

ST. MARY SCHOOL



The Saints Go Marching On!

**UPCOMING
EVENTS.**

- JAN 19
2nd Quarter Ends
Movie/potluck 6:00
- JAN 24
Mass 10:00 A.M.
- JAN 25
2018-19 Pre-K
Information Night
- JAN 26
Report Cards
- JAN 28-FEB 3
Catholic School's
Week
- JAN 28
Children sing at
Masses.
Fellowship follow-
ing the 9:00 and
11:00 Masses
- JAN 29
Spirit Day, Crazy
Hair Day (no color)
and Mismatched
Socks Day
- JAN 30
Sports Day—
non-uniform
- JAN 31
St. Croix County
Catholic Schools
Mass at IC at
10:00 A.M.
Talent Show
1:00 P.M.
- FEB 1
Kindergarten
Open House
5:30 P.M.
- FEB 2
Alumni Tea
10:00 A.M.

Dear Parent & Students,

Finally a break in the bitter cold weather we have been having! The kids were excited to be back outside for recess. Enjoy the beautiful weather that is in the forecast for the weekend!

Students will be coming home today with informational packets on how to pray a Living Rosary. We had a presentation today at the school and there will also be presentations at each of the weekend Masses on the Living Rosary. I hope that this will make it easier for you to pray the rosary with your child. It may seem daunting to pray an entire rosary, but even just praying one decade of a rosary at home helps the kids grow in prayer.

Recruits, Recruits, Recruits.....calling all who are interested in helping our school grow. Both the Golf Tournament and Marketing committees are looking for new members. This is great way to get to know other parents, help our school grow, and have a fun time with guaranteed laughs. No experience necessary for either committee! If interested in the helping with either of these committees please contact the school office, and we will put you in touch with the right people.

Coming up:

Thursday, February 1st @ 5:30 P.M. is Kindergarten Open House

Saturday, February 3rd 9:00 A.M. to Noon is 4K & Preschool Open House

If you have family, friends, or neighbors that have children 3-5 years of age please pass on the dates and times of the Open House. If they are unable to attend on the date of the Open House please have them contact me, and I can give them a tour at another time.

January Food Drive: The students have been filling my office with donations for Five Loaves Food Shelf. I have challenged the students to donate 500 pounds of donations. If they reach the goal they will receive a non-uniform day, and I will have to wear the school uniform....yes, I have the plaid skirt and everything! The food shelf had a flood due to a frozen pipe in early January where many items packaged in cardboard were destroyed. The last day of the food drive will be Friday, February 2nd.

Once again a gentle reminder: Any childcare bills over 60 days will be added to your FACTS account.

Blessings,

Mrs. J.



Join the Golf Tournament Planning Committee!

Seeking positive people who are searching for their place in supporting the school! The golf tournament is one of the school's largest fundraisers and continues to grow. Consider being a part of this up and coming group!

Looking specifically for:

- Someone to grow team registrations (connections to families, parish community, golf community and alumni),
- Outside of the box thinkers,
- Golf and/or fundraising experience
- Communicators/connectors to local businesses and families,
- Bakers/Decorators/Photographers/Hole Volunteers
- Someone with connections to larger raffle prizes or determination to find one big one!

The commitment is minimal with, depending on your role, 3 meetings leading up to the tournament or in some cases only involvement day of and no pressure to do anything you aren't comfortable doing - except maybe trying Maria's homemade cookies when we meet!

Tournament date: June 22, 2018

Contact Maria Helgerson to learn more: [651.792.5650](tel:651.792.5650) or maria.helgerson@gmail.com

Catholic Schools Week Activities Jan 28th – Feb 2

Sunday: Students sing at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Masses, Fellowship following Masses

Monday: Spirit Day - Crazy Hair (no color) and mismatched socks.

