

## The Bulldog Barks

### November 13, 2020

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**Mr. Dennis - Principal**

**[randy.dennis@mystmarys.com](mailto:randy.dennis@mystmarys.com)**

Greetings everyone. There are many good things going on at St. Mary's right now. Shockingly, it's already midterm of the second semester! Praise God that we are still all learning each and every day at our school. Read on as I cover many new happenings.

We are very excited to kick off our Shoe Drive! The attached flyer gives most of the details. I personally went around to each class to explain to the kids why we are collecting the shoes. The shoes will go to microentrepreneurs around the globe. The company gives them training on how to set up and run a small business selling the gently used shoes. It is a classic example of teaching someone how to fish instead of handing them one. Kids were excited. I will be giving you frequent updates throughout the sixty day time period.

In the coming weeks, all students in grades 3 through 8 will be taking the NWEA MAP Growth test. This test is used to inform teachers on exactly what students know and don't know. It also helps us to prepare for the ILEARN test in the spring. Below, is a link to a short video that better explains what MAP Growth is. After taking the test, we will share results with families. Feel free to read over the guide for families that is attached to the Bulldog.

<https://www.nwea.org/resource-center/resource/what-is-map-growth/>

So that you know, we continue to prepare in case there would be a shut down at some point in the future. To prepare, all core subject teachers will be participating in professional development led by a professor from Thomas Moore College on November 19. While in training, substitute teachers will be with our students. Teachers will focus on using Google Classroom to implement a fully online curriculum if the need arises.

In the next couple of weeks, we will be sending out links to all emails of parents that allow them to see their student's grades. Our system is called Jupiter. This will allow you to see how your children are doing up-to-the-minute. It also allows you to update any of your personal information as you login for the first time. If you have any problems, please let us know, and we will help you.

Next Wednesday will be the last Wednesday of the month. Please send in an item for the Giving Basket. Please see the attached flyer for a reminder on what is needed. It is a beautiful sight to see our faith in action as the children bring their items up.

**PreK – Mrs. Strasemeier, Mrs. Wismann, and Mrs. Dozier**

[prek@mystmarys.com](mailto:prek@mystmarys.com)

Our Pre-K groups learned about the letter L this week with leaves, lions, lemons and limes! Our Monday, Wednesday, and Friday group was even able to take a trip to the library!

Next week, we will be doing a review of the letter A-L. This will be a great time for you to practice their letters at home with them! The Monday, Wednesday, Friday kiddos are working on both capital & lowercase letters as well as the letter sounds and words that begin with that letter. The Tuesday, Thursday group is mostly focusing on the capital letter. We will also be reviewing the numbers 1-10 and putting the numbers in order.

We will also be talking about Thanksgiving and what we are thankful for. Have some discussions with your kiddos about what you are thankful for also! The three of us are very thankful for the group of students we are working with this year and the opportunity to get to know your children!

I sent out a message on our ClassDOJO account about a preschool Christmas program. Please check the message and send us your input as soon as possible!

Have a wonderful week!

**Kindergarten – Mrs. Denning**

[amy.denning@mystmarys.com](mailto:amy.denning@mystmarys.com)

Next week in phonics we will be working with 2 letters; Kk- keyword- kite, and Bb- keyword- balloon. We will also be working with rhyming words and syllables. Please make sure to practice reading- wordlists, sentence sheets, and “pop-up” words on a regular basis.

In math we will be using some new items- geoboards and geobands, to make and copy shapes. These are always fun tools that the class enjoys using.

Show-n-Tell for the week of Nov. 16 will be letter Hh.

Midterm letters for the second grading period will be sent home on Thursday, Nov. 19. Please remember to sign and return them to school.

Have a wonderful week!

**Grade 1 – Ms. McPherson**

[mcperson.1@mystmarys.com](mailto:mcperson.1@mystmarys.com)

In Phonics we will be reading and spelling new words that include final, stable syllables –ble (as in bubble), -fle (as in ruffle), -ple (as in staple), -dle (as in candle), -tle (as in bottle), and gle (as in bugle).

