

November 16, 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:

Today is the beginning of a few crazy busy days coming up here at St. Mary. To begin with, today is Report Card day for students in 1st – 8th grade. Please make sure you review your child's report card and please make sure you sign the envelope and return it to your child's teacher ASAP. You keep the card, we get the envelope! This is a great time to review your child's success, review their struggles and come up with a plan for change if needed for the 2nd quarter. That's the great thing about school grades being done in quarters, you get to start all over and you get a 2nd, 3rd & 4th chance at success!

On your child's report card you will notice a change in the grading scale of Art, Music, Physical Ed., and Spanish. Due to the fact that your child only has instruction in these areas for 45 minutes a week and they are deemed "Specials" in our curriculum, we have changed our grading practices to reflect Standard-Based Grading. Please note, Technology falls under Core Curriculum, therefore, Mr. Willard will continue to grade on a percentage based scale. **We will also be using this scale for all classroom grades in Conduct/Effort.** Please read the explanation below carefully, it will help you understand the grade your child received in "Specials" and in their regular classroom Conduct/Effort grade:

- 1 – Exceeds Expectations** - Children who receive this grade are going **above and beyond consistently**
- ***** 2 – Meets Expectations** - **This is the grade your child is striving to receive – this is where the vast majority of the student population will fall and that is exactly what you want!**
- 3 – Below Expectations** - No one should be falling into this category in "Specials" - if your child has received a 3 in "Specials" in either category, I suggest you schedule a conference with that particular teacher as soon as possible. If your child received this in Conduct/Effort from their classroom teacher(s), you need to speak with your child in regard to the comments made either on the report card or at conferences. 3's are unacceptable and should be relatively easy to bring up with improved conduct or putting forth more effort. We will need your help in making this happen.

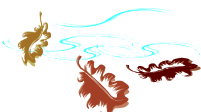
Another area wiped clean each quarter is the tardy category. Quite frankly, by this time of year, we have our "usual suspects" who fall into this category. Those of you who know who you are, you are only a matter of a few minutes late, why not take those few tardy minutes and add them to your child's wake-up time. 3 -5 minutes on that end, will save your child a great deal of unhappiness (silent lunch) on the other end! Not to mention how happy your child's teacher and fellow classmates will be not to have to stop and wait for your child. By the way, if your child is 100% the problem, let me know, and I can have a little chat with him/her on the subject! That way they know, that I know, that their blaming the driver does not work anymore! Target times: Main Campus – 7:40 am, Primary 7:45 am. Drop-off begins at Main at 7:30 am, Primary 7:40 am – hope to see you there on time!

Tomorrow evening we will have our Annual St. Mary Holiday Party & Raffle (aka Card Party). This evening's proceeds go directly to your child, their teacher or their classroom! Every dollar you generously spend, makes it possible for the rest of this year's events to be as special as possible for all our students. What a wonderful way for you to help not only your own child, but your child's classmates as well. Thank you in advance, for coming and helping this very worthy cause. A very Special Thank You to the terrific team of parents & staff who have brought this event together! These individuals have worked very hard to put on a spectacular evening filled with great prizes for you to win! Thank you for your dedication to St. Mary's students & staff:

- **Chairing the Holiday Party & Raffle and in charge of the Gold Prizes: Jill Brouillette**
- **Red Prizes: Chairperson Dana Litz and her helpers Kristy D'Agostino, Loretta Martinez & Amy VanLacken**
- **Green Prizes: Chairperson Becky Kehoe and her helpers Rita Gaynor, Kristy Sieders, Janet John, Martha Fisher, Christina Greco-Ewald and Abigail Newton**
- **Food Coordinator – Patty Kogowski and her helper Debbie Duncan**
- **Ticket Sales Chairperson – Bridget Bobick**
- **Master of Ceremony – Mr. George Murphy**
- **Holiday Party & Raffle gift to our guests – Anonymous Family**

We end this week with our Thanksgiving Feasts at Primary. The Mayflower bus will transport our 2nd grade Pilgrims down to Primary Rock to pray & feast with their 1st grade Indian friends – do not forget, 2nd grade will be dismissed from Primary. Our kindergartners will be enjoying their feast day as well on Friday. Switching gears to next week, conferences will be held on Monday & Tuesday. Please check your child's report card envelope for your scheduled time. We look forward to seeing all of you on conference day.

