

# St. Mary Parish School



Challenging Minds

Developing Character

Living Jesus

## The Connection

May 1, 2020  
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Dear Parents,

Happy May Day! As we settle into this virtual school reality for what looks like the remainder of the school year, teachers are tasked with a new challenge. How can we absolutely, without a doubt, determine a student's proficiency on a given standard or skill? This is obviously much easier to do in a face-to-face classroom setting where teachers can easily observe how independently a student is able to complete a summative task, assessment, or writing assignment. And this may sound a bit odd but seeing where a student struggles and fails provides teachers with critical information to determine what that student needs next. Does he need reteaching on the whole concept or just a small part of it to become proficient? Did she misread or misunderstand what she was supposed to do? Did he show evidence of proficiency on all his formative (practice) work, but not on the summative (final)? These are just some of the questions teachers can easily get answers to in a face-to-face school environment that provides them with authentic data to guide instruction.

In a virtual world, this is much more complicated because the teacher doesn't know how much assistance a student needed or was provided when completing the assessment, task, or writing assignment. She can't roam the classroom and sit next to students to watch them work, provide clarification, redirect, or observe their independence on summative tasks. Some kids are just not as comfortable asking questions during Zoom meetings as they would be in a classroom. And of course, a virtual learning environment is not conducive to every learning style. Some kids love it and others hate it. So, why am I telling you all this? To help your child's teachers better determine proficiency, I am asking you to consider how much help you are providing your child with his/her summative work. We know that virtual learning is more difficult for some children and may cause them to struggle more now than they did when they were actually in school. We also realize that younger children will need more guidance, help with technology and time management, but they should still be able to complete most summative work independently. The important thing to remember is that it is perfectly okay if they don't get it the first time! After all, the word FAIL stands for First Attempt In Learning. In a standards-based learning environment, children are provided with multiple attempts to demonstrate their learning as they move towards proficiency. Our teachers are working hard to incorporate what we know to be best teaching and learning practices into our virtual learning world as much as possible. We will be using all the information we collect and know about your child's progress to guide instruction, determine proficiency, and as a springboard for where we need to begin with students in the fall.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress or need some guidance in regard to how independently he or she should be working, please don't hesitate to reach out. We are here to help!

Faithfully,

Linda Joyner

**HAIL, HOLY QUEEN!** May is Mary's Month! During May, throughout the Catholic world, special devotions honor the Virgin Mary.



"May Crowning" is a traditional Catholic ritual that occurs. The act of crowning the Blessed Mother with a wreath of flowers and herbs is rooted in the view of Mary as the Queen of Heaven.

[Here is an at-home service](#) for the Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

### NEW THIS FALL!

Beginning this fall, the onsite After School Care Program will be under our direction. We are very grateful for our long partnership with Children's Community Center, but we feel this change will allow us some added flexibility for growth in the future. Please note the hourly rate for the 2020-21 school year will be \$6.00 per hour.

[Please click here to access the registration form.](#) This form will help us get a general idea for staffing. More information to come in the next couple of weeks.

### OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

**TRACK:** Families who registered for track this spring will receive a \$40 credit. This will be applied to your 20/21 athletic fees. Eighth grade families who are not returning, will receive a credit on their May Smart Tuition billing statement.

**HOT LUNCH:** Families who ordered hot lunch for the last half of March will receive a credit on their May Smart Tuition billing statement.

**FINANCIAL AID FOR 20/21 SCHOOL YEAR:** The deadline for [submitting applications](#) for tuition assistance has been extended to May 15, 2020. Please note that incomplete applications may not be considered.

**PACKET DROP OFF UPDATE:** The next pickup/drop-off for learning packets will be on Friday, May 1st (12 pm – 3:30 pm) and Monday, May 4th (7:30 am – 12 pm). [Read more details here.](#)

**Yearbook Orders due May 6th:** Capture the memories and order your 2020 yearbook by May 6th. [See more details here.](#)



## Friday, May 8th is Virtual Field Day

Field day is one week away! Hope everyone is getting excited! All of the games are now posted on Google Classroom for you to practice.

On field day, families can choose as many games as they want (minimum 4). I also posted the list of equipment you'll need to perform the events. Almost all items can be found around the house. We encourage families to take pictures and videos to share. We are looking forward to seeing everyone having a great time!

## Virtual Classroom News

**What's your idea of Wacky Wednesday?** During letter 'w' week, Wacky Wednesday proved to be fun and memorable with activities like dressing wacky, drawing with their feet and playing with worms! [Let's check it out.](#)

**Scrip Update:** St Mary's has decided to extend the Scrip processing year by one month, until May 31. This means that you have until May 31, instead of April 30, to meet your fundraising requirement and earn rebates toward next year's tuition. Going forward, future Scrip earning periods will run from June 1 through May 31. [Our last Scrip processing day is May 4.](#)



**2020 Calendar Raffle:** Congratulations to these \$30 winners drawn on April 22, 2020: *Paul & Denise Jacobsen, Aaron Kleeba, Brittany Dudzik, Christine Praise and Eleanore Rebsburg.*

Thank you for your support.



LIVE JESUS.  
GROW IN VIRTUE

### MAY 2020

- 1 [Packet drop-off/pick up, 12:00-3:30](#)
- Teacher Appreciation Week  
May 4 - 8
- 4 [Packet drop-off/pickup, 7:30-12:00](#)  
Scrip Orders Due, 8 am
- 6 [Liturgy, 8 am](#)
- 8 [National Field Day Event](#)
- 11 [Blood Drive, 1:30-6:30](#)
- 13 [Liturgy, 8 am](#)

### Links

- [2020-21 Academic Calendar](#)
- [Scrip Calendar](#)
- [MS—COVID Connection](#)
- [9 tips for parents](#)
- [8 ways to keep the peace](#)
- [Be a Hero – Food Drive](#)
- [Live Stream St. Mary Masses](#)
- [Live Stream Masses from the Cathedral](#)
- [School Website](#)
- [Parish Website](#)
- [PowerSchool SIS](#)
- [Financial Aid Application](#)



### May Birthdays

1	Joey MacGillis	K3
2	Ava Hall	K4
2	Dameon Kirchoff	K3
2	Maria Otterstrom	K4
4	Sally Wallace	Gr. 4
4	Shane Wentland	Gr. 8
5	Johnny Nguyen	Gr. 1
5	Maggie Stubbs	Gr. 7
5	Nicholas Woelfel	Gr. 4
5	Miss Hecht	Gr. 3
6	Isla Jurgenson	Gr. 1
8	Sarah Morgan	Gr. 1
15	Mrs. McAsey	K5
16	Mrs. Myers	Gr. 5
18	Nick Alburg	Gr. 6
18	Kenden Dilkhush	Gr. 4
18	Lucas Micallef	Gr. 2
19	Kennedy Nimmer	Gr. 7
19	Ben Tappa	Gr. 4
20	Ava Jurgenson	Gr. 8
21	Grace Gold	Gr. 2
22	Colin Courtney	Gr. 4
24	Danny Holloway	Gr. 8
30	Odie Gebauer	K5
30	Lena Peterman	Gr. 1
31	Owen MacGillis	Gr. 2
31	Ava Norberg	Gr. 4