March 3, 2023

THE CONNECTION

Weekly Newsletter



CHALLENGING MINDS

DEVELOPING CHARACTER

Dear Families,

Your help is needed: Please complete this brief survey by Friday, March 10 and consider helping us reinvigorate the School Advisory Committee (SAC). In addition to serving as an advisory committee to the school's leadership, this group is also responsible for ensuring the implementation of the strategic plan. If you have questions about membership on the SAC, please reach out to me. Thank you in advance for your feedback and your consideration of this important volunteer role!

Please join us on Thursday, March 16 at 1:30 PM to pray the Sorrowful Mysteries and on Tuesday, April 4 at 1:00 PM for Living Stations of the Cross.

The END OF THE SECOND TRIMESTER is fast approaching (Tuesday, March 7). Please reach out to your child's teacher (s) if you have any questions or concerns regarding his/her progress.

WHAT'S GOING AROUND? A few cases of Strep throat are still being reported, especially in the younger grades and now we are seeing a growing number of students with fevers and vomiting. Click here for information on Strep throat. We are continuing to sanitize and remind students to wash hands, and to not put things into their mouths. Please reach out to your child's doctor if you suspect your child might have Strep throat. Children who are ill should stay home from school and may return once they have been fever and symptom free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducers.

UNIFORMS - The benefits of school uniforms are plentiful and well-documented. This includes improving cohesion and commonality which as a result demonstrates a clear message of equality. They can also help children develop a strong concept of group identity, reduce the potential for bullying, streamline morning preparation for school, create a less distracting learning environment and encourage students to learn the importance of dressing for success. Putting on the school uniform helps a child get into the right mindset, preparing them for a day of working hard and focusing.

During COVID, we had so many other things to worry about we sort of let things go when it came to the uniform code, and we have been trying to work our way back to the established standards of dress and appearance. However, we are still noticing a lot of uniform violations and some misunderstandings when it comes to what is expected. Homeroom teachers have been reviewing the uniform policy with their students. I am also asking you to review the policy so we are all on the same page. Moving forward, uniform violations will result in a note home that must be signed by you and returned to school. As a parent, you agreed to follow the policies in our Family Handbook which includes specific standards for appearance and dress. I'm sure I don't need to tell you how unfair students perceive things are when dress code issues are allowed to linger on uncorrected. I am asking for your assistance and cooperation in helping your child follow the dress code, and I thank you for your support.

Faithfully, Linda Joyner

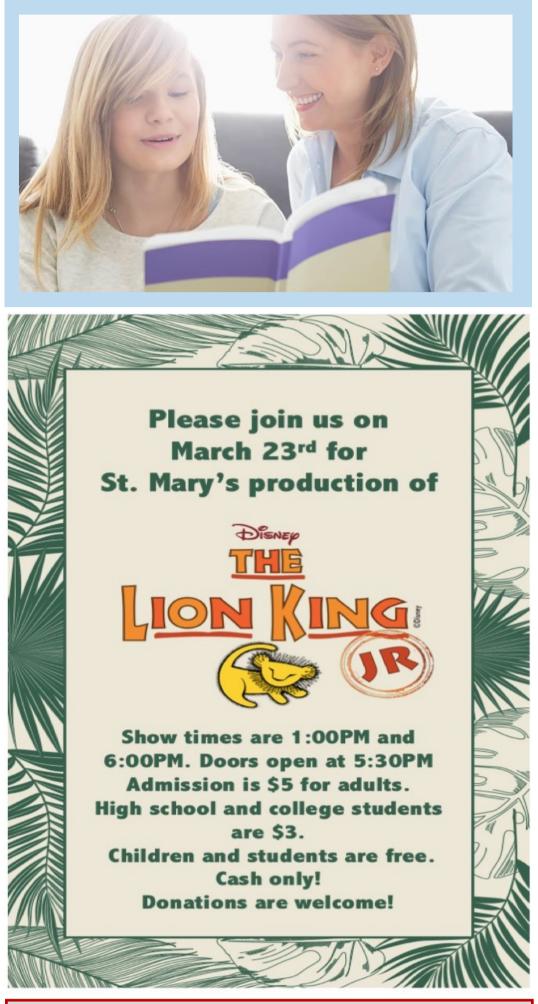


Open Enrollment is happening now! February 1 - April 20, 2023

Apply Now

10 Reasons You Should Read Aloud to Big Kids, Too

Even after kids can read on their own, they benefit from being read to. Here are 10 good things that come of it. Continue reading