In Math we are practicing how to divide shape in half and how to write the fraction one half.

A new ‘Yellow Reader’ will be going home with the students. We will start the story **Stan’s Stunt** next week!

**Grade 2 – Mrs. Grove**

[annmarie.grove@mystmarys.com](mailto:annmarie.grove@mystmarys.com)

The students are enjoying making holiday cards for the 5/6th grade SSO card project. Mrs. Powers will deliver the cards to hospice patients and nursing homes in time for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Everyone is excited to watch Sawyer and Isiah make something on the 3D printer. It is their reward for selling so much cleaning supplies during our school fundraiser.

We are starting to memorize the Act of Contrition in preparation for our first Reconciliation.

Please wear coats to school even if the forecast looks warm. It is never warm at our 9:45 recess!

**Grade 3 and Grade 4- Mr. Rector****[adam.rector@mystmarys.com](mailto:adam.rector@mystmarys.com)**

Hello Everyone! We are about halfway through the month, so we should also be about halfway to our Reading Log Goals! I have had several students requesting extra assignments they can do at home, so I am going to start making optional homework to practice skills we learned in class. I will not have it for every day and it is entirely optional. I will let students and parents decide if they want the extra work. Again, it will not be required or taken for a grade. Midterms will be going home Tuesday, so be on the lookout for those!

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out. Thanks!

**Grade 5 and Grade 6 – Mrs. Rice****[suzy.rice@mystmarys.com](mailto:suzy.rice@mystmarys.com)**

The 6th grade had a math test today. 5th grade needs to continue practicing the basic multiplication facts for precision and speed. The 7th grade's next math test is scheduled for next Friday.

The 5th/6th grade SSO, Student Service Organization, project has begun. They are coordinating schoolwide cards for patients in hospice and nursing homes. The first collection of cards is on November 23 for Thanksgiving and Christmas cards. The second collection will be on December 18 for Valentine cards. There will be other card collections in February and April. There are collection boxes in the upstairs hall.

The 5th-7th graders are excited to be working with VEX IQ robotics. We will have some competitions during school once they get their robots built. We now have 5 robot kits and have the interest to have more. We were able to get one new kit this year due to a grant through the Dearborn County Retired Teachers Association and the Aurora Knights of Columbus.

**Grade 7 – Mrs. Rector****[kim.rector@mystmarys.com](mailto:kim.rector@mystmarys.com)**

The new SSO is a success! The 8th grade SSO members did a great job planning and conducting the Veteran's Day program on November 11. The fifth and sixth grade SSO members unveiled their card project this week. Seventh grade SSO members enjoyed planning Red Ribbon Week and look forward to their next project.

The seventh graders have finished *Elijah of Buxton*. Several students have ideas for a sequel. Up next, they will read novels on their own and have a choice of activities to complete when they finish.

The fifth and sixth graders are getting to the climax of *Fish in a Tree* and will soon find out why the book has that title. They really love this story!

In social studies, the eighth graders and fifth graders are moving forward in the history of America, but in different locations and time periods. The sixth and seventh graders are continuing their study of Africa's history.

**Grade 8 – Mr. Waldon****[jim.waldon@mystmarys.com](mailto:jim.waldon@mystmarys.com)**

Thanks to everyone who joined us for our Veterans Day program, thanks to our eighth graders who led the service, and thanks to all of our Veterans!

Well, we had to dodge all kinds of scheduling obstacles to be able to finish recording Lessons & Carols. Because we have never done anything like this before, we don't know just how it will work, but we're very grateful to Michelle Ryan for her willingness to attempt the recording and editing! The students did a wonderful job and put a lot of effort into doing their parts well. Lessons & Carols will be available to you online on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

Our vocabulary assignment which is due next week is Unit 8; this will be due on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>; as always, there are weekly journals and a weekly exercise in studying Greek and Latin

Roots, Prefixes, and Suffixes. With many interruptions, we have not had a chance to read *Johnny Tremain* each day, but we hope to be back on target today.

