

October 26, 2011



St. Mary News

www.saint-mary.us

Main Campus: 586-468-4570 Primary Campus: 586-465-5471

Support Cultural Awareness
Proclaim the Gospel
Instill Catholic Values
Respect All Life
Integrate Community Service
Teach Academic Excellence

From the Desk of Mrs. Miscavish

Dear Parents:

This year our Parent-Teacher Conferences will be handled a little differently. I am sending out the information below a week prior to your invitation to attend conferences, so that you can start planning now! Attending parent-teacher conferences is one of the most important jobs of a parent during the school year. This is your opportunity to meet with the person, who spends just about as much time with your child as you do during the school year. Your child's teacher is a part of your family for the entire school year and you need to know that teacher. We need to know you. We need to work together and build a positive rapport, so that no matter what this year brings for your child, you and your child's teacher can work together as a team to make sure your child succeeds. What we do not need are preconceived notions or our communication blocked by defensive walls on either side of the conference table. We need to tackle the "good and the bad" so that in the end, we have all done what is best for a child. The road to 8th grade graduation is going to have its ups and downs; it's just how life is. The important thing to remember, is that no matter what mile marker your child may be at on that road, we need to meet at that spot, so that we walk this journey together. We need you, as much as you need us.

Here is an overview of how report cards and conferences will be handled:

- Grades 1st – 8th will receive their 1st quarter report cards on Nov. 16th.
- Kindergarten & Preschoolers do not receive a report card for the 1st quarter.
- Grades 4 year-old Preschool – 8th grade will bring home an invitation to Parent-Teacher Conferences on Wednesday, November 2nd.
- 3 year-old preschoolers do not have conferences at this time. Those "babies" are still trying to figure out what school is all about and why "I'll be right back" now means see you in 3 hours!
- Your RSVP for conferences will be due back **on Friday, November 4th** in order for you to get the time that is best for you. So please make sure you are prepared next Wednesday to fill out your form and return it! Certainly we will accept late forms, but you may not get the time you request.
- Conferences will be scheduled in 10 minute increments on the following days & times:
November 21st & 22nd: 1:00 – 4:10 pm & 5:30 – 8:10 pm.
- "Timeliness is next to Godliness" my mother always said. Those of you, who worked Fun Day with me, will remember our 13 minute increments and my plan is that conferences will run just as timely! It is very important that you are on time for your conference, if you miss your time, you will have to wait until the next available break in the schedule.
- On the invitation, there will be a place for you to select all teachers you would like to have a conference with; this includes "Specials" and the Learning Center.
- 7th & 8th grade parents, you will be able to select the exact teachers you would like to meet with as well. Our 7th & 8th grade schedule is tight, so please make sure you return your form by that Friday. For those of you with children in both 7th & 8th grade, we will make sure we allow plenty of time for your conferences.
- If you know that you cannot attend, please check the box that states unable to attend and return the form. If you do not let us know, we will be scheduling a time for you, a time that perhaps someone else could use.
- Please keep in mind that due to the number of conferences we must schedule, you may not get the exact time frame you need. We will do our very best to make your conferences as convenient for you as possible based on your request.
- Yes, we will take in account travel time between buildings.
- Your conference time will be confirmed on report card day with a return response in your child's report card envelope or in your child's folder for those who do not receive report cards.

Thank you for your cooperation in this very important matter, we look forward to seeing you at conference time.

God Bless,
Maureen Miscavish

OVER →

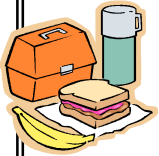
Holiday Party & Raffle



Ticket sales have begun for this event which will take place on Thursday, November 17th in the Father Welch Hall. It's a wonderful evening you will not want to miss! Invite your friends and family, lots of opportunities to win!

Becky Kehoe is still looking for parents to help wrap gift baskets for the Holiday Party & Raffle. Please contact Becky at 586-263-1354 or lkehoe@gmail.com if you are able to help. New moms – this is a great way to get involved with this event!

Waste-Free Wednesday Begins November 2!



