

# St. Mary Parish School

Challenging Minds • Developing Character • Living Jesus

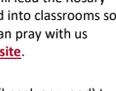
## The Connection

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK October 4 - 10

October 3, 2020  
Follow us on [Facebook](#)

Today is the feast day of the guardian angels! This feast day reminds us how much God must love us that he gave each of us a special angel to guard, protect, and guide us. Please take a moment today to thank God for your guardian angel and recite the Guardian Angel Prayer with your children.

**Angel of God, my guardian dear,  
To whom God's love commits me here,  
Ever this day be at my side,  
To light and guard, to rule and guide.  
Amen**



October is referred to as the **Month of the Rosary**. On Wednesday, October 7, we will celebrate the Feast day of Our Lady of the Rosary with a "virtual style" all school rosary. Beginning at 9:00 AM eighth grade students will lead the Rosary from the church, where it will be live streamed into classrooms so students can participate synchronously. You can pray with us through the livestream link on the [parish website](#).

This week marks our fifth week of school and (knock on wood) I think things are going pretty well. We have had a few kids moving in and out between in-person and virtual learning and our technology seems to be cooperating. The students seem to be getting up to speed with the tech and have provided teachers with some good feedback about Schoology lessons. While we have had a few reported cases of COVID and students in quarantine in these first weeks, we have not yet had any student-to-student spread at school. I'd like to think this is due to our safety plan and procedures and not just dumb luck, but only time will tell.

**GO PACK GO!** Students may be out-of-uniform on Monday to show their support for the Packers! Please follow out-of-uniform guidelines found in the [Family Handbook](#).

**STANDARDS-BASED GRADING** Last fall Mr. Demeter and I conducted two parent presentations on Standards based grading and assessment. However, last fall seems like a really long time ago given everything that has transpired between then and now, so we are hoping to help you get back up-to-speed with the new changes by providing a brief review. Last year, we implemented SBG in grades 1-5. This year all grades, 1-8 will receive standards based grades. Kindergarten and pre-K students will continue to receive midyear and end of year narrative reports.

**Why standards-based grades?** A traditional grading system reduces everything that a student does to a single letter grade, making it neither timely nor actionable. Standards-based instruction, assessment, and grading has the potential to provide a rich array of information on a student's academic progress.

- There are several advantages of standards-based assessment, grading, and reporting:
- It ensures consistent expectations across grade levels.
  - It helps teachers and students focus on the standards in their learning activities.
  - Assessments are aligned to standards and provide evidence of what a student knows and/or can do.
  - It provides feedback as to a student's proficiency level allowing the teacher to better individualize instruction.
  - It provides parents with valuable information on how their child is progressing on the critical concepts and skills of the grade level as well as individual standards.

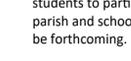
- What is the difference between Formative and Summative assessment?**
- Formative assessments are used during a learning cycle and could be loosely defined as "practice testing." This type of assessment helps the teacher and student track progress towards mastery. Formative assessments can be formally written or more informally conducted through exit slips, observation, polls, etc. These assessments are not graded and provide evidence that helps the teacher determine when students are ready for a summative.
  - Summative assessments are typically done at the end of a learning cycle and provide the student with an opportunity to demonstrate mastery. These assessments are graded. Summative assessments may be written, project-based, presentations, etc.

**How do I track my student's progress?** Teachers enter standards grades into PowerSchool. However, you will NOT see an overall subject grade. When you login, click on the STANDARDS tab to view the standards and your child's grades. Scores are no longer averaged, they are based on the most recent assessment of the standard.

For more information, I encourage you to read or re-read the [Parent's Guide to Standards Based Grading, Assessment, and Reporting](#), found on our [website](#), under the Parent tab. If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher or me.

Faithfully,  
Linda Joyner

### BASKETBALL UPDATE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE



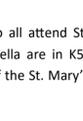
The upcoming winter athletic (basketball) season for Elementary School and Parish-Based Athletics, as governed under Policy 6145.2, has been postponed until January 4, 2021. No games, practices, or organized team activities may occur prior to January 4, 2021. Please note the following important factors:

- The January 4, 2021 start date is not a guarantee that the season will happen. Circumstances may dictate a further delay or cancellation. However, parishes and schools may move forward with planning for the season.
- Protocols and procedures to be strictly followed for practices and games are being developed and will be published by November 1, 2020. These will be consistent with, and in alignment with, protocols and procedures currently used by parishes and schools.
- Parishes and schools will be able to opt out of playing in the upcoming season. A final date to indicate whether the parish and school will participate or not will be forthcoming.
- Parishes and schools will be able to decline the use of their facilities for the season, even if they choose to allow their students to participate. A final date to indicate whether the parish and school will or will allow their facility to be used will be forthcoming.

