



ST. MARY SCHOOL

FAMILY NOTES

September 10, 2018

St. Mary's Parish Fiesta
Sept. 14, 15, & 16
Come join the fun!

Help is still needed! School families must work a shift, donate a basket for the raffle, or make a contribution of \$50. Call the parish office at 824-8178 to see how you can help. Pies & cakes are also needed for the chicken dinner on Sunday. These can be taken to the cafeteria any time over the weekend.

No Preschool
Fri, Sept. 14, & Mon, Sept. 17
because of Fiesta work
and traffic.

THS Homecoming Parade

St. Mary's will be in the parade Wed., Oct. 3. If you'd like to walk with the school group, meet at the fairgrounds by 5:15 in the line up. The parade ends after circling the square.

Please bring candy to throw. Wear St. Mary's shirts. There are some adult sizes in the uniforms room. If you want, make signs supporting the Tornadoes! Strollers are welcome.



Children's Masses

Tues., Sept. 11, at 10:30, **Gr. 5** travels to Taylorville Estates to celebrate Mass with the residents.

Thurs., Sept. 13, 9:00, Grade 3 will lead this Mass.

*****This Friday, Sept. 14*****

11:30 Dismissal

We dismiss early for our annual Faculty Retreat.

After Care is not offered on Friday, Sept. 14 or on any 11:30 dismissal day.

No bus service at 11:30 dismissal on Friday, Sept. 14.

Also Note:

No p.m. bus service on Monday, Sept. 17. Public schools dismiss early that day, but St. Mary's will have a full day of school ending at 3:00. After Care will be offered. A.M. buses will run as usual.

*****Attention: At 11:30 dismissal on Friday, Sept. 14, North Alley car line will move to the gravel lot at the corner of Adams & Washington. Details on page 2.**

Blue Jeans Day

On **Fri., Sept. 28**, students may wear blue jeans with either a uniform shirt or any St. Mary's School t-shirt.

Jeans must be blue denim with no holes.

Full length blue jeans only. Jean shorts are **not** allowed as it is very difficult to monitor length. If students wish to wear shorts on Jeans Days in Sept. and Oct., since shorts are an accepted part of the uniform at that time, they may wear **uniform shorts** with a school t-shirt - but no jean shorts will be allowed. Athletic shoes are required as always.

Blue Jeans Day will be held about once a month from September through March. It is optional; students not participating in Jeans Day must come to school in uniform.

Thank you to our Booster Club which pays for all our students to participate in Jeans Day!

Jeans Days

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| Sept. 28 | Jan. 25 |
| Oct. 19 | Feb. 22 |
| Nov. 16 | March 15 |
| Dec. 21 | |

Living Rosary - Students in grades 2-6 will take part in a Living Rosary on Wednesday, Oct. 10, at 2:15 in the church. Kindergarteners and first graders will attend and pray along as we honor the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. Please join us for this traditional prayer to our mother Mary.



Partners in Education

Our Partners in Education (PIE) assist St. Mary's School by making annual financial donations that sponsor classrooms or special programs. Classrooms—Preschool thru 6th grade—can be sponsored for \$500 a year. Special programs, like library, art, or music, are sponsored for \$1000 a year. These funds are used to purchase equipment, make updates, and pay costs associated with that grade or program.

As a donor, you would be recognized on signage outside the room you sponsor. The students would pray for you through petitions read at the Children's Mass. You would be invited to attend Masses and special events at St. Mary's School, including a reception for PIE sponsors. At this reception, you will be treated to a slide show that illustrates how sponsorships benefits our students, you'll tour the school to see the children hard at work, and you'll enjoy a slice of homemade pie baked especially for you. If you, a family member, or business would like to become a PIE sponsor, please contact Mrs. Robertson.

St. Mary's Teachers Relay for Life Team will host a raffle fundraiser. Students will view all the goodies being raffled. Chances will be sold Mon., Sept. 24—Fri., Sept. 28. Drawings will be Friday afternoon.
Lots of winners!
50 cents per chance. No limit!



Car Line Changes for Friday

On Fri., Sept. 14, school will dismiss at 11:30. **NORTH ALLEY CARS** will need to move to the gravel lot at the corner of Adams and Washington to pick up students. Tents and stands set up for Fiesta will block the North Alley. As you pull into the lot, drive south and turn to the left. The first car into the lot should drive all the way around the loop going counterclockwise and park as close to the entrance as possible without blocking it. The rest of the line can pull in behind until the lot is filled. The teachers will bring the children over at 11:30 & we will load the cars that are in the lot. Stay in a loop. If you pull into a parking space you will be blocked in. After all the cars in the lot are filled, I'll start the first car in line toward the exit. Once all these cars leave the lot, vehicles waiting in the street can pull in. When all these cars stop, the children will load up. Cars waiting to get into the lot should be on Adams St. facing east. Pull to the side of the street & please do not block driveways or intersections. We will make every effort to move the line as quickly as possible, but our first concern is the safety of your children.
South alley car line will run as usual.