In an effort to reduce waste and to retain our MI Green School certification students and staff at St. Mary School are asked to bring a waste-free lunch on Wednesdays beginning Wednesday, November 2. A waste-free lunch means packing food and drinks with reusable containers, utensils, and napkins instead of disposable items. Avoid paper or plastic bags, plastic wrap, foil, wax paper, styrofoam, single-serving snacks, single-use cans, bottles, cartons or pouches, paper napkins and disposable forks and spoons.

By purchasing in bulk and using reusable items instead of disposable containers you can prevent pollution, conserve natural resources such as coal, oil, natural gas and trees, save energy, reduce the need for disposal and be an environmental steward. Make a difference in your environment and the environment of the future by packing a waste-free lunch!



ART NEWS

Students in 1st –8th grade are bringing their artwork home today for 'Original Works'. All orders received by November 4th are guaranteed to be here by Christmas. Mrs. Clara will be placing a late order for a few junior high students that are still working on projects.

JEANS DAY

On Halloween Day, we will have a \$1.00 Jeans Day to support UNICEF. For grades 2nd – 8th, it will be a traditional Jeans Day, feel free to wear your Halloween t-shirts and Halloween colors. Please make sure if you wear a Halloween t-shirt, that it is appropriate for school. Follow the rule, if you have to think about whether or not you should wear it, chances are, you should not. Our preschooler – 1st graders will be wearing their Halloween costumes, my hope is that your children will still take part in our collection for UNICEF.

For those of you not familiar with this program, here is a little background information on UNICEF. The tradition of 'Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF' began in 1950 in the United States, when Philadelphia school children first went door-to-door at Halloween collecting money in decorated milk cartons to help their global peers.

They raised a grand total of \$17, kicking off a campaign that has since brought in millions of dollars each year to help UNICEF provide medicine, better nutrition, safe water, education, emergency relief and other support to children in more than 150 countries. It's a great cause and continues to teach our children that it is "more Blessed to give, than to receive." This time their gift will reach across the globe.

SWIM NIGHT

PAC is looking for a Jr. High Swim night coordinator - please contact Kathy Rabine if interested.



CAFETERIA

Volunteers are needed in the Cafeteria at Main Campus to help with salad bar on Mondays - November 14th, 28th and Dec 12th. And on Thursdays - November 10th and December 8th. Primary Campus Cafeteria needs help on Fridays. If you are available call Mrs. Thieman at 586-465-5471.

Catholic Trivia

All Saints Day commemorates all saints, known and unknown, who do not have individual feast days.

*Weekly Highlights

Oct. 26

High School Night 6:30PM

Oct. 27

Picture Retake Day
NJHS Bagel Day
Childrens Choir 2:55-3:45
Concert Band 2:55-3:30

Oct. 28

Gr. 2 & 8 Spiritual Brother & Sisters
Kdg. & 7th Grade Buddy Day -7th grade will be dismissed from Primary Campus
Beginning Band 2:55-3:30
St. Mary Haunted House 6:00-9:00PM

In MC Gym

Oct. 31

Early Dismissal—Main Campus 12:00 Primary Campus 12:10
No Mass-Prayer Service (PC)
\$1.00 Jeans Day
Halloween Parade 11:15AM (PC)

Nov. 1

All Saints Day
Prayer Service 8:15 (PC)
Gr. 2-5 Mass
Gr. 6-8 Communal Prayer Service 12:00Noon
SVD Food Drive Begins
NJHS Tutoring Team D 2:55-3:45
Concert Band 2:55-3:30

Nov. 2

Waste Free Lunch
Gr. 7 Lansing Field Trip 7:00AM-3:45PM
Little Mountaineers 1:00-2:30(PC)

Information Going Home

- ◆ Wednesday Pink Note
- ◆ PAC Newsletter
- ◆ November Activity Calendar
- ◆ November Lunch Menu & Lunch Volunteer Schedule
- ◆ Art Work
- ◆ Zima Flyer
- ◆ School Band Flyer (Gr. 5-8)
- ◆ Confirmation Service Hours (Gr. 7)
- ◆ Updated Basketball Tryout (Gr.4-8)
- ◆ Indoor Soccer Schedule (Gr. 1-4)