

The Bulldog Barks **August 14, 2020**

Mr. Dennis - Principal

randy.dennis@mystmarys.com

It has been a great start to the school year. Despite all of the challenges, the kids are back in the building and learning once again! The kids are doing a great job with wearing their masks and taking precautions. It is a blessing to get to know each and every one of them. It's also been a joy for everyone to see the preschoolers throughout the day. The preschool is doing very well with 14 students. We have many new students and families that are fitting in well at all grade levels. The St. Mary's family is strong! In the coming weeks, I'll be sharing info about new opportunities for your children. God bless you all and thank you for choosing St. Mary's.

Guidelines from the Indiana State Department of Health

Parents, please familiarize yourself with the guidelines from the Indiana State Department of Health in regards to when to keep your child home from school. This especially pertains to newly occurring symptoms. If your child is absent from school, please make arrangements to pick up your child's missed work. If they need to be quarantined, we may make other arrangements.

As the guidelines from the CDC and Indiana state health department evolve, we will make you aware. Previously it was recommended that your child stay home for ten days if he/she had ANY symptoms (cough, fever or chills, shortness of breath, headache, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea). Since the start of school, these recommendations have changed. If your child has any of these symptoms, please monitor them and consider keeping them home for a day or two to see if symptoms persist. If your child is his/her active self, eating normally, and drinking fluids, they are likely ok to return to school, especially if no new symptoms arise. If you think it may be allergy related, consider an antihistamine. If you have questions regarding specific symptoms and your child's safe return to school, please contact your child's doctor. As always, children who experience a fever, vomiting, or diarrhea must be free of these symptoms for at least 24 hours before returning to school. Please review this flyer. https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/20_Parent%20screening%208-5-20.pdf

Staff changes and additions:

1. Mrs. Ruter will not be returning to St. Mary's as our librarian for the 2020/2021 school year. She has decided to enjoy her time at home with her husband, Ron. Mrs. Connie Powers will replace Mrs. Ruter.
2. Mrs. Grove will be moving from 5th grade to 2nd grade for the 2020/2021 school year.
3. Becky Strasemeier is the Pre-K teacher and she will be here on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays. Jessica Wismann and Danielle Dozier are her aides, they are here on Tuesday and Thursdays.

Fish Fry

St. Mary's is excited to announce that we will be holding 3 drive thru Fish Fry dates this fall! They will be Saturday Aug 15th, September 19th, and October 17th from 3 - 7 pm or until we sell out. We will have the same great fish options and wonderful sides. All meals are \$10. We will have two drive-thru lanes. Drive-thru #1 you will enter through the alley off of Main Street. Drive-thru #2 will be on 4th Street in front of the school. We will also offer carry out in the school cafeteria. Price: \$10/meal

Here is the direct link to sign up: <https://signup.com/go/JTMPrtK>

Choice Scholarship Applications

***If your family received a Choice Scholarship (aka voucher) last year, we will need a copy of your 2019 tax returns ASAP. You can scan or take a photo with your phone and send it to ann.hutchinson@mystmarys.com. Make sure it shows the number of people in the household and the Adjusted Gross Income (usually Line 7).

School Pictures

We have scheduled school pictures for Thursday, August 20th at the beginning of the school day. We have also scheduled an additional picture day for Friday, August 28th. This would be for PreK students that are not here on Thursdays and anyone that was absent on the 20th. We will send home envelopes next week.

Scholastic Book Fair

We will host the Scholastic Book Fair the week of August 24-28. The selection of extra products will be a little smaller, but there will be plenty of books to choose from, including a special display of preschool books. Mrs. Powers and Mrs. Rector are working out the details of the fair schedule and you will receive that information soon. If you would like to volunteer to help out, please send an email to kim.rector@mystmarys.com or connie.powers@mystmarys.com. Thank you!

After School Care

The After School Care Program is now open from 2:35 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Mondays-Fridays. If you have any question about the After School Care, please call the office or email Ms. McPherson at mcperson.1@mystmarys.com.

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

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

Hello and welcome back to school! Mrs. Strasemeier, Mrs. Wismann, and Mrs. Dozier are so glad to be working with such a fun group of kiddos this year, and we are looking forward to watching them grow throughout our time together! The three of us have been working hard to make sure that your child is having fun with their new friends, while learning in a safe, exciting, and engaging environment!

