



11 November 2016

Planning Ahead

Friday, 11 November – Veterans’ Day. **End of 1st Quarter.** FJS HAS SCHOOL on this day.

Thursday, 17 November – **Parent-Teacher Conferences.** 3:30-9:00 p.m. Miss Jen will be contacting you to set up an interview with you and your child’s homeroom teacher.

Friday, 18 November – **Parent-Teacher Conferences.** Early dismissal, 1:30 p.m. Conferences from 2:00-6:00 p.m.

Friday, 18 November – deadline for **Operation Christmas Child** shoeboxes. See below for more information.

Wednesday, 23 November – **Thanksgiving Feast.** 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Thursday-Friday, 24-25 November – **Thanksgiving Vacation.** NO SCHOOL.

What to Make of the Election?

The buzz around school this week has been all about the election. Some students are excited that their candidate won; others are disappointed or even angry that their candidate didn’t win.

As we observe the demonstrations in front of the Trump Tower on 5th Avenue in the city and listen to the news reports, it seems that our students reflect the feelings of the general population fairly well. In fact, I suspect that our students’ opinion are not so much their own, but more likely the views of their parents.

Allow me to share what I wrote in a letter to our Prayer Warriors earlier this week before the election:

“On Tuesday we elect our next president. It’s sad when many people say they’re voting against one candidate rather than for the other, and it seems to cut both ways. Whether or not you vote or for whom, it’s appropriate to remember Paul’s word to Timothy. “I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people – for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth” (1 Timothy 2:1-4 NIV). And to the Romans, “Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. **The authorities that exist have been established by God**” (Romans 13:1 NIV, emphasis mine).

“We have more freedom here in the U.S. to do things like Christian school, kids’ clubs, boys’ and girls’ camps, street evangelism, and personal witnessing than in most other countries in the world. Pray that, whatever the outcome of the election, God would continue to extend his grace so that we could continue to enjoy the liberties we have in worshiping, serving, and proclaiming the whole message of the Gospel as we have enjoyed until now. And pray, too, that, if and when those freedoms are curtailed or lost, we can continue to have the grace to honor those in authority while at the same time living out our convictions.”

Yesterday, President Obama was the model of class and graciousness as he met President-elect Trump and prepared for a peaceful transfer of power. I pray that, whether or not “our” candidate won, we will be able to trust God to continue to work out his purposes in the world as we pray “your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

Praying with you for our soon to be President Trump,
James E. Gochnauer, Principal