LIVING JESUS

UPCOMING **EVENTS**

March 2 - 22 Iowa Testing (Grades 3, 5, 7)

March 7 End of Trimester 2

March 7 Home & School Meeting St. Clare Conf. Room 7pm

March 12 Padre Serra BB Tournament (St. Thomas More H.S.) Girls play @1PM

March 17 M.S. Retreat/Service Day

March 19 Padre Serra BB Tournament (St. Thomas More H.S.) Boys play @3:15PM

March 21 Chick-fil-A Night 4 - 9pm

March 23 Lion King Musical (Grades 3-5) Doors Open 5:30pm

> March 27-31 Spring Break

April 7-10 Easter Break

April 14 Movie Night

April 17 MAPS Testing begins

April 17-21 Scholastic Book Fair

April 21 Grandparents Day

April 26-29 Washington D.C. Trip 8th Grade

> April 28 Trivia Night (new date)

May 5 Middle School Dance (new date)

View Full Calendar



Lion King Jr. Production Updates!

The fifth graders have been busy working on their stage presence this week, and they are really working on their acting skills for each of the scenes. They have been studying their characters in a different production of The Lion King and making notes in their scripts. They will then perform the scenes for everyone, and receive and apply the feedback given. The play is really starting to come along, and the 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders are doing a fantastic job!

Mrs. Nowicki and Mrs. Kleinmann would like to thank all of the parents for their hard work and dedication to our production! They have been working long hours to ensure that our vision is brought to life! We cannot wait for everyone to see what they have done. There are still volunteer opportunities available to work on costumes, sets, and props. If you are interested, please contact Ann MacGillis (annmacgillis@gmail.com). No theater experience required!

In order to offset the production costs, there will be an admission fee. Adults are \$5, high school and college students are \$3, and children and students are free. Showtimes are at 1PM, and 6PM. We look forward to seeing you there!

K5 Students Celebrate Dr. Seuss' Birthday!

The 5K students celebrated Dr. Seuss' birthday on Thursday! They listened to some of the stories he wrote and had fun making green eggs and ham, (and eating them, too!)





See the full <u>album of pictures here</u>.

Donations for Kids Heart Challenge due TODAY!

Thank you so much for your support of our students, school and the American Heart Association through Kids Heart Challenge!

We are having a BLAST with activities this week to celebrate being Heart Heroes.

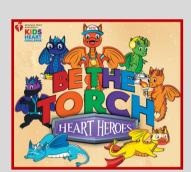
If you wanted to donate and haven't yet, you can now! Donations are due tonight by midnight.

We've raised nearly \$4,400 of our \$6,000 goal.

Can we do it St. Mary Parish School? I know we can!!

To join us or still raise those last donations, please click here.

THANK YOU!!!







We're proud of our St. Mary teachers and want to show off how wonderful they are and how much they're appreciated! This week we are highlighting the amazing work of our 4th grade teacher, Ms. Curran! Take a look at what some students and families had to say about her:

Teacher Spotlight: Ms. Curran—4th Grade

"Miss Curran is always so kind and helpful. She helps me learn and grow at school and also supports my Irish dance." - Mia B.

"Ms. Curran is a nice teacher and helps" me with every question I have. My favorite part of her class is when we get to work together in groups! I am sad that the school year is almost over and she will not be my teacher next year." – Scarlet K.

"I like having Ms. Curran as a teacher because she explains things in a way that is understandable. I enjoy doing ELA in her class because she makes it fun. I love Ms. Curran!" - Jordyn L.

"Miss Curran makes learning fun!! She always has a smile on her face." - Johnny N.

"Ms. Curran always helps her students, meeting them at their level. She listens to them and gives them the confidence they need. Our son loves being in her class and looks forward to seeing her every day. We are so grateful for her love and dedication to her students and their education." -Mr. and Mrs. Segura

"Ms. Curran helps me so much when I am stuck, and she is always kind and helpful. She lets us read the best books, like 'Holes'!" - Dominic S.

