 18 - No School, MLK Day
Feb. 4 - Teacher Training, Noon Dismissal
Feb. 15 - President's Day, No School

Chess Club

We will continue a Thursday afternoon chess club this Thursday from 3:15 - 4:15 after school. We will be learning together chess strategy and tactics while having fun playing each other.

Principal's Corner

"On Wearing Masks"

Someday we won't wear masks.

I've been thinking a lot about masks these last few months. One of my favorite things about being a principal is greeting the students as they arrive on campus. It's a fun way of learning about their personalities and little idiosyncrasies. I love seeing their smiles (or frowns) and getting a gauge on how their day has started. Well, this year has been different (what an understatement!). I no longer get to see their smiles (or frowns) from behind the ever present masks on their faces. Being new, it has made learning all their names a real challenge. As I said, I've

been thinking a lot about masks these last few months, why we wear them and the impact they are having.

We wear them to protect ourselves. We wear them to protect others. We wear them to fit in and not offend. All these are good reasons to wear them, yet I can't help but wonder about the unintended consequences. It's hard to get to know someone well when they wear a mask. So much of who a person is gets communicated through their faces. I miss seeing surprise or wonder or confusion or joy in the full picture of the face. Yes, the eye can tell you a lot, but it's so much richer when the full face is there in all its glory. I wonder if we are getting too used to hiding behind that mask.

In a larger sense, we've been wearing masks since long before this current pandemic. We've been wearing them to protect ourselves. We've been wearing them to protect others, to fit in and not to offend. We've been wearing them for good reasons and have felt the unintended consequences. How did this start?

We are told in Genesis 2:25 that Adam and Eve "were both naked, and they felt no shame." This was not about clothing at all, this was about having nothing to hide from each other. Complete honesty in the innocence of perfection. They felt no shame. With each other or from their God. But, the instant they ate that forbidden fruit the fact of their "nakedness" no longer felt comfortable. They now had something to hide, both from each other and from their God, so they tried

their best to cover up that uncomfortable nakedness with what they could quickly find, fig leaves. Their hidden mutual blame and resentment only stayed hidden until they attempted to shift blame for their actions to another. Humanity has been hiding behind "masks" ever since. It's how we have coped, trying to protect ourselves and others from what could cause harm.

I look forward to the day when we have nothing to hide and nothing to fear from what was once behind our "masks."

"Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known."

I Corinthians 13:12

One day we won't need to wear masks. I can hardly wait.

God bless,

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