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Last week our school celebrated Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the liturgical season of Lent. Lent is a time when we are encouraged to think about the mystery of Jesus' life and death and how we can grow to be more loving by following Jesus' way. During the season of Lent we reflect upon our lives and turn back to God in preparation for the coming season of Easter.

At our Lenten Celebration, all community members had the sign of the cross marked on their forehead with ashes. The ashes are made from the blessed palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year. The ashes remind us that we belong to God and are preparing for Jesus' death and resurrection. It reminds us that we believe Jesus is the source of all life. During Lent, we pray for and help our brothers and sisters throughout the world who, because of poverty and injustice, do not have the opportunities we have. By giving generously through prayer, going without and showing kindness to others during Lent, we are working towards a fairer world for all.

Thanks to Deacon Roger and all the students who participated in our celebration. Thanks also to Mrs. Willms and Mrs. Matier and their students for all their hard work in preparing for the celebration. During the remainder of Lent our students will be discussing, participating, and sharing their journey during this special season. Each Friday morning during Lent our community will participate in song, prayer, and reflection. If you are in the school during this time you are invited to sing and pray with us.

A Lenten Calendar was sent home with each student outlining a variety of activities that can assist your family with your Lenten journey. I wish to thank our Grade 4 students and staff for leading our school community Lenten Project. Each week during Lent, students are encouraged to bring a much needed non-perishable item for the Food Bank including peanut butter, juice boxes, rice, soup and pasta or sauce.

Thank you to the many parent volunteers and school council for hosting our January Family Movie Night and our amazing Shrove Tuesday Pancake Breakfast; our staff and students enjoyed the pancakes and sausages. Events like this are a true reflection of the wonderful and supportive community of our Holy Family. The next school council meeting is on Monday, March 9 at 6:00 pm. All parents are invited to attend, childcare is available, please see the sign-up sheet in your email.

A reminder that Student-Led Conferences are on Wednesday, March 18, the students are looking forward to highlighting their learning. Please be sure to sign up for one of the available times. A Parent-teacher conference is available for parents who would like to have an individual meeting with their child's teacher on Thursday, March 19 in the evening, please sign up if you would like this in addition to the Student-Led Conference.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our school community. Let us live Lent attentively and kindly. As always, if you have questions or concerns please contact us.

God Bless,
Rori-Lynn Daniel / Melissa Meyer
Holy Family Administration Team

Where all Students Learn Through Christ