



# ST. MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

## *The Pink Note*

September 5, 2018

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### ***From the Desk of Mrs. Miscavish***

Dear Parents:

Welcome back to the start of a brand-new school year! The excitement continues to be in the air as our preschoolers join us this week for their first days. It appears that everyone is settling in nicely and happy to be back.

I appreciate everyone's cooperation as the construction continues, it is all tricky I know. Though as you can see, the gym is progressing nicely, and every day brings a new adventure on that end of the building. To those parents who have decided to walk from the library lot, I appreciate your willingness to do so. It alleviates some traffic in our immediate area and if the weather holds, it is a great solution at the end of the day. To the parents waiting in the "parent corral" – we appreciate your patience. It is not the best solution, but it works for now. In the grand scheme of it all, it is a good problem to have, just very trying at times.

Tomorrow night is Parent Night for Preschool – 6<sup>th</sup> grade. We hope that all of you can join us for this very informative evening. Please make sure you note that the start times are staggered so that all our parents can have an opportunity to meet with all their children's teachers. This night is strictly for parents; however, we do understand on occasion that you might have to bring your children. We highly encourage you to come alone, but if in order for you to attend they must come with you, that is better than not coming at all.

For those parents who are unable to join us tomorrow night, please make sure you reach out to your child's teacher to volunteer for one of their classroom jobs or one of our St. Mary jobs. Our parent volunteers are one of the most important parts of our school community and we need your help to be the best that we can be. Tomorrow night we will be asking one parent from each family to fill out a questionnaire on where you would like to volunteer and to sign up for:

- Bottle Recycling Brigade
- Backpack Mass Parents
- Car Door Openers – daily or substitutes
- Spanish, Computer & Library Assistance
- Weekly Cafeteria Assistance

Classroom teachers will have their own needs, such as Room Parents, Special Event Coordinators, Guest Readers, Copy Parents, etc. We appreciate in advance any extra help that you can give us to make this school year run smoothly!

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents, your Parent Night is being held on Monday, September 10 @ 6:30. Please use the main entrance and do your very best to be on time; it is difficult without the Cafeteria door to let late comers in. If you do arrive late, please call the SMS Backpacks phone number on the door and someone will let you in. You will have all the same opportunities to sign-up for volunteering as well. 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents, please note you have an important Washington D.C. informational meeting following the teacher's presentations.

Traffic seems to be going well, but please remember parents, **Washington to Union** and no turning right off S. Gratiot onto Union. Those of you who have made this mistake learn quickly that you are "swimming upstream" against a current filled with cars going downstream. I am sure many of you subscribe to the *Macomb County Scanner* on Facebook; you see the craziness on the roads in Macomb County, let us not be a part of it.

We look forward to seeing all our Fall CYO student Athletes at this Sunday's 10:00 Sports Mass. If you have never been to this Mass before, you are in for a real treat. It is wonderful to see our student athletes process in as one family of Faith together and as one team of athletes representing the St. Peter Parish CYO program. It is moments like these that set CYO apart from any other organized athletic program. Their program sends a strong message with their mission to enrich families lives through our Catholic faith and we are proud to be a part of this rich tradition in the Archdiocese of Detroit.

Just a few annual reminders of questions that come every year:

