

September 7, 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:

We are off to a great start to the school year! Everyone seems to be settling in nicely and once again at Primary, we had more parents in tears than students on the first day! Our three-year-olds held true to who they are and a few are showing us how much they now understand what “preschool” means, it means mom leaves for 3 hours! This too shall pass; it just takes some little people longer than others to adjust. For the rest of us, we are moving full steam ahead with all subjects, specials and homework, summer is officially over!

Over the last few months I have had many conversations with many parents and there a few things that appear to need some clarification:

- **Accreditation:** Yes, St. Mary’s is an accredited Catholic School. No, we did not receive our annual certificate last year due to some information that was not submitted to the Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools. Therefore, our yearly certificate was not sent and our status is “pending” at this time. Unfortunately for me, I did not find the document that explained our short comings until mid-August. Once I read the document, I began to rectify the situation immediately. Two items are complete and the third and final item will be completed by September 15<sup>th</sup>. I have been in close contact with the staff at the Michigan Association of Non-public Schools and they assure me that once I am finished with my work, our certificate will be in the mail. If you have further questions, please feel free to call me. If you need further information from there, I will be more than happy to direct you to the proper individuals with the Archdiocese of Detroit or M.A.N.S. to answer any of your questions.
- **New Math Supplement:** We added to our math program a supplemental program entitled, *Simple Solutions*. This program is used by numerous Catholic schools throughout the United States. It is a daily math program that consistently revisits concepts that have been previously taught and are covered in the math portion of the IOWA test. We did not purchase a new math series due to the textbook companies’ inability to provide all grade level math samples in a timely manner. Purchasing a new series takes a great deal of time and thought and is not a process that should be rushed.
- **Leveled Library:** Our leveled library has arrived and will be up and running shortly. A group of volunteers are organizing the library for both campuses. We are very excited about this new edition to our reading program.

For those of you who do not know me, I am a firm believer in transparency. A curse of all schools is the “gossip in the parking lot,” which is usually created due to a lack of transparency. It is one of my goals to have there be nothing to talk about in the parking lot, because we are all equally informed. I am surrounded by a great staff, great children and great parents and together we make a great school! Always remember, educating a child is a collective effort and we must all do our part. If you need anything from me, my door is always open; please do not hesitate to contact me.

God Bless,  
 Maureen Miscavish

## \*Weekly Highlights

### Sept. 8

Curriculum Night  
 —Parents Only  
 Pre—Gr. 5 6:30pm  
 Gr. 6-8 7:30pm

### Sept. 9

1st All School Mass at  
 Main Campus 8:00AM  
 Student Council Speech  
 (MC) Gym 9:00am

### Sept. 12

Pennies From Heaven Begin  
 Salad Bar Begins at Main  
 Campus

### Sept. 14

NJHS Meeting 3:00-3:45

### Sept. 16

Constitution Day  
 Gr. 8 Relighting Ceremony  
 following 8:00am Mass

### Sept. 18

Catechetical Sunday  
 10:00am Mass

### Sept. 19

Picture Day —Main & Primary  
 Campus—Dress Up Day

### Sept. 20

Picture Day —3 yr. Preschool

### Sept. 21

First Little Mountaineers  
 1:00-2:30pm (PC)

### Sept. 22

First Children’s Choir  
 2:55-3:45

## Information Going Home Today

- ◆ Wednesday Pink Note
- ◆ Scrip News
- ◆ Curriculum Night Flyer
- ◆ Lunch Volunteer Schedule
- ◆ Indoor Soccer (Gr. 1-4)
- ◆ St. Peter Poster Contest (Kindergarten-Gr. 3)



# St. Mary School -- a SPIRIT filled Catholic Community



## CAFETERIA NEWS

- Salad Bar starts at Main Campus Monday, September 12th.
- Free & Reduced Lunch Applications must be resubmitted every year.

## **In-Parish Tuition**

In-Parish tuition is granted to any family registered at St. Peter Parish who have a Mass attendance of no less than 40 weekends per year at St. Peter Parish (January—December). Every registered family receives envelopes with an assigned number on them. Please make sure you give your envelope at Mass. Every envelope in our Parish is accounted for every week whether or not they contain an offering. This will not include envelopes that are mailed in, dropped off at the Parish Office or electronically submitted. If you visit another church, please staple your envelope to that church's entire bulletin and drop it off at St Peter Parish office.