We are working on sitting and standing in a quiet and still pose in the classroom and in the hallways to help the students learn to be in control of our bodies. Social skills have been a big skill we are working on as well by learning to make connections with our friends through their interests.

The preschool students will work their way through the alphabet, starting with the letter A, as well as their numbers. We are talking about circles, and simple patterns, as well as following directions given by their teacher.

We hope you have a great week!

Kindergarten – Mrs. Denning

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

We had a great first, full week of school. Thank you for your help at home with handwriting. Please remember that when practicing printing at home, the children should not start on the bottom line and write up, they start at the top and go down. Also, please erase mistakes if made, and have your child print the letters correctly.

We have begun practicing reciting addresses, phone numbers, and birthdays. Other basic skills the children should know include- **tying shoes**, zipping, buttoning, and snapping articles of clothing. (Practice at home would be very helpful)

In Phonics we will be working on our first vowel, short vowel Oo- keyword- octopus. We will learn to code the short vowel with a breve. We are focusing on rhyming words, and counting words in spoken sentences. We are also reciting the alphabet and identifying the vowels and consonants. Please have your child tell you the five vowels when they are practicing at home.

In math we are identifying numbers 0-10, counting objects using 1-1 correspondence, creating AB color patterns, and graphing.

In religion we are focusing on creation being a gift of God's love, and we are practicing "*The Sign of the Cross*".

Have a super week!

Grade 1 – Ms. McPherson

mcperson.1@mystmarys.com

It sure is great to be back in school! Parents, remember to check your child's homework folder each night for permission slips that need to be signed or homework that needs to be completed.

In Phonics we are reading and spelling words that contain the letter Pp (as in pig), the short and long sounds of the letter Ii (as in inch and icicle), the sound of the letter Ll (as in lion), and the short and long sounds of the letter Aa (as in apple).

In Social Studies we will be learning about different American symbols such as our country's flag, the Statue of Liberty, Liberty Bell, and the Bald Eagle. All of the 1st graders did a great job reciting the Pledge of Allegiance!

Grade 2 – Mrs. Grove

annmarie.grove@mystmarys.com

We are so excited to be back at school! Thank you to all the parents for sending in hand sanitizer, wipes, paper towels, etc. We are making good use of them.

We will take a short field trip this Friday, the 14th, to the Aurora Art Museum (Southeastern Indiana Art Guild building at the corner of 2nd and Main St). Mrs. Beinkemper has a special activity planned for us. Before we go to the Art Show, we will spend 45 minutes exploring St. Mary's new STEM room. The students are really looking forward to this.

Please continue to let your child read all their Phonics words to you each evening. There are always 2 pages of words to read. If they finish their homework in less than 20 minutes, please have them read the selection of their choice for the remainder of the 20 minutes.

We plan to have a great year!

Grade 3 and Grade 4 – Mrs. Meyer

amanda.meyer@mystmarys.com

Welcome back! We have had a great start to third and fourth grade so far! Third graders are adjusting to being upstairs and having lift top desks. Those are usually the two things they are most excited about! Fourth graders are adjusting to being with me all day, again! Wearing our masks, though, has to be the biggest adjustment of all. The students are doing a wonderful job about wearing them when needed and not complaining. Thank you for helping keep everyone safe.

Both grades are working on place value in math. Third graders should be able to name place values up to one hundred thousand, while fourth graders should be able to name up to one hundred million. I am teaching each grade separately. Students are doing a great job so far working in their math and reading stations while I work with the other grade.

Have a great week!

Grade 5 and Grade 6 – Mrs. Rice**suzy.rice@mystmarys.com**

We do not have information for Mrs. Rice. Her mother-in-law, Joy Rice passed away and Mrs. Rice has been out this week. Please keep Mrs. Rice and her family in your prayers during this difficult time.

Grade 7 – Mrs. Rector**kim.rector@mystmarys.com**

We are off to a great start even with all of the changes that have been made. The students are being very cooperative with all of our new restrictions. I think the seventh graders are enjoying eating lunch in the classroom.

The fifth and sixth graders have begun to read one of my favorite books in language arts class, *How to Eat Fried Worms*. The seventh grade language arts class is reading another old favorite called *Rascal*. Both classes have been journaling and working on grammar lessons as well.

