



Important Notes from Mrs. Luzzo

January 12, 2024

Don't forget to ROAR!

Happy Friday! I hope you all enjoy the long weekend. Please find important information about school happenings below.

No School - School will be closed on **Monday, 1/15**, in recognition of Martin Luther King, Jr. day. School will resume on **Tuesday, 1/16**.

Forms due - Permission slips for **5th grade's trip to Seton** and **4th/5th, and 3rd Grade Cheerleaders' only trip to the School Choice Rally**, and **hot lunch** forms are all due on **Wednesday, 1/17**.

Schools Choice Rally - More information about the Schools Choice rally in Columbia can be found at: <https://mailchi.mp/schoolchoiceweek.com/school-fair-columbia-capital-celebration?e=cd19d796fa>

Catholic Schools Week Mass - All families are asked to join us for the **10 AM Mass** on **Sunday, 1/28**, as we kick off Catholic Schools Week 2024. Students are asked to wear their MASS DAY UNIFORMS as they will be representing our school, as well as reading and singing at this Mass. We will sit together as a school community on the front left side facing the altar. Please plan to arrive by **9:45 AM** to secure a seat. There will be an open house in the school immediately following the Mass. Please tell your friends and neighbors about this event as all those who enroll during Catholic Schools Week receive free registration for the 24-25 school year as do all families who refer new families.

CSW Agenda of Events - Please see below for daily activities planned for the 2024 Catholic Schools Week.

*Sunday - Celebrating our Faith - **Join us for the 10 AM Mass**, followed by an open house*

*Monday - Celebrating the Community - **Blood Drive** - **Schedule your appointment and save a life!***

Tuesday - Celebrating Students - Science Fair presentations w/alumni judges, ice cream treat at lunch

Wednesday - Celebrating the Nation - Schoolwide Rosary for our Nation, Virtual Mass with the Bishop

Thursday - Celebrating Vocations - Visits with Deacon Richard and Sr. Marie, Open House for new families interested in touring HTCS at 3 PM

*Friday - Celebrating Faculty, Staff, Volunteers, and Families - **Join us for breakfast at morning drop off***

Front Office Construction - Please be aware that sometime "soon", construction will begin to create a vestibule area in the front office. This vestibule will add an additional level of security for our faculty, staff, and students. Once construction begins, all front office activity will take place from the multipurpose room where Ms. Nicole and I will be temporarily located. More information will be sent home soon about how this will impact the day-to-day business of the school. The work is estimated to take two weeks. We ask for your patience during this time as we continue our on-going efforts to ensure a safe and nurturing school environment for all.

Stations of the Cross - This beautiful Lenten activity will be held with Deacon Richard in the church after the **9 AM** school Masses on **2/21, 2/28, and 3/6**. They also will be presented by Laura Boronski in the mp room on **Wednesday, 3/20 at 1:45 PM**. All are welcome to join us for these Lenten faith formation opportunities.

Renting the Rock - Please see attached flier for information about renting the rock for your child's special day.

Yearbooks - Get your yearbook orders in by **Thursday, 2/29**. The price goes up to \$40 on **Friday, 3/1**. For questions, contact Mrs. Hines at ehines@charlestandiocese.org.

Uniform Store - Please note that the uniform store is run by the PTO and not HTCS staff. It is open once per month, according to the calendar posted on the school website that can be found at: <https://holytrinitynmb.com/calendar/academic-calendar>. Please only come during the scheduled days as we do not have the ability to open the store for drop-in shopping. You can contact the PTO directly at: htcspto@gmail.com for more information.

Lost and Found - Please clearly label all of your child(ren)'s clothing, water bottles, lunch boxes, bookbags, etc. Items in the lost and found spend more time lost because items are not labeled. 😊

Ash Wednesday takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday, and is chiefly observed by Catholics, although many other Christians observe it too. Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us. As the priest applies the ashes to a person's forehead, he speaks the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Alternatively, the priest may speak the words, "Repent and believe in the Gospel." Ashes also symbolize grief, in this case, grief that we have sinned and caused division from God. Writings from the Second-century Church refer to the wearing of ashes as a sign of penance. Priests administer ashes during Mass and all are invited to accept the ashes as a visible symbol of penance. Even non-Christians and the excommunicated are welcome to receive the ashes. The ashes are made from blessed palm branches, taken from the previous year's palm Sunday Mass. [Ash Wednesday - Easter / Lent - Catholic Online](#)

MISSION STATEMENT: *Holy Trinity Catholic School, a ministry of Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish, offers to early childhood and elementary school students of diverse ethnic, economic, and religious backgrounds a superior academic program based on Gospel values. Within a family atmosphere, the school strives to develop the spiritual, academic, personal, creative, and physical growth of each student.*

VISION STATEMENT: *Holy Trinity Catholic School students will be fully prepared to transition to middle school possessing critical thinking skills, an ability to work independently as well as collaboratively, and an awareness of what it means to actively live the Gospel values.*