Pep assembly in gym 8:45. a.m. Relay Races 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday: Sports Day - non-uniform; Bowling Grades 4-8 1:00

Wednesday: Uniform - St. Croix County Catholic Schools Mass in NR 10:00 a.m.;

Talent show 1:00 p.m.

Thursday: Book Character Day - dress like your favorite and bring the book your character is in;

Faith Friends Reading Groups 10:15 a.m.; Teacher Swap Grades 3-8 12:30 p.m.

Friday: Class Color Day, Alumni Tea, Grades 4-8 will be doing Black History Presentations

Colors: PS - black; K - red; 1st - orange; 2nd - yellow; 3rd - green; 4th - blue; 5th - purple;

READING TIPS FROM MRS. STRUSS Middle School Reading Teacher

As a reading teacher, one of my main goals is to turn students into children, teen-agers, and adults who read for pleasure! It can be challenging to turn children's attention to books when there are so many other distractions competing for their time and attention. Encouraging children to read is uphill work, but I persist by sharing my love of reading, making book recommendations based on interests I know the students have, getting them access to books by showing them the delights of the local library and by adding to my classroom collection, and by choosing engaging classroom reading materials.

You can help your children become readers, too! Educational research shows that if the adults in a child's life are readers, the children are more likely to be, too. Also, children who read for pleasure make more progress in vocabulary, spelling, and even math.

Some ways to start building a family of readers:

Start a family read-aloud time. Choose a picture or chapter book and read to your children each night. Schedule a time until it becomes a habit.

Share your passions! What do you love? Find a book about it and share it with your child.

If there's a book you loved as a child, that's a good one to try sharing, but try not to be disappointed if your child doesn't love it as you did. Some books don't age well. Ask your child to help you make a different choice.

Visit the New Richmond library and meet Jessica LaPean. She's the children's librarian who runs the youth programs, and she has great ideas for books you and your children can read together.

Visit (or build!) one of the many Little Free Libraries around New Richmond.

Audio-books are not cheating! Start an Audible account to find books you can listen to in the car while you're driving to sporting events or doing errands.

You and your children should select books based on your interests, not their reading level! If a book turns out to be too challenging to read alone, read it together.

Don't finish a book if you aren't engaged by page 50 -- return the book and move on to another one. Reading a book you hate, even if it's a "classic" that "everyone" loves, won't make you love reading.

Reading can be a social activity -- while settling down by yourself to read might be appealing to an introvert, extroverts might want to share a book with a reading group. You can get some friends together to read a book, or join an online (free) service like Goodreads to share recommendations and opinions.

Talk to your children about what you're reading, and ask them about what they're reading.

When something is important to us, we put it on our calendars. Just as you block out time to go to the gym or to get a haircut, devote some time to reading. Just a few minutes a day is enough to get you on your way! It won't be long before reading just becomes a regular and important part of your routine.





Alumni and Friends Tea Feb. 2, 2018

One of the events of Catholic Schools Week is the Alumni and Friends Tea. Students in 4th and 5th grade will be working very hard these next few weeks preparing for the tea. They will be writing invitations, baking, reviewing manners and learning how to greet and serve people.

Alumni are invited to attend. If you know someone who attended St. Mary School and would like to attend the tea please send their name and address to grade5@st-maryschool.com. I will make sure they receive an invitation.

Friends of St. Mary School are also welcome to attend the tea. A Friend of St. Mary School is a person who supports our school and its mission. Parents and grandparents of students are Friends of SMS.

There will be presentations by the 4th-8th grade students prior to the tea from 8:30 A.M.- 10:00 A.M.. The tea will be from 10:00 A.M.- 11:20 A.M.

BITS-N-PIECES MRS. MITCHELL

Reminders:

Send in your Mardi Gras basket items.

Bring food for the food drive. (I want to see Mrs. Jarchow in the uniform!)

Report cards will be in next week's family folder. I will not send them home if I do not have your folder. No folder this week

We received a check from Box Tops for Education for \$203.70. Thanks for sending in the things we collect.