The eighth graders will be going to Hillforest on Monday morning to help carry Christmas decorations from the basement to other areas of the house. This is an eighth grade tradition, and is a treat because most people don't get to see the basement of Hillforest.

The religion assignment for November is to memorize the Spiritual Works of Mercy. Students have received copies of the works of mercy and have those inside the cover of their religion books. This assignment will be due on Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup>. We're also working ahead to memorize the Angelus for December and the Apostles' Creed for January. Students now have copies for study.

REMEMBER THAT ALL RELIGION BOOKS SHOULD BE KEPT IN STUDENT BACKPACKS WHEN NOT IN USE. THIS IS AN ONGOING ASSIGNMENT THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

God bless you!

### **7th & 8th Science**

**[brookbank.science@mystmarys.com](mailto:brookbank.science@mystmarys.com)**

Friday (11/13) we quizzed concerning the animal cell. Subject matter covered was correctly naming all the organelles and functions. We will have the final on the animal cell on Tuesday, (11/17) Monday, we will begin our section covering mitosis.

### **5/6th Science**

We began our section on Earth Science with examinations of different rocks. We have 20 kits of rocks and their different characteristics. I have allowed the students to pick as a group, 15 rocks. We will concentrate upon these 15 rocks and discuss their importance to our daily lives. If you have any questions concerning the rocks our school Geologist William Hollander can be reached at school.

## Cafeteria/Playground

Contact Aimee Hollingsworth at 744-8738, to sign up for cafeteria and playground duty. The schedule is online at [www.mytmarys.com](http://www.mytmarys.com), under “Student Life”, under “Cafeteria/Playground”. If you can fill in one of the open positions, you can call the school office to let us know!

### Lunch:

11:00 a.m. – 11:25 a.m. – K-1  
11:30 a.m. – 11:55 a.m. – Grades 2 - 4  
11:40 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. - PreK  
12:00 p.m. – 12:25 p.m. – Grades 5 – 8

### Recess:

11:35 a.m. – 11:55 a.m. – Grades K – 1  
12:00 p.m. – 12:25 p.m. – Grades 2 – 4

### Cafeteria and Playground hours:

**Cafe:** First lunch is served at 11:00 a.m., so arrive 10 – 15 minutes early. Serve three lunch periods and help clean up kitchen, wash dishes, etc.

**Playground:** First recess is at 11:35 a.m., so arrive 10 – 15 minutes early. You will help the teacher supervise students on playground, Activity Center or at the park (depending on weather).

### Cafeteria Volunteers:

11/16-Diane Patterson, 11/17-Kay Gigerich, 11/18-Marge Waldon, 11/19-Charlotte Deville, 11/20-Lisa Grove, 11/23-Diane Patterson, 11/24-Kay Gigerich, 11/25-Thanksgiving Break, 11/26-Thanksgiving Break, 11/27-Thanksgiving Break, 11/30-Diane Patterson

### Playground Volunteers:

11/16-Tara Schuler, 11/17-HELP NEEDED, 11/18-HELP NEEDED, 11/19-Connie Powers, 11/20-HELP NEEDED, 11/23-Tara Schuler, 11/24-HELP NEEDED, 11/25-27 Thanksgiving Break, 11/30-Tara Schuler

**\*\*We need more playground volunteers. If you can help on any day, please call the school office at 812-926-1558!**

**Lunch Menu: ~~\$17.50 per ticket (5 meals)~~ All meals are free for all students, until further notice.**

16 Sliced Turkey Mashed Potatoes Bread Carrots Fruit Milk	17 Chicken Nuggets Buttered Noodles Green Beans Corn Fruit Milk	18 <b>NEW</b> Pizza Veggie sticks w/ dip Fruit Milk	19 Mini Corn Dogs FF Baked Beans Fruit Milk	20 Chicken Sliders on bun Toss Salad Carrots w/ dip Fruit Milk
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## BoxTops

I am Nicole Eaglin, and I am the Box Tops for Education Coordinator for St. Mary's School. For those of you not familiar with Box Tops for Education, there are several products our school is able to earn money on just because we purchase those items. St. Mary's receives \$.10 for every Box Top label submitted.

