



Dear St Stephen School Family Members,

I'm reaching out to you to provide information and to ask for a collaborative effort. Here are the items of import:

*We have had several students out sick this week (and some at the end of last week). In particular, our Kindergarten classroom has been effected significantly. We have also had some preschoolers, and a few other students, out sick. It is not that unusual to see a spike in sickness early in a school year, especially among our youngest students whose immune systems are not as robust. This is especially true when you consider many of these students have had less exposure to "everyday germs" than our older students.

*The majority of sick students have had coughs, runny noses, and fevers with some stomach sickness as well. We have had no reported cases of any strain of COVID.

*We are deep cleaning the K and PREK-classrooms and disinfecting desks etc in other classrooms.

*We will be asking all students and staff to use the hand sanitizer dispensers more frequently and making sure they are washing their hands thoroughly.

*Please keep a close eye on your child(ren) and let us know if they are showing any signs of illness. Please follow our school policies and keep students home if they are symptomatic. This will help us to all stay as healthy as possible. If your child has had a fever they need to be fever free - without meds - for at least 24 hours before they can be sent back to school.

*We will send home work for sick students so they do not fall behind on their academics while out.

Thanks very much for your understanding and helping our entire school family to stay healthy and happy.

Yours in Catholic Education,

Patrick Bevier, principal