



**St. Mark Catholic School
Summer Reminders
July 15, 2014**

The purpose of this bulletin is to serve as a reminder of some of the important upcoming events and activities for the end of the summer and the reopening of school. These are general announcements. If you need more detailed information, please refer to the school website (www.stmcs.net), or the “End of the Year Bulletin” that was emailed to St. Mark families in May, and sent to new families at the time of registration.

A Message from the Principal:

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2014-2015 school year at St. Mark Catholic School. I am your new principal, Patricia Opon. I want to take a moment to extend my personal welcome to you as we begin this exciting new school year together. I look forward to meeting each and every one of you and getting to know your wonderful children as we continue in the St. Mark traditions of faith, gospel values, and academic excellence.

I would also like to introduce our new Assistant Principal, Eileen Brosnahan. Eileen comes to us with 15 years of teaching experience (most recently as a 6th grade teacher at St. Rita Catholic School), as well as a Master’s degree in English, and a Master’s degree in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. She is married (to a teacher!) with two children. Eileen is looking forward to meeting all of you, and to serving our students in her new role. Her office is located in the former Receptionist’s space, so she’s easy to spot. Be sure to stop by and say, “hello!”

One of the most important traditions that we can continue with at St. Mark is the high level of parent involvement in school events and activities. I would like to extend a special invitation to all St. Mark parents to become involved in their child's education. There are a variety of ways for this to happen. Please watch the “Weekly School Bulletin” during the school year and find one or two activities that suit your interests. Keep in mind that your Safe Environment training must be current in order for you to volunteer, so please be sure it is updated by the start of school. [Click here](#) for more information.

At this time, we are in immediate need of HSA (Home & School Association) Board members and volunteers! We want to maintain all of our traditional events and activities, but without this parental help, these things cannot occur. If you are interested in helping, please attend an

informational meeting on Sunday, August 3rd. We will discuss the different ways you can become involved and I am sure we can find something that suits your interests and schedule. There is truly a role for everyone. Plus since I am new, it will give us a chance to meet and learn about things together. **So mark your calendar for Sunday, August 3rd at 11:45 AM in the Cafetorium** (which is the same day that class lists will be posted and the School Supply Pick-up/Used Uniform Sale will be held). Looking forward to seeing everyone there!

I believe that God has brought us together to serve your children as they make their spiritual and academic journeys. Together we will provide the ultimate learning environment and continue to make St. Mark a place “where faith and knowledge meet.”

Many blessings,

Patricia Opon
Principal
St. Mark Catholic School

News:

Donate your Used Uniforms

Used uniform donations will be accepted on Sunday, July 27 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Please bring your donations (in good condition) to the Old Gym (back entrance near the playground).

Student Volunteers NEEDED to Help With School Supplies – Service Hours Available

Please contact Mary Currlin at mkcurrlin@msn.com to volunteer to help with organization and distribution of school supplies on Sunday, August 3rd, 8:30 AM – 1:00 PM. Volunteers can either work the entire shift or just an hour or two.

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook

St. Mark Catholic School is pleased to announce that we’re officially on Twitter! Follow us @stmarkcatholic. Don’t have a Twitter account? Simply visit www.twitter.com, set up your profile, search @stmarkcatholic, and click on the “follow” link. You’ll receive timely updates on what’s happening throughout the school year including news, reminders, weather delays/closings, etc. Just one more way to keep in touch – in real time! Our Facebook page will also be updated frequently and will be another great resource for school-related information, so be sure you’re following St. Mark before the start of the school year!

Join Us for “Bingo Knight” and Support Our School

On Saturday, July 26, the Knights of Columbus are hosting a “Bingo Knight” at 6:30 PM in the Cafetorium. A portion of the proceeds will benefit St. Mark Catholic School. Reserve your individual spot, or reserve a whole table with family, friends, and fellow school families. Either way, come out and enjoy a fun evening of bingo and fellowship, and show your LION PRIDE! Visit www.KOFC-6065.org for more information and to register online.