THE NEW BOX TOPS LABELS



Box Tops money may be earned two ways. Some products have labels on the box that you can turn into your child's teacher. I take care of submitting these for reimbursement.

Now Box Tops has gone digital. Just download the Box Tops for Education App. If you purchase items that have a digital label, just scan your receipt. Our school will earn money and receive a check for those items. If you need any help setting up your app or if you simply have any questions, please contact me at [nreaglin@comcast.net](mailto:nreaglin@comcast.net). I appreciate all of your help in earning money for St. Mary's School.

## Ronald McDonald – pop tabs

To many, a pop tab is just a piece of aluminum with one purpose – to open a can. But to Ronald McDonald House Charities, these teeny tiny pop tabs are a valuable resource. Why? Collected pop tabs are recycled, generating much-needed funds to support the House and the nearly 5,000 families we serve each year.



**Ronald McDonald  
House Charities®**  
Central Indiana

Funds received from the recycling of tabs typically add up to between \$30,000 and \$50,000 annually. All this money goes to the operating expenses of the Ronald McDonald House Charities and can cover the cost of operating 3 rooms in the House for an entire year.

Thanks to generous school children, families, businesses, clubs, and churches, over one billion pop tabs have been donated since the program's inception in 1995, generating more than \$820,000 in pop tab revenue for the House.

There is a yellow can by the FYI Board in the school lobby. Send in any pull tabs with your child(ren) and we will get them to the appropriate person.

# Calendar of Events:

November 16	5/6 Boys Basketball 5:30/home
November 17	5 <sup>th</sup> Boys Basketball 5:30/away 7/8 Boys Basketball 5:30/away
November 18	7/8 Boys Basketball 5:30/home
November 19	Midterms sent home 5/6 Boys Basketball 5:30/away
November 25-27	Thanksgiving Break
December 21-January 3	Christmas break
Monday, January 4, 2021	Classes Resume - Welcome back!

- South Dearborn Schools will not return until Tuesday, January 5th. St. Mary's is coming back 1 day early, so we can take Easter Monday off. There will be no bus service on Monday, January 4, 2020.

### **School Theme for 2020/2021**

Friends I have a youtube video of our school theme song. I think the words: Your Grace is Enough will work well for this crazy time.

Enjoy!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LISbMRp0Y64>

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Rev. Benjamin Syberg

Pastor of St. Mary's and St. Lawrence Catholic Churches



### **Join us on Social Media:**

- Like. Follow. Share on Facebook: **St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception**
- Follow us on Instagram: **myst.marys**

**Contact information:**

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- Emily Hollander, Administrative Assistant .....[emily.hollander@mystmarys.com](mailto:emily.hollander@mystmarys.com)
- Amy Denning - Kindergarten .....[amy.denning@mystmarys.com](mailto:amy.denning@mystmarys.com)
- Mandy McPherson – 1st grade .....[mcperson.1@mystmarys.com](mailto:mcperson.1@mystmarys.com)
- Ann Marie Grove – 2nd grade .....[annmarie.grove@mystmarys.com](mailto:annmarie.grove@mystmarys.com)
- Adam Rector – 3rd & 4th grades .....[adam.rector@mystmarys.com](mailto:adam.rector@mystmarys.com)
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- Kim Rector – 5/6/7/8 .....[kim.rector@mystmarys.com](mailto:kim.rector@mystmarys.com)
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- Sara Dennis – Spanish (3-8) .....[sara.dennis@mystmarys.com](mailto:sara.dennis@mystmarys.com)