Dec. 22, 2023 Weekly Newsletter

THE CONNECTION

CHALLENGING MINDS ✦ DEVELOPING CHARACTER ✦ LIVING JESUS

Dear Families,

It's been a busy week of waiting and celebrating as we wrap up the last week of Advent before Christmas break. Our Catholic faith calls us to care for the poor and vulnerable in our community so this week we had our Kindergarten students visit and support the Guest House and Pathfinders, two local non-profits. Kindergarten students collected hygiene products to give to people stay at the Guest House, while students in grades first through third, made hygiene bags for the Guest House employees to hand out to those in need. Older students spent the afternoon assembling over 350 bag lunches to give to guests at the Guest House and Pathfinders. Read more about this outreach on our website.

Good News! I received official notification from the Archdiocese yesterday that our grant application to the Catholic Church Extension (CCA) Campaign was accepted and we will be receiving $25,000 for the playground project. This is in addition to the 50% funds we are receiving from our parish, getting us very close to our goal to start in the spring!

SAVE THE DATE: Open House — Jan. 28, 2024
Our annual Open House will again be kicking off Catholic Schools Week in January. If you love St. Mary's Parish School as much as we love being a part of your family, feel free to share this video and invite your friends and anyone you think might be interested and invite them to our open house, Jan. 28, 2024. Thanks to our teachers and students who participated in making this video which helps showcase our wonderful school!

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with blessings! We look forward to welcoming back students on Wednesday, January 3rd.

Faithfully,
Linda Joyner

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 22
Column Ice Cream Tickets due to Parish Office

Dec. 23 - Jan. 2
Christmas Break

Jan. 3
5th - 8th Grade Spelling Bee

Jan. 15
Home & School Meeting 7pm

Jan. 16
Column Parents Night Pizza Party
View Page Here

Jan. 18
8th Grade Photos

Jan. 26
Early Release at 11:30am

Jan. 28
St. Mary School Open House

Jan. 29 - Feb 2
Catholic Schools Week

Feb. 2
School Day Fun Fair

Feb. 9
No School

Feb. 12
No School

View Full Calendar

Spirit Day: Dress in your Wackiest Christmas Outfit

Today students showed off their Christmas spirit and dressed in their "Wackiest" Christmas outfits! Check out more pictures here

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Daily Playground and Lunchroom Volunteers Needed

Please see below for our daily volunteer needs for the next two weeks.
after we return from Christmas break.
We greatly appreciate your time and help!

Month of Jan.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch room Supervisor	No School	No School	No School	No School	No School
Playground Monitor	No School	No School	No School	No School	No School
Playground Helper	No School	No School	No School	No School	No School

Month of Feb.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch room Supervisor	No School	No School	No School	No School	No School
Playground Monitor	No School	No School	No School	No School	No School
Playground Helper	No School	No School	No School	No School	No School

Here are the links to sign up:
Lunchroom Sign Up
Playground Sign Up

"Please note, all volunteers must have completed the Safeguarding Training. If you have not done so, please contact Steve at scoaxenna@stam.church.

K5 "Starbucks" Cafe

Last Sunday in church we lit the candle of JOY. The K5 class and their parents celebrated the joy of the season "Starbucks" style as they transformed their classroom into a "Starbucks". Each one was in attendance with a special "customer" to share the joy of Christmas. JOY, they celebrated the simpler joys in life such as reading with a loved one and enjoying a hot cup of cocoa served by the cutest K5 baristas.

Check out our St. Mary Parish School Facebook page to see more pictures as well as posts about other school happenings!

Optimist Club Student of the Month:
Addison Roesch

Addison's positive attitude, organization skills, and drive to succeed make her a wonderful student. When Addison encounters obstacles or doesn't understand a concept, she isn't afraid to ask questions and seek help. Her willingness to learn and her determination are a testament to her dedication to her education. In addition to her individual academic success, Addison is a team player who excels in group settings. She collaborates well with her peers, listens to others' ideas, and contributes her own ideas and opinions. Addison is always asking her teachers how they are doing and how their day is going. This may seem small, but it means a lot to us as teachers. Overall, Addison is very deserving of this award. Congratulations, Addison!

Our St. Mary Teachers are the Best!

We're proud of our St. Mary teachers and want to show off how wonderful they are! Please share how they've impacted your family by highlighting the amazing work of our 3rd grade teacher, Mrs. Kleinmann. Take a look at what some students and their families have to share:

Teacher Spotlight: Mrs. Kleinmann - 3rd Grade

"Sarah is always willing to help in any way she can. Is fairly, is very, very, very, very fair, she will always offer to take responsibility, she will always offer support and offer attitude is something I am very grateful for this year."
- Mrs. Kleinmann

"I love that she is fun, nice, and always willing to help students with questions and desk pets." - Lucas B.

"Mrs. Kleinmann is very kind. I like how she makes jokes. I like class hands out a lot of candy." - Jake C.

"Mrs. Kleinmann has been wonderful. Our daughter comes home happy every day and loves her first grade teacher. She gushes about her Fridays and the classroom "money" they earn for good behavior. We are very grateful for her grade!" - Jennifer Bryant

"Despite having some things going on in her personal life, Mrs. Kleinmann has been amazing with our son. She is patient with hearing and fun. I joined the class for their bowling field trip a couple weeks ago and she was so patient with the kids laughing, being nice and having a ton of fun. It was a fun joy to watch the interaction between her and the classroom" - Libby Hepburn

"She's one of the greatest things I can say about her! Her kindness and how clearly she treats us as family has brought great her!" - Grant H.

"Mrs. Kleinmann is one of the most kind hearted, fun and patient teachers we have met. She goes above and beyond for her students. We are so blessed to have her in our life. We love Mrs. Kleinmann. Thanks for all that you do for us!" - Mark Kleiss

"Mrs. Kleinmann is kind, caring, nice, and honest. I like how she teaches us and learning from her. I like the class. Kleinmann is a good teacher." - Stella M.

"We are blessed to have Mrs. Kleinmann in our life. She has been so patient with our daughters get to experience having her as their teacher. We love her. We love the fact that she truly cares for each of her students, and she puts their needs before her own. We are so grateful that we have an opportunity to see her hard work and her dedication to our students and school. Thank you, Mrs. Kleinmann, for your sacrifices!" - Heather McCabe

"Mrs. Kleinmann is a great teacher. She is very kind, caring, and fun. She takes hands out a lot of candy." - Jake C.

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