- School wide communication: We will continue to use the *Remind* text message service school wide. This will be used for all kinds of messages and for school closings once winter weather becomes an issue. If you are not receiving our messages, please call the office and we can assist you with that process.
- All teachers' emails are up and running, but please remember that teachers spend the vast majority of their day teaching and not behind a computer. All staff members abide by a 24-hour rule, so you will get an answer, you just need to be patient. Also, once 4:00 pm hits, I prefer that my teaching staff leave their classroom behind and take some time for themselves. That is not an easy task for someone who works in a school to remember to do, but it is something we should all try to do. Please note as well, if a teacher does not have a break after lunch, lunch will be the last time they read their email until after school.
- Speaking of weather, please note that we will continue to go outdoors every day we can, except when it is raining and bitter cold. Our students do an excellent job on being prepared for the weather, so we are dropping our temperature one degree lower, to 11 degrees, actual temperature or the "feels like" temperature with the wind chill factored in for going outdoors. We will continue to make sure we monitor all conditions because the weather varies greatly as you know and there are days when the "feels like" is 18 and it can feel much colder than 11 with no wind. 11 degrees is our guide, but our common sense is our true guide.
- Mass at St. Peter: We will have only one Mass at St. Peter this month and that is on September 21. This is an important day for our 8<sup>th</sup> graders. After Mass, they will participate in our long-standing tradition of the "Relighting Ceremony." It is at that time that our 8<sup>th</sup> graders will renew the pledge they made last May to become the next leaders of St. Mary Catholic School. It is a lovely tradition and one that all parents are invited to attend. We hope that you can join us not only on this day, but at any Mass, be it in the gym or at St Peter. What better way to begin your day than in prayer with your own child and hundreds more!
- Jeans Days: Please note that Jeans Day, means you wear jeans! Not ripped ones, not jeggings, not loose fitting, not yoga pants, just a plain old pair of jeans with your favorite appropriate shirt. For Jeans Days, 100% of your \$1.00 or more donation is sent to the charity of the day. It is our hope that these opportunities will instill in our students a life-long desire to help those in need. On September 17, we will have a very patriotic Red, White, & Blue Jeans Day in honor of Constitution Day with all proceeds being donated to the Wounded Warrior Project. We thank you in advance for your support of this day and we remind you, if you think the outfit is questionable, they should probably change their clothes! I have yet to call a parent who has not said to me, "I told him/her not to wear it." Please remember, we only call now if we cannot find something in the uniform closet that works.

Some exciting times around St. Peter Parish this fall are coming up, please join us for the following events:

- This Sunday, after our 10:00 Mass from 11:00 – 12:00, in the parking lot by the new grotto area, the parish will be hosting an ice cream social featuring Wally's Frozen Custard & Fire Truck! This event is free and I'm sure a good time will be had by all!
- On the weekend of September 15 & 16, St. Peter Parish will celebrate with receptions after the 4:00 & 10:00 Mass the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the parish. This is an exciting time in the life of our parish family and we invite all of you to be a part of the celebration. Mark your calendars for that date and also for Sunday, October 14 to attend 12:00 Mass with Archbishop Vigneron as we officially celebrate the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Another very special occasion and exciting day in the life of our parish!

I leave you with what I consider, *an oldie, but goodie*, prayer to begin the new school year:

God of wisdom and might,  
we praise you for the wonder of our being,  
for mind, body and spirit.  
Be with our children as they begin  
a new school year.  
Send your spirit upon them  
and fill them with your wisdom and blessings.  
Grant that they may devote themselves to their studies  
and draw ever closer to you,  
the source of all knowledge.  
Bless them and their teachers and staff.  
Give the strength and grace as their bodies grow;  
wisdom and knowledge to their minds  
as they search for understanding;  
and peace and zeal to their hearts.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

May grace and blessings be in your path,  
Maureen Miscavish

### **Little Mountaineers**

There is still room in Little Mountaineers for your 2 - 3 1/2 year-old child. The first session begins Tuesday, September 18 from 12:30 – 2:00. For more information and to register call the school office at 586-468-4570.

### **ATTENTION PARENTS!**

If you are not receiving emails from the school [stmarymtclemens@gmail.com](mailto:stmarymtclemens@gmail.com) address, please email Sherry Dempsey at [sdempsey@stmarymtclemens.com](mailto:sdempsey@stmarymtclemens.com) so she can add you to this list! Also, please make sure your email address is kept up-to-date at all times.

## Student Directory Form

Please be sure to turn in your family Student Directory Form if you have not done so. It is important that we have one from every family. The directory is an important resource for all parents.

## Directory Ads

Our Student Directory is a great way to get your business name out to St. Mary Families. This year again for \$30.00 you can advertise in both the Directory and the Holiday Party program. All business ads are due by September 17.



## CAFETERIA NEWS

- Please be sure money for your child's lunch account is clearly marked with their first & last name, grade and the words "Lunch Account"
- Salad Bar will start September 10 for grades 3-8. Salad Bar is served Monday through Thursday.
- Free & Reduced Lunch Applications were emailed home and are available in the school office. They must be submitted each year.
- Check your inbox from Aug. 22 for the link to sign up for lunch duty. Log in to [www.signupgenius.com](http://www.signupgenius.com) use the pass word '2union' to submit days you can volunteer. Lunch time is from 10:55 till 1:00. Walk ins are always welcome.