Picture Day

Tuesday, October 2



This is a non-uniform day. Please consult the student handbook at www.st-maryschool.com for appropriate dress on non-uniform days.

Order forms are in backpack mail today.

Please let me know if you've signed up for automatic debits for your church giving. This counts as a credit for all new participants.

Remember: Only solid white, black or navy blue socks are allowed. No stripes, logos, or other visible designs.



It's that time of year... Unfortunately, the spread of head lice is a problem that schools continually face. Be diligent in checking your child's hair for signs of lice. Scratching is a tell-tale sign, but investigate further. If you detect lice, administer an over-the-counter product before sending the child back to school and notify me.

Coming Events...

- *Children's Mass—Thurs., Sept. 13—Gr. 3 leads
- *Board of Education Meeting - Thurs., Sept. 13, 6:00 in library
- *11:30 dismissal—Friday, Sept. 14—Faculty Retreat
- *St. Mary's Fiesta—Sept. 14-16!
- *No PM bus—Mon., Sept. 17
- *Children's Mass—Friday, Sept. 21—Gr. 2 leads
- *Children's Mass—Thurs., Sept. 27—Gr. 1 leads
- *Jeans Day for Students—Friday, Sept. 28
- *No School—Monday, Oct. 1—Diocesan Adult Education Conference for teacher
- *Picture Day—Tuesday, Oct. 2
- *St. Mary's Night at Florinda's—Wed., Oct. 3
- *Homecoming Parade—Wed., Oct. 3, 5:15
- *Teachers' Institute—Fri., Oct. 5—No School
- *Columbus Day—Mon., Oct. 8—No School



St. Mary's Day at Indian Knolls Pumpkin Patch

Sunday, September 30
2850 N. 1000 E. Rd.

Mechanicsburg, IL 62545

The Bliler Family will donate a portion of the proceeds from sales of pumpkins, gourds & squash to our school on this day! It's a great family day!

Families with 4th, 5th, & 6th graders who want to play basketball for St. Mary's—please return your interest forms by tomorrow!

Sycamore is up and running. We are still learning and working out kinks as we go. Because you now have the ability to check your child's grades, the teachers in Gr. 3-6 will not need to send midterm grade reports. They will, however, send a notice to the parents of any 3rd through 6th grader who has a D or F in any subject. This notice will need to be signed and returned.

Please remember that you need to look at your child's overall progress rather than focusing on each individual assignment. It's not necessary to contact the teacher over one poor piece of work, but a string of poor work can indicate a problem that needs to be addressed. Our teachers are very good about contacting parents if they see students struggling.

I also ask that, out of respect for our teachers, you contact them during the work day. They will gladly email or return phone calls as soon as they are able.



Flag Training for our 6th graders. Thank you, Veterans!

We were blessed with 71 students for our first All School Sing of the year. They sounded great! We hold All School Sing once every other month during the school year. Watch the newsletter for the next one coming in November!



Golf Ball Drop

Oct. 12, at Lake Shore Golf Course

Chances are \$25 each. School families are asked to sell 10. That gives us 1000 golf balls to drop. The Mateers bought the helicopter ride at last year's Spring Fling, so they'll get the honors. More to come on how to document your sales. Start talking it up!

Booster Club officers are planning a cook out for us. They are in need of people to grill, help serve food, and take money. They must have someone with a food handler's certification on site that evening. Let us know if you can help.



Please read if you drive at St. Mary's!

1) Preschool families are now dropping off in the morning. They drop off between 8:15 and 8:30. They will turn in from Washington Street to the alley behind the church then turn left into the driveway between Monsignor's house and the parish office. **Preschoolers get out at the side door of the parish office.**

2) School families dropping off (or picking up at the end of the day) may use this driveway. Just be aware that **you may have to wait on a preschool family** in the morning.

3) Also be aware that adults and children cross this driveway. **Drive slowly.** As you exit onto Adams Street from the alley, there's a nasty drop off. Go slowly and go straight until you are out in the street. Then you can turn without scraping the heck out of your car!