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#### UPCOMING EVENTS.

- FEB 20 Mass 1:45 PM
- FEB 21 P/T Conferences 4-8 PM
- FEB 23 Mardi Gras
- FEB 25 Spirit Day
- FEB 27 Mass 1:45 PM
- FEB 21 Early Dismissal P/T Conf 1:15-8
- FEB 25 Spirit Day
- FEB 27 Mass 1:45 PM
- FEB 28 All School Open House 5:30-7:00 PM
- MAR 1 Registrations for 2019-20 due
- MAR 6 Mass 1:45 PM
- MAR 11-15 Spring Break



### Dear Parents & Students,

I cannot believe the mountains of snow on the playground and in the parking lot! The kids sure are having fun at recess. Hopefully the snow is done for a while so we can get to the routine of school again.

**Giving Back:** I am excited to share a project that I am undertaking. I am so blessed to have the opportunity to work at St. Mary School with its awesome teachers, students, and parents. The school and students here are lucky to always have the school supplies needed to offer a great education. However, some schools are not that lucky. Over spring break I will be traveling to the Dominican Republic and will be visiting a local school for the day. The school is in desperate need of school supplies such as pencils, pens, notebooks, crayons, markers, etc. I will be collecting these items over the next couple of weeks to bring with me in March. If you would like to help out there will be a collection box in the office until March 6th.

**Gentle Reminder:** In the Parent/Student handbook please note that teachers have until midnight on Mondays to update grades. Many teachers update more often than that but the required update time is only once per week.

**Did you know:** Randi Chapnik Mayer in the May 2018 issue of *Today's Parent* offers great tips to building self-esteem in your child.

- 1. Step Back—Let your child take risks, make decisions, and solve problems on their own.
- 2. Over praising kids does more harm than good—If kids are told everything they do is great, they won't push themselves to try harder.
- 3. Let your child take healthy risks—Don't rescue your kids from every failure all of the time.
- 4. Let kids make their own choices—This helps them to learn the consequences of their actions.
- 5. Let them help around the house—Kids need opportunities to demonstrate competence and feel the value in the contribution.
- 6. Encourage them to pursue interests—Encourage kids to take on tasks that they are interested in but then make sure they follow through with them.
- 7. If your children struggle or fail—Don't lose sleep over it. These difficult times help to build self-confidence.
- 8. Make sure your love is unconditional—Let your child know you love them even when they fail or make bad decisions.
- 9. Help your child set goals that are in their reach—It is better to play in a house league for baseball then to get cut from the A team.

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10. Offer appropriate praise—when praise is specific and earned it is a valuable self-esteem builder.

**Registration:** It is that time of year again! Registration forms for the 2019-2020 school year were sent home in your family folder. Registration forms are due on March 1st to avoid a late fee. Early registration allows us to plan for the upcoming school year and to set the budget. Please tell friends and family that tours of the school are available and that there are tuition scholarships and volunteer assistance for those families who qualify. Please have them contact me via phone or email for more information.

**FAN-tastic Mardi Gras:** The big event is just a week away. If you haven't reserved a seat please contact the office. What a great way to support the school and have a night of fun, food, and friends!

**Accreditation Team in Ladysmith:** I will be co-chairing the Our Lady of Sorrows (Ladysmith) WRISA Accreditation Site visit and will be out of the building Monday through Wednesday next week. If you need to contact me please call the school office and have Mrs. Moore get a hold of me.

Blessings,

Mrs. J



Mrs. Olson, along with her Kindergartners, is coordinating a program at our school in conjunction with Crayola. The program is called Crayola ColorCycle—an amazing program devised to repurpose used markers rather than sending them to landfills! All around St. Mary School, students and teachers will be collecting used markers that are ready to be discarded. Please help support our efforts by sending your kids in with any used markers you may have around the house—even non-Crayola brands! Highlighters and dry erase markers can also be included. A drop-off box will be located in the Kindergarten room for your child to deposit the markers.

Thank you in advance for participating—Remember, don't throw out that used marker—ColorCycle it!!

## MARDI GRAS CLASSROOM BASKETS

Mardi Gras preparations are well under way and we need your help. Every class donates a basket to be auctioned off during the silent auction. Listed below are the themes for each classroom. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. We hope to see you at this adult-only event on Saturday, Feb. 23rd at 5:00 P.M. Invitations will be sent home in the family folder. Every contribution helps to create a beautiful basket.

Thank you - Kate Harrold

Mardi Gras Co-Chair

651-210-0713

- 1. Requesting a \$5-\$15 themed item
- 2. Items can be dropped off in your child's classroom
- 3. A cash donation (with child/family's name on outside of envelope) can be given instead and then MG members will purchase an item to add to the basket.
- 4. Basket items due by Friday, Jan. 26th
- 5. Any new holiday re-gifting items or new products can be donated in addition to themed items and the MG members will create additional themed baskets
- 6. Items containing alcohol or knives (even plastic knives) must be turned into Mrs. Moore in the front office.

The class themes are listed below:

K-3: Wisconsin Badger, Packers, Minnesota Wild, Vikings items

4: Chocolate, Coffee Basket

5: Family Movie Night

6-8: Bottles of wine for the wine grab

# These cost you nothing extra and St. Mary School funding is supported by your participation:

- \*Shop on AmazonSmile, smile.amazon.com choose Immaculate Conception Parish
- \*Recycle aluminum cans at our center near Snap Fitness on N. Knowles Ave.
- \*Collect Box Tops for Education labels. Drop off at school.
- \*Recycle printer cartridges. Drop off at school.
- \*Save Family Fresh receipts. Drop off at school.