"Ms. Curran is a good teacher and I like that she helps me. My favorite things are when we get to make things like valentine's bags and doing

"I like how she makes all the activities we do fun. We do crafts, and sometimes google slides instead of just doing worksheets. She makes everything fun and is always there for you, too.' - Maddy N.

"Ms. Curran talks to us and always makes sure we are doing ok. If we miss a day of school, she works with us the next day to make sure we are understanding. If we aren't feeling good, she will talk to us and keep checking in on us. She also makes us laugh a lot and makes learning fun for us."-Isla J.

"Isla loves being in Ms. Curran's class and has leaned a lot in her classroom! I can see Isla growing both intellectually and emotionally and I know that Ms. Curran has had a part in that. We really appreciate her hard work and dedication to her students and the classroom and I sincerely thank her for that. Thank you Ms. Curran for helping my child grow, learn, and for making a difference in her life. Heather Jurgenson

"When I asked my son Everett what he likes best about Miss Curran, without hesitation he said "everything"! Miss Curran has made the 4th grade classroom a fun and engaging place to learn. And, more importantly, a place where my son feels seen and heard. It is in that environment that he can best grow and learn as a student and person. Thank you Miss Curran!"- Amanda Prosser

Thank you, Ms. Curran, for the wonderful education you are providing our students! You are so appreciated!



drawing." - Josh C.

Cub Scouts Annual Pinewood Derby:

Please join Cub Scout Pack 180, on Sunday March 12, 2023, for the annual Pinewood Derby. Registration begins at 11:00 AM with racing starting at 1:00PM. With our 'Open Division,' guests can race their **o**wn pre-registered car. Call or email Pack 180 Cubmaster Jorge at jaguilarsegura@gmail.com or 414-378-7511.

Home & School Updates **Volunteer Spotlight:** Terri and Shaun Meulemans

Our St. Mary Community as well as our entire Athletics Department are grateful for the wonderful support, time and help Terri and Shaun Meulemans provide to the school and parish communities. Just check out all the great things some fellow parents and volunteers had to say about them:

"Terri and Shaun have stepped into the basketball tournament coordinator position at St. Mary like a force of nature. They have injected another level of fun and excitement into the matches and are generally on-site quite a bit during the events, ensuring that everything runs smoothly. Tournaments in general have become somewhat chaotic due to visiting teams having conflicts with club players' schedules, or the odd blizzard wiping out a night of competition, but Terrie and Shaun have handled it all with effortless grace. I have heard visiting coaches congratulating them on how well-run our events are, and referees expressing appreciation for keeping them up to date on shifting game schedules. Their experience with running events like this has definitely been a boon for St. Mary's Athletics." - Bob Kohlmetz

"Terri and Shaun contribute a tremendous amount of time to the school and parish. They are always available wherever there are needs for the basketball program, often sacrificing personal time at a moment's notice. They are both kind and humble, and we are lucky to have them as part of the St Mary family." - Lucas Rocole

"Terri and Shaun have been instrumental in promoting St. Mary's and our basketball tournaments and program in general. They've gone above and beyond on making these tournaments "events" for not only the St. Mary's Community but also other schools. They show up outside of when needed and are always willing to help when asked. They've paved the way for future tournaments and classes at St Mary's. I can't state enough how appreciated their efforts are." - Brandon Kirchoff

"Ever since joining the Athletic Board, Shaun and Terri have been very involved. Initially acting as "at large" members and now this year taking on a huge role with running our basketball tournaments. Running tournaments is a large task that involves a lot of coordination and work, and they have done it all while still getting their boys to practice, games, and unfortunately Dr. appt's this year. They are also frequently stepping in to cover open board shifts and help out in other ways. They have been a great addition to the board and we appreciate all they do to help things run smoothly." - John Weise

"Shaun & Terri did a wonderful job coordinating all of the boys and girls basketball tournaments that St Mary's hosted this year. There were several scheduling challenges and lately, weather issues causing changes to the tournament schedules. The athletes, coaches and fans enjoyed the laser light show introductions, as well as the lively pre-game music. They worked extremely hard throughout the basketball season to make the tournaments a huge success! Thank you Shaun and Terri!"- Josh Stanek

Thank you Terri and Shaun for sharing your time and talents! You are so appreciated by so many!