**Our "Pennies from Heaven" collection will begin Monday, September 12 and continue every Monday. Please be generous with your spare change.**

## POLICIES & PROCEDURES :

- **Volunteers: Re: Cell Phone**—All volunteers must turn off or silence their cell phones before entering our building and should not use their cell phones while supervising the children in the classrooms, on the playgrounds, or on field trips. Our kid's safety comes first. Anyone who is volunteering in our school needs to have taken "Protecting God's Children" and have a "Criminal Background Check".
- **Cell Phones:** Students are **NOT PERMITTED** to have or use cell phones in the school or on school property. Phones may be dropped off in the school office in the morning and picked up after school.
- **Forgotten Lunches at Main:** If your child has forgotten their lunch or the office calls to notify you that a lunch is needed, please take it straight down to the cafeteria. Make sure your child's first and last names are on it. **This applies to lunches only. Homework, gym bags, etc. may not be taken to the cafeteria. NO FAST FOOD is allowed in the cafeteria.**
- **Forgotten Items:** Students will not be allowed to call home for homework, backpacks, gym bags, snacks, etc. Your children need to learn to be responsible. Students may ask their teacher permission to come to the office after 9:00AM to retrieve forgotten items a parent may have brought in. The office will not deliver these items. **At dismissal students may re-enter the building for forgotten homework, etc. with a parent until 3:30PM.**
- **Homework Requests:** If your child is absent you may request homework after the 2nd day. Please call the office by 11:00AM. Do not email the teachers for homework. Edline may also be checked for homework. If there is a planned absence, your child will receive their work once they are back in school.
- **Student Messages:** Please make sure your child knows their car pool arrangements when you drop them off in the morning.

## MEDICATION DISPENSING

The "Medication Release Form" must be completed by **physician and parent** and filed with the school office when your child requires medication during school hours. This includes students who use inhalers, EpiPens, etc. The form needs to be resubmitted at the beginning of each school year.

**Medication includes both prescription and "over the counter medications" including cough drops.**

**Medications may not be in the possession of students with the exception of inhalers, EpiPens, or diabetic needs.** Medication must be clearly labeled with the student's name and must arrive in the office in the original container with dispensing directions.

## **STATE LAW REQUIRES CHILDREN TO RECEIVE IMMUNIZATIONS!**

Please be advised that St. Mary School operates under the rule of "day one" exclusion for the purposes of guaranteeing that all students meet the immunization requirements of the State of Michigan.

This means that no students will be permitted to enter St. Mary classrooms without meeting these requirements. In order for the enrollment process to be completed, students are required to have immunizations or current shot records. Immunization may be obtained from a doctor, a private clinic, or the Macomb County Health Department facility at 43525 Elizabeth Road.

## **Box Tops for Education**

Please be sure to turn in all complete Summer Box Tops for Education forms by September 16<sup>th</sup>. The class that turns in the most will receive an ice cream treat.

## **MAIN CAMPUS DROP OFF**

Students may be dropped off at either the Market or New Street entrances. Students in Grades 2 thru 5 will assemble on the Playground and students in Grades 6 thru 8 will stand in the Teacher Parking Lot. There will not be any students standing in the Market Street parking lot in the morning. Please refer to the parking lot map sent home at Sneak Peek.

## **THANK YOU**

I would like to acknowledge the four 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys who helped water the flowers and shrubs around St Peter Church this summer. The parish grounds look beautiful and a special Thank You goes to Justin Ashman, Daniel Bobick, Brenden Cichon and Joshua Garsteck. They did a great job and helped the St. Peter Garden Club earn the Grand Yard Award in Mt. Clemens Yard of the Year Contest. We are now permanently in the Mt. Clemens Hall of Fame. I am looking for 4 or 5 more 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys who would be interested in earning ten volunteer hours towards Confirmation. The plants could use water throughout the fall. Please call Stephanie Garsteck-Polak at 586-469-2845 or email at [polakgarsteck@yahoo.com](mailto:polakgarsteck@yahoo.com).

## **CARPOOL NEEDED**

16 Mile and L'Anse Cruese area, Wednesday and Thursday after school only. I can do mornings. Call Jennifer 586-463-1769  
Thank You

