

The
Season
of
Lent



SACRED HEART SCHOOL
PRINCIPAL'S PEN
2.15.2018

VALUE OF THE MONTH: PERSEVERANCE

I have been working with the Monroe Police Department over the past year and a half in order to make sure our school is safe for all our students. We had our first Evacuation Drill in November and plan to have several Lockdown Drills within the next month. During this Evacuation drill the fire alarm was pulled and students filed out of the building in fire drill formation. Once outside the building they were directed and escorted by several Police Officers to walk down the driveway and across the street to St. Paul's Lutheran School where they lined up in Fire Drill formation and remained quiet until notice was given to return to SHS. The Police were amazed at how organized and orderly the students were and how quiet they were throughout the whole drill. Lock Down Drills are very different as students are trained to shelter in place. They are more frightening as you do not know what is happening. The more we practice these drills the better we will become. I am told this needs to become rote and needs to be practiced over and over again. The teachers of SHS are equipped with silent alarm buttons (panic buttons) which send a message to the Police Department if danger is perceived. Chief Conklin suggested that he come to speak to our parents after we train with the police a few times.

What he also suggested is that we have a seminar on Cyber-bullying as this is a major concern for students, parents and teachers alike. **Next Wednesday, February 21st, the Home School Association is planning a special meeting to discuss cyber-bullying. I have invited Detective Lee from the Monroe Police Department to give a presentation to our parents.** He will share many aspects of cyber-bullying and discuss how we as parents can begin to understand the ramifications of inappropriate internet use by our students. Detective Lee has given a similar presentation in the Monroe-Woodbury School District which was well received. I look forward to seeing everyone here. It is so important to become aware of what is happening in and out of schools, and learn how we can help our children make the right decisions with regard to the internet.

It has been decided that MARCH 6th will be a Conference Day for all teachers. THEREFORE SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED. The Region of USO has chosen that day for an Active Shooter Workshop. Teachers will be spending the day at Our Lady of Mount Carmel School in Middletown with Police and NY State Troopers. We will learn and train throughout the day. In light of what just happened in Florida yesterday, this training cannot come soon enough. I am sorry for the short notice but the date of this workshop was just solidified.

On Friday, February 23rd, the HSA will host a "Pretty in Polka Dots" Father – Daughter Dance from 7 to 10 in the Gym. You should have received a pretty pink invitation with all the information needed to make this a great night for your little princess. I have posted a flyer on Facebook and on our website if needed. I hope you can make it!

Dates to Remember:

Feb. 19 th	President's Day - School Closed
Feb. 23 rd	Pretty in Polka Dots Father – Daughter Dance
Mar. 2 nd	First Friday - 9:00 Mass – 11:45 Early Dismissal
Mar. 6 th	Active Shooter Workshop – School Closed
Mar. 10 th	Joker's Comedy Club in Chester - More information to follow
Mar. 16 th	Academic Conference Day – School Closed
Mar. 19 th -23 rd	Scholastic Book Fair
Mar. 29 th – Apr. 6 th	Easter Recess Begins