

The Bulldog Barks

July 26, 2018

Welcome Back!

Hello and welcome to the 2018-2019 school year at St. Mary's! I hope that you have enjoyed a little extra time with your families this summer and have taken some time to rest. If your family is new to St. Mary's, we extend a warm welcome! Our school theme this year is "Walking with the Saints," so we will be encouraging students to let their light shine through faith, service, and giving their very best!

It's hard to believe that school will begin next Wednesday. A few reminders: Cars drop-off students in front of school. If you are not just dropping off students or need to come into school, please do not park in the drop-off area. The school doors open at 7:25 a.m., students may enter classrooms 7:45 a.m. The school day is 8:05 a.m. - 2:35 p.m. Any time a student is absent or is going to be late, you need to contact the school office.

We will have our first school Mass On Friday, August 5th at 8:30 a.m. As always, guests are welcome to join us for school Masses.

Annual Picnic

Parish picnic at Aurora Park Pavilion, Sunday, July 29th from noon until 5:00 p.m. Swimming, piñata and games. Bring dessert or side dish. All are welcome!

St. Mary School & PTO Open House

Mark your calendar for Parent Night on Monday, July 30th at 5:30 p.m. in our Activity Center. Meet Our Teachers! Purchase lunch tickets. Get involved with our PTO – sign up for Cafeteria/Playground duty and/or Farmer's Fair. Pick up Yearbooks. After a short meeting classrooms will be open, so you can drop off school supplies.

Navy blue zip up fleece

We will be taking orders at the PTO Open House for Navy blue zip up fleece jackets (no hood). Each jacket will be embroidered in white, with St. Mary's School. The blue jackets will be added to the school dress code, so students may wear them during school. They are \$25.00/each. We are making this change so that students are wearing uniform compliant sweatshirts during the school day.

School Payments

Don't forget that school lunch, book and technology fees, and tuition may be paid online at www.mystmarys.com.

Cafeteria

For your convenience, the August school lunch menu is attached. Lunch will continue to be \$15.00/ticket, milk is \$.30. Look for sign-up sheets at the Open House on Monday, for cafeteria and playground volunteers. You can always call Aimee Hollingsworth at 744-8738 to sign up!

Exciting news on the milk selections for 2018/2019 school year. We received news that we can now offer 1% chocolate milk, instead of the fat free milk that we have had in the past. The kiddos should like this much better!

Also attached is Parent’s Guide for Offer Versus Serve or OVS.

- Offer Versus Serve or OVS is a concept that applies to menu planning and the meal service. OVS allows students to decline some of the food offered in a lunch. The goals of OVS are to reduce food waste and to permit students to choose the foods they want to eat. Due to the fact that students may choose fewer selections under OVS, guidance is provided on what constitutes a lunch.
- Out of the 5 food groups your student is offered, he/she must choose at least 3 food groups for his/her lunch. One of the food groups must be a fruit or vegetable.

Change in lunch and playground times

We will only have 2 lunch periods and changing the lunch/recess schedule.

Lunch:

- 11:25 a.m. – Grades 3 – 5
- 11:35 a.m. – Grades K – 2
- 12:00 p.m. – Grades 6 – 8

Recess:

- 11 – 11:35 a.m. – Grades K – 2
- 11:55 – 12:20 a.m. – Grades 3 – 5
- 12:25 – 12:45 p.m. – Grades 6-8

If over time the teachers do not see that this new schedule is working, we will make changes and let you know if we do.

Cafeteria and Playground hours:

Cafe: First lunch is served at 11:25 a.m., so arrive 10 – 15 minutes early. Serve two lunch periods and help clean up kitchen, wash dishes, etc. You should be finished around 12:45 p.m.

Playground: Arrive around 10:50 a.m. and help the teacher supervise students on playground, Activity Center or at the park (depending on weather). You should be finished around 12:30 p.m.

Lunch Menu: \$15.00 per ticket (5 meals)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 Pizza (pepperoni or cheese) Veggie Sticks with Dip Tossed Salad Fruit Milk	2 Taco (Beef or Chicken) Corn Refried Beans Fruit Milk	3 Cheese Stuffed Bread Stick with Pizza Sauce Tossed Salad Carrots Fruit Milk

Please enjoy the final day of summer with your children. We look forward to having them back at school with us next Wednesday!

Calendar of Events:

Monday, 07/30	PTO Open House in Activity Center at 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, 08/01	First Day of School
Friday, 08/03	First Student Mass at 8: 30 a.m.
Wednesday, 08/15	Early Release at 12:35 p.m.
Friday, 08/17	Officer Phil Program (Grades K-4)
Tuesday, 08/21	Vision Screening (Grades 3,5 & 8)
Sunday, 08/26 - Friday, 08/31	St. Mary's Book Fair in the Activity Center
Friday, 08/31	1Q Midterm
Monday, 09/03	No School – Labor Day
Thursday, 09/06	Midterm Reports go home