From the Athletic Department

Medical Form Reminder:

Fall athletes that have not turned in a current medical form to the school nurse for the 2014-15 school year must do so immediately in order to be cleared to participate in practices. Find the form on the school [website](#).

2014-15 Athletic Fees:

All athletic registration fees are due August 1. Fees can be paid by check made payable to "St. Mark Catholic School," and sent to the attention of Marlene Ehring, Athletic Director (please remember to include your athlete's name and sport on the memo line), OR they can be paid online at [stmcs.net](#). The fees are as follows:

Football - \$115

Volleyball - \$100

Cross Country - \$50 (Cross Country is still open for registration.)

CPR Class For Coaches:

Ann Berard, our school nurse, will be conducting a CPR class for anyone interested in coaching a St. Mark athletic team for the 2014-15 school season. CPR certification is one of three mandatory requirements listed in the School Handbook. (Date to be determined. More information to come.) The cost for this course is \$7.00, which can be paid online at [stmcs.net](#).

Volunteers Needed at St. Mark Community Carnival Booth:

St. Mark Catholic School will have a booth at the St. Mark Community Carnival which will be held the weekend of October 10-12. The Athletic Department is looking for volunteers to assist with spirit wear sales. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Athletic Director, Marlene Ehring at 214-673-8019.

For the Pride!

Cafeteria News

Just a reminder that parents will now be able to set-up a School Cafeteria account online where funds can be added and purchase activity can be monitored. More information will be sent closer to the start of school.

After School Program

New enrollment forms are required for the After School Program each year. Forms are available on the school [website](#). The After School Program will be available starting the first day of classes on August 13. As a reminder, students must be registered for the After School Program. It is not a program that is designed for drop-ins.

Important Dates:

July 26: Knights of Columbus “Bingo Knight,” 6:30 PM in the Cafetorium

July 27: Used uniform donations accepted from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM in the Old Gym.

August 1: The school office reopens.

August 3: Used Uniform Sale and School Supply Pick-up, 9:00 AM - 12:00 NOON in the Old Gym; HSA/Volunteer Informational Meeting, 11:45 AM in the Cafetorium

ALL school supplies (including assignment books, totes, PE, and pencil bags, etc.) will be available for pickup. If you will not be able to pick up your supplies on this day, please contact the school office to arrange for pickup on Monday, August 4th or Tuesday, August 5th from 9:00 AM – 12:00 NOON.

A limited number of school supply packs will be available for sale. Tote bags, PE, pencil bags, and assignment books will also be available for sale. Cash or check only, please.

August 4-5: School supply pick-up is available from 9:00 AM-12:00 NOON in the main school building. Please schedule a pick-up time with the school office in advance.

August 5: Newcomer's Welcome, including tours of the school from 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM in the Cafetorium

August 5-12: These days are reserved for faculty and staff development sessions. While the main office may be open at select times during these sessions, there may be times that all faculty and staff are not available. If you need to come to the school office on any of these dates, we recommend you call ahead of time to verify if office staff will be available. Faculty will not be available for appointments during the staff development week.

August 13: First Day of School and Back To School Breakfast. School hours are 7:55 AM - 3:30 PM. Preschool dismisses at 3:00 PM. After you drop off your children, come join other parents in the Cafetorium for a Back To School Breakfast.

August 14: Back-To-School-Night for parents of students in Middle School, Grades 6-8 at 6:30 PM in the Cafetorium, followed by classroom visits.

August 15: Early Dismissal 12:00 NOON. Lunch will not be served. The After School Program will be in operation. Please send a lunch with all After School Program students.

August 18: Back-To-School-Night for parents of students in Early Childhood Education (ECE) and Grades 1-5 at 6:30 PM in the Cafetorium, followed by classroom visits.

August 27: Individual School Pictures