March Home and School Meeting Update

All parents are invited to the Home & School meeting on Tuesday, March 7,





your themes!

Please note this is a change of date from the one on the Home and School calendar.

More information to come soon!

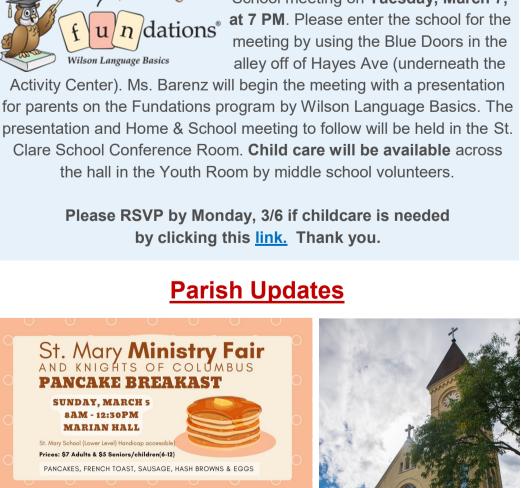


Dine in or carry out on Tuesday, March 21st, between 4 - 9pm.



20% of all proceeds will be donated back to St. Mary!

More info here!



Altar Server Training this Sunday

Reminder to those students who are signed up: Altar server training is this Sunday: March 4, from 9 to 10:30 am at St. Mary Church. Click here for more info.



Men of Christ Conference



Attention men: You're invited to join the 2023 Men of Christ conference—Living Your Vocation Courageously—which will be held at St. Anthony on March 11with both virtual and live elements. The morning will feature well-known speakers, Mass, Adoration, Confession and fellowship. Click image for more details.

Calendar Raffle Winners

Congratulations to these \$30 winners that were drawn on March 1st: Siclovan Family, Bonner Family, Leslie Beistle, James Lenahan and Emily Rinzel.

Thank you for your support.

In the Community



Rocket Aquatics Spring Swim Clinic at Germantown High School: Open for swimmers ages 9-14. Runs from April 11 - June 8th on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Click the image for more information, and click <u>here to register.</u>

Matthew 25 Local Work Camp 2023 Registration is Open: June 19 - 23 at Good Shepherd Catholic Church: Open to students in 5th-12th grade. Early bird registration is \$75 now through May 1st. Click image for more info and to register.

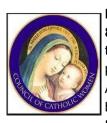




Curcuit Baseball Camp Summer 2023 is open for registration: Open to hildren ages 6-12. Click the image for more information and to register.

Summer Camp at Dominican High School (Entering grades 2-4) July 10 - 14, 2023: Three sessions include STEM and Critical Thinking, Arts and Creativity, and Soccer Skills. Click the image for more informatio0n, and <u>here</u> to register.





Milwaukee Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (MACCW) 8th Grade Girls Scholarship Opportunity: MACCW will be offering three \$1,500 Scholarships to three deserving young girls who are planning to enter a Catholic High School in the Fall of 2023. Application forms and details are available here. All applications must be postmarked by Friday, April 1,2023 and winners will be notified by May 1st.

Support St. Mary at J.K. Lee Taekwondo Help Support St. Mary and sign up for one month of classes, OR sign up to celebrate your child's birthday at J.K. Lee. All proceeds go back to St. Mary! Click here for more <u>info,</u> and <u>complete the survey to sign up/get more information!</u>





Boys and Girls Soccer Skills Clinic at Dominican High School: Grades 6 - 8: Held Sunday, March 12. Click image for more information and to register.

Pompeii Men's Club Catholic High School \$2,500 Scholarship Award: Must be a Catholic Grade School student to participate. Click on the image to the right to learn more and to access the full award application. (Applications due July 1st with full, final report card).

March Hot Lunch Menu 2022-23 Academic Calendar 2022-23 Home & School Calendar Updated Guidelines for COVID-19

Change of Dismissal

Inclement Weather Policy Lunchroom Volunteer Sign Up Playground Volunteer Sign Up

