



St. Mary's Kindergarten Open House for 2018/19

We will hold an informational meeting for parents on the evening of Thursday, March 22. On Friday, March 23, next year's kindergarten students will be invited to join the current class during the school day for some fun activities from 9:30 to 10:30. While the children enjoy activities in the kindergarten room, adults will take a tour of our school.

If you know families who might be interested in sending a kindergartener to St. Mary's next year, pass along this information and ask them to contact us.

Empower Illinois is back in business. Application process for tuition scholarships will open next Tuesday. Families requesting CAPE funds will need to apply first to Empower Illinois.

On Feb. 27 the site will open for applications. Please refer to the email I sent out this morning for further details or go to empowerillinois.org for instructions.

1st Communion Parent Meeting

Thurs. March 8, at 7:00 in the Library

At least one parent must attend if your child will be making their First Communion this year on May 6 at 2:00.



ST. MARY SCHOOL

FAMILY NOTES

February 20, 2018

Lenten Service Project

Each year during Lent our students collect change in baby bottles for Loving Arms Crisis Pregnancy Center here in Taylorville. Mrs. Harrison makes a contest out of this project with classrooms competing to see who can bring in the most contributions. Baby bottles were distributed during Ash Wednesday Mass. They will also be available at the church.



Children's Masses Thursday at 9:00 a.m. Grade 2 will perform the various ministries of the Mass.

Please join us!



Jeans Day for Students Friday, Feb. 23

Students may wear jeans (blue & without holes) with a uniform shirt, sweatshirt, or St. Mary's t-shirt. **A white uniform shirt may be layered under a t-shirt for warmth.**



In order to receive your child's report card for the 3rd quarter, tuition payments need to be current by then. Report cards for the 3rd quarter will go home on March 15. This policy applies to all families whether you pay through Smart Tuition or directly to the school. We count on your timely payment!

Wall of Wine

The staff and I will host a Wall of Wine at the Spring Fling. For a \$10 donation, you will get a randomly chosen bottle of wine from our selection. If you would like to give a bottle of wine to this fundraiser, please send them in. We promise to get them to get the to Spring Fling unharmed.



SPRING FLING

Spring Fling dinner & auction is Sat., April 21, at the American Legion in Stonington. Doors open at 5:30. Tickets are \$100 and will cover dinner for two, drinks, and a chance to win up to \$5000. Each family must purchase or sell a ticket. Most of you purchased your ticket when you paid tuition. Those tickets will be sent home on March 12. More are available through the school office. The more guests we have the better the event!



FISH FRIES

St. Mary's Booster Club will host five Lenten fish fries from 5-7 pm in the cafeteria. Each fish fry is covered by parents from our different grades. Those families are asked to send desserts & assist with serving & clean-up on their assigned evening. You'll receive a message from the work coordinator asking for your help. (If this date doesn't work for you, let your coordinator know when you can help!)

Parent Helper Schedule:

- *Feb. 23 - Grade 3
 - *March 2 - Grade 4
 - *March 9 - Grades 1 & 2
 - *March 16—Kindergarten & 6
 - *March 23 - Grade 5
 - *March 30 is Good Friday, no fish fry.
- Kids whose parents are working a Fish Fry may attend After Care for FREE, but they must sign in & STAY with the supervisors until picked up. After Care ends at 5:30 & has dibs on the gym until then. Kids not signed in for After Care will be asked to leave the gym.

Coming Events

- *All School Sing—Feb., 25, 11:00 Mass
- *Iowa Assessments—Gr. 3 & 5—March 5-9
- *St. Mary's Night at Florinda's—March 7
- *1st Communion Parent Meeting—Mar. 8, 7:00
- *Kindergarten Conferences—March 9
- *End of 3rd Quarter—March 9
- *No p.m. bus service—Tues., Mar.13—public schools dismiss at 1:00
- *Living Stations of the Cross—Wed., March 14, 2:00 in church
- *Report Cards go home for Gr. 1-6 - Thurs., March 15
- *Good Friday—No School—March 30
- *Easter Break—March 30—April 8
- *Spring Fling—April 21
- *Music Festival—Gr. 4-6—April 27



Preschool Registration

For 2018-2019 will go out to current St. Mary's families in backpack mail on March 12. Students in this year's 3-year-old class will receive registration materials via backpack mail and may return the forms via backpack mail. After our school and preschool families have had the opportunity to register, we will open enrollment to families in the parish with a new preschooler and then the public.

Special Lenten Activities for our youngest students...

Mrs. Harrison and several upper grade PSR students will welcome children ages preschool through Gr. 1 to a special hour of activities based on scripture each Sunday of Lent during 11:00 Mass. Children can be dropped off at the north side door of the school at 10:45. While parents and older children attend Mass, the little ones will hear Bible stories, learn songs, and participate in activities designed especially for them!



Trivia Night
Still under
discussion!

Stations of the Cross
Fridays at 5:30 in church
Come and pray