God Bless & Happy Thanksgiving to all,
Maureen Miscavish



OVER →

St. Mary School -- a SPIRIT filled Catholic Community

Jeans Day for Charity

Tuesday, November 22nd will be a \$1.00 Jeans Day for Camp Midicha, a camp in Fenton Michigan that is for children with Juvenile Diabetes. So far this year, our Jeans Day Christian Service projects have raised enough funds to sponsor two children with Juvenile Arthritis to attend Camp Dakota and have helped children around the world through UNICEF. Depending on the number of funds raised this month, we will either sponsor a child for Camp Midicha's weekly day camp program or overnight camp. Thank you for your continued support of our efforts to teach our students, "It is most blessed to give, than to receive."



SANTA SHOPPE

The Santa Secret Shoppe is coming to St. Mary School December 5-8th! Get your Santa hat on and come help. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Roslyn McInerney at (586) 948-8285 or rozziemac@yahoo.com for Main Campus. For Primary Campus, see the sign up sheet outside the Primary Office, or contact Abby Newton at (586)598-4794 or abknewton@aol.com



Recycle the Incandescent—Go Green with LEDs

To save energy and money this Christmas, replace your old incandescent Christmas lights with LED lights. Through November and December we will recycle your old light strands for you at the St. Mary School Recycling Center. Lights will be delivered to Great Lakes Recycle for recycling.

School Closings Due to Inclement Weather

- We **do not** fall under the L'Anse Creuse System – so if they are closed, that does not necessarily mean that we are too!
- We will be listed on all major radio & television stations as: **St. Mary – Mt. Clemens.**
- Calling Tree – Our calling tree parents will only be calling for non-weather related emergency school closings. Please do not expect a phone call for weather related issues.

Thanksgiving

T..... is for our thankfulness for many joys and blessings...
H..... is for our homes so warm and bright...
A..... is for autumn, time for harvest and abundance...
N..... is for nature's beauty and delight...
K..... is for the kitchens where good food is cooked with love...
S..... for spicy fragrances in the air...
G..... is for the gathering of family and friends...
I..... for the inheritance we share...
V..... is for the vision that the Pilgrims held so dear...
L..... is for high ideals in all they planned...
N..... is for our native country brave and great and free...
G..... for God's great goodness to our land.



Attention Mountaineers

Be sure to stop by the spirit wear table when you come for conferences next Monday and Tuesday. There are lots of exciting new items available to order for Christmas!! If anyone is interested in help with spirit wear at conferences contact janetjohn444@gmail.com.

GREASE IS THE WORD

Notre Dame Prep Players present the musical production of GREASE this weekend Thursday November 17th, 18th and 19th at 7:00pm and November 20th at 4:00pm. Nathaniel Gaynor, a St. Mary graduate, is playing the role of Doody, one of the TBirds. Performances are held at Avondale High School Auditorium. Tickets are \$10 students, \$12 adults.

*Weekly Highlights

Nov. 17

Bagel Day
Prayer Service 8:15AM (PC)
Concert Band 2:55-3:30
Children's Choir 2:55-3:45
Newspaper Club 2:55-3:55
Holiday Party Fr. Welch Hall
-Doors open 6:15

Nov. 18

Honors Ceremony after 8:00AM Mass
Thanksgiving Feasts Gr. K, 1 & 2 (PC)
Beginning Band 2:55-3:30

Nov. 20

New Altar Server Installation—10:00AM Mass

Nov. 21

Early Dismissal 12:00 (MC); 12:10 (PC)
Edline Update
Conferences

Nov. 22

\$1.00 Jeans Day
Prayer Service 11:30 (PC)
Early Dismissal 12:00 (MC); 12:10 (PC)
Conferences

Nov. 23 -27

No School—Happy Thanksgiving!

Nov. 28

Scapular Enrollment Gr.8 2:00PM
Student Council 2:55-3:30

Nov. 29

Moms in Touch 8:15 (PC)
Concert Band 2:55-3:30
NJHS Tutoring Team C 2:55-3:45

Nov. 30

Waste-free Lunch
Little Mountaineers 1:00-2:30 (PC)
Green Team 2:55-3:45
Open School Board Meeting 7:00Pm
Assembly Rm.

Information Going Home

- ◆ Wednesday Pink Note
- ◆ Report Cards
- ◆ Parent—teacher Conference Times
- ◆ Photos from Picture Retake Day
- ◆ PAC Newsletter
- ◆ Project Snowpile