## Save the Date

September 17-20 ~ Book Fair  
September 21 ~ 1st Mass at St Peter  
& 8th Grade Relighting Service  
September 26 ~ Picture Day - 4yr Pre - Gr. 8  
September 27 ~ Picture Day - 3yr. Pre  
September 28 ~ No School  
October 10 ~ High School Night  
October 18 ~ Mandatory Parent Sacrament Meeting

## Book Fair



The Scholastic Book Fair will be at St. Mary School September 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in volunteering, watch your inbox for the Sign-up Genius to sign up to help! If you have any questions email Joyce Melling at [chickie\\_mel@yahoo.com](mailto:chickie_mel@yahoo.com).

## Used Uniform Closet

The Used Uniform Closet is always available for parents to stop in and shop; our inventory is always changing. When shopping please bring cash and small bills. We accept all gently used, clean uniforms for the closet.

**"Pennies from Heaven"** first count will begin next Monday. "Pennies from Heaven" is a collection of your spare change (or bills) throughout the school year to help earn \$ for student activities and it helps classrooms earn rewards! As classrooms achieve their goals, they are rewarded with jeans/pajama days, ice cream treats, movies, hat days, etc!

## Medication Dispensing

The "Medication Release Form" must be completed by a **physician and a parent** and kept on file in 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.**

Medication must be clearly labeled with the student's name and must arrive in the office in the original container with dispensing directions. The Medication Release form is available on our web-site.

St. Mary Catholic School provides strong academics within a faith-based community to prepare students for higher learning and to become moral, productive, God-loving leaders in society.

## **POLICIES & PROCEDURES :**

### **Volunteer Information:**

- **Cell Phone Use:** All volunteers must turn off or silence their cell phones before entering the building and should not use their cell phones while supervising the children in the classrooms, on the playgrounds, or on field trips.  
Anyone who is volunteering in our school must take “Protecting God’s Children” and have a “Criminal Background Check”. You can register for the Protecting God’s Children class through the [virtus.org](http://virtus.org) site,
- **Forgotten Lunches:** If your child forgets their lunch or the office calls to notify you that a lunch is needed, please drop it off at the office. **No fast food** is allowed in the cafeteria.
- **Forgotten Items** Students may ask their teacher’s permission to come to the office to retrieve forgotten items dropped off by parents. At dismissal students may re-enter the building until 3:30 for forgotten homework, etc. , but **they must be with a parent.**
- **Homework Requests:** If your child is absent you may request homework. Please call the office by 11:00 AM. If there is a planned absence, your child will receive their work once they are back in school.
- **Entering the Building:** When entering the building parents and visitors must use the Main Entrance and sign in at the office.

### **Box Tops for Education**

It’s time to return that Summer Collection sheet for Box Tops for Education. Please attach your child’s 50 box tops (or how many you have) with tape or glue to the collection sheet or just put them in an envelope or baggie and clearly mark it with your child’s name and teacher. Bonus certificates must be submitted separately. Please check for expiration date before sending them in.



### **Used Grocery Bags**

St. Vincent DePaul can always use **clean, dry** grocery bags. This is another way St. Mary families can recycle and reuse! Bags can be dropped off at the school office.

### **Weekly Highlights**

#### **Thursday, Sept. 6**

Parent Night  
Preschool – Gr.3 begin at 6:00PM  
Gr. 4-5 at 6:30PM  
Gr. 6 at 7:00PM

#### **Friday, Sept. 7**

No Mass

#### **Sunday, Sept. 9**

Fall Sports Mass 10:00AM  
at St. Peter

#### **Monday, Sept. 10**

Salad Bar Begins  
Gr. 7 & 8 - Parent Night  
6:30PM in Cafetorium  
8th Grade Parent DC meeting  
immediately follows

#### **Tuesday, Sept. 11**

Art Club 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grades 3:10-4:00

#### **Coming Home**

Pink Note  
Art Club Sign Up Gr. 4-8  
Chess Club Sign Up (Gr. 4-8)  
Newspaper Club Sign Up

#### **E-mailed Home**

Book Fair Sign Up Genius  
Lunch Duty Sign Up Genius  
Free & Reduced Lunch Application  
Advanced Readers Book Club Gr.6-8  
Chess Club Gr. 4-8  
Art Club Gr 4-8  
Newspaper Club 4-8

St. Peter Catholic Church

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Out of the Past, THE FUTURE



E. PRAETERITIS FUTURA