

## **Knights News**

February 5, 2021 / 5 de febrero 2021

### **PRINCIPAL'S CORNER:**

**Covid Protocol updates** - Last summer a committee of 31 parents and staff helped think through protocols for how to keep our school safe. On Monday, Feb 8, we will celebrate our 100th day of school. In August 2020, many people likely would have thought that we'd never reach 100 days of school. We have come so far, so fast...all while staying safe. Our incredibly talented and brave teachers have persevered through in-person and virtual instruction all year. Many are now awaiting the second dose of the vaccine. There is much to be thankful for this year, indeed!

One point of clarification from the protocols published last summer pertains to when and how the school would "pivot" to virtual instruction. What we know now that we didn't know this summer is that every Covid case is different. Time has shown us that there is no "one-size-fits-all" way of handling each Covid case. Thereby, although our best intentions when we drafted the original policy was to try to give the community peace of mind, we must also make sure that we respond to each Covid case in a reasonable and measured way. We've been "fine tuning" our practices around the school since August and we feel very good about where we are regarding our safety measures.

As we've managed the few cases of Covid that have affected All Saints since August, we realize that we can no longer commit to "one-size-fits-all" statements from the FAQ released on July 31, 2020 such as, but not limited to, "If someone tests positive, how will the school handle it? The school will move to virtual learning until it is determined that a safe return is possible for all students and teachers." It would be more fitting to say that "the school will continue to work with the Office of Catholic Schools when a positive Covid case presents itself in order to determine what course of action is best for the members of the All Saints school community."

We believe that in-person instruction, when there exists a plausible assurance of safety, is what's best for students. We continue to keep our virtual infrastructure available for those families who determine that virtual learning is the safest and best option for their family. We continue to disinfect the classrooms and common spaces two times per day. We continue to monitor temperatures upon entry and make sure masks are worn. We continue to immediately notify the community, the department of health, and Office of Catholic Schools when Covid affects the school. We have every reason to believe that All Saints can continue to offer high quality virtual and in-person instruction throughout this time of Covid. Please continue to pray (and cheer) for the All Saints community.