More information will be coming next week.

**Welcome our new Office Assistant, Heather McCabe**

Heather comes to us with several years experience in HR/Staffing in the home care industry as well as supporting communication roles to meet complex needs of those she's worked for. Heather is looking forward to using her compassionate spirit to help support the students and all those involved in providing academic excellence in a safe, supportive environment at St. Mary's!



Heather has three children of her own who also all attend St. Mary's. Nolan is in first grade and Lilah and Stella are in K5! Heather and her family are excited to be a part of the St. Mary's family!

**GO PACK GO!**

Students may be out of uniform on Monday, October 5th to show their support for the Packers.

Please see the [family handbook](#) for the out-of-uniform guidelines.

**Fourth Grade Teachers Take Learning Outdoors**



[Read more](#)

**Annual Magazine Sale**

September 30—October 12  
On-line ordering

- *Magazines—buy and/or renew your favorite magazines*
- *Save Around Coupon Book—featuring 100's of local and national savings good through December 2021*
- *Order Gifts from Magical Holiday and Read to Eat Otis Spunkmeyer goodies*

Here's [how to register](#) and get started with [EASY STEPS TO SUCCESS](#)

Students received a packet of information on Wednesday. They will earn a Kung Fu Coop for registering and for every magazine order. Top 5 sellers will earn a complete set of 12 coats and lanyard.  
Earn Tuition Credits on product sales too.

**2020 Calendar Raffle**

Congratulations to these \$30 raffle winners drawn on Sept. 30th.

*Charlotte & Porter Growth, Diane Harley, the Waga Family, the Schmitt Family, and Carol & Allen Kazmierczak.*

Thank you all for participating.

**Fire Prevention Week Theme: "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!"**

According to the NFPA, cooking is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries in the US. Almost half of report home fires start in the kitchen, but we know cooking fires can be prevented.

For more information about cooking fire prevention, visit: [www.fpw.org](http://www.fpw.org).

Do you have a fire escape plan in your household? [Learn more here.](#)

**Archdiocese of Milwaukee Rolls out updated Social Media and Digital Communications Policy**

Social media and digital communication has become part of how our parishes, schools and ministries communicate. It is important for us to be responsible users of technology and work to maintain safe environments in our digital and virtual interactions with children and youth. The Archdiocese of Milwaukee has updated the Social Media and Digital Communication Policy to help increase respectful and safe environments for our parishes and schools.

[For more information click here.](#)

If you administer a facebook page for your child's grade/classroom, please contact Linda Salentine for more information [salentinel@smps.school](mailto:salentinel@smps.school)

**OCTOBER 2020**

- 5 Packer Day  
[Pop's Restaurant Fundraiser, 11-9](#)
- 6 8:15 am: Liturgy, gds K4, K5, 1, 2 & 3  
[Pop's Restaurant Fundraiser, 11-9](#)
- 7 8:15 am: Liturgy, gds 6, 7 & 8  
9:00 am: Rosary Service
- 8-9 No School; teacher in-service
- 12 MAP testing begins;  
Magazine Sale ends
- 17 SOLES walk

**Links**

- [2020-21 Academic Calendar](#)
- [School Supply List](#)
- [Scrip Schedule](#)
- [Scrip Mobile App—RaiseRight](#)
- [School Website](#)
- [School Hot Lunch on-line](#)
- [Governor's Mask Mandate extended](#)
- [Change of Dismissal](#)



We're proud to announce our partnership with Waukesha County to "Stay Safe to Stay Open." We know that keeping our students safe is key to keeping schools open this coming school year!  
#SafeOpenWaukesha



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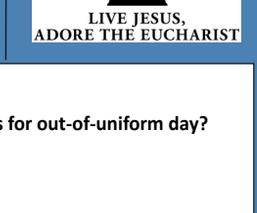
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**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### What is acceptable dress for out-of-uniform day?

#### OUT-OF-UNIFORM DAYS

On occasion, students will be allowed to be out-of-uniform for special days or events. These special occasions will be communicated to parents/guardians via The Connection, E-mail or a note home. Please remember that tank tops, tight fitting shirts or pants, plunging necklines, short skirts and shorts that do not extend past fingertip length are deemed inappropriate. Any tightly fitting yoga pants, jeggings, or leggings must be covered with a shirt that extends past fingertip length. No bare shouldered shirts are allowed. Students dressed inappropriately will be given a uniform to wear for the day. Out-of-Uniform clothing must be appropriate for our Catholic school environment.

[See the Family Handbook for more information.](#)