In social studies, students in grades 5, 6, and 7 are all reviewing the basics of geography. The eighth graders are reviewing early American history. All classes have spent some time discussing the road to the White House as well. We will have a lot to talk about in social studies classes this fall! Have a terrific week!

Grade 8 – Mr. Waldon**jim.waldon@mystmarys.com**

Heat, humidity, and face masks aside, we have had a great start to the school year! We're adapting to COVID 19 guidelines and taking it in stride. It was great to see the students' enthusiasm the first day after so many days of being deprived school interaction with their peers and classmates!

8th graders should have brought home a letter explaining how things work in 8th grade homeroom as well as a permission slip for taking walking trips from school. Most of those have been returned. If you haven't seen those things, ask your eighth grader for them.

8th graders have received a syllabus for reading, one for English/language arts, and one for religion. They need to keep those and the appropriate texts and material in their backpacks whether they go home or to school in case we should have an E-learning day or should have to adapt to remote learning.

God be with you all!

CHOIR NOTES: The choir is doing their best at singing distanced from one another and with masks. This will make it almost impossible for us to harmonize, but we will do our best. The handbell choir is beginning to make music. This year is a rebuilding year, so we will tackle music which will challenge without frustrating the ringers. As with the voice choir, we will do our best! At this point we do not have a schedule for singing or ringing at any weekend Masses but will see how things unfold. Here's a point of interest: we now have more males than females in our choirs!

7th and 8th Grade Science – Mr. Brookbank**brookbank.science@mystmarys.com**

All classes were introduced to Mr. Brookbank, which is perhaps the students most difficult subject to comprehend! The scientific method and basic lab equipment was presented to all classes. Based upon the class each subject was slightly different in detail. Twenty-five pieces of equipment were covered with the function stated. The STEM room was visited and it will become a common location for learning. We are off to a good start and I am excited about the level of our science department. Huge thanks to Misti Peek and her hours of help getting the STEM room in order. If interested in a tour of the STEM room please contact me.

Cafeteria/Playground

Contact Aimee Hollingsworth at 744-8738, to sign up for cafeteria and playground duty. The schedule is online at 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: 08/17 – Diane Patterson, 08/18 – Kay Gigerich, 08/19 – Marge Waldon, 08/20 – Charlotte DeVille, 08/21 – Lisa Grove, 08/24 – Diane Patterson, 08/25 – Kay Gigerich, 08/26 – Marge Waldon, 08/27 – Charlotte DeVille, 08/28 – Lisa Grove

Playground Volunteers: 08/17 – Tara Schuler, 08/18 – HELP NEEDED, 08/19 – HELP NEEDED, 08/20 – Connie Powers, 08/21 – HELP NEEDED, 08/24 – Tara Schuler, 08/25 - HELP NEEDED, 08/26 - HELP NEEDED, 08/27 – Connie Powers, 08/28 - HELP NEEDED

Lunch Menu: \$17.50 per ticket (5 meals)

17	18	19	20	21
3-Way Tossed Salad Green Beans Crackers Fruit Milk	Chicken Patty with Bun Corn Green Beans Fruit Milk	Hamburger or Pizza Burger Fries Baked Beans Fruit Milk	Taco (Beef or Chicken) Refried Beans Corn Fruit Milk	Pizza Veggie Sticks w/Dip Fruit Milk

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- Saturday, August 15th Drive Thru Fish Fry from 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. (1 of 3)
- Thursday, August 20th School Picture Day – 8 a.m.
- Friday, August 28th School Picture Day – 8 a.m.
- August 24-28th Scholastic Book Fair
- Monday, September 7th No School – Labor Day
- Wednesday, September 16th eLearning Day for students/Professional Development day for teachers
- Saturday, September 19th Drive Thru Fish Fry – 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. (2 of 3)
- Saturday, October 17th Drive Thru Fish Fry – 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. (3 of 3)

25% of YOUR Order is donated directly to ST. MARY'S SCHOOL!!
St. Mary's School Photos PAYMENT MUST BE INCLUDED ON PHOTO DAY

1 PRINT: PHONE _____ STUDENT'S NAME _____ GRADE _____

2 SELECT YOUR PHOTOS:

PK# 1 ALL-N-ONE + 8 WALLETS	\$21.00
PK# 2 ALL-N-ONE + 8 WALLETS + 1-5x7	\$26.00
PK# 3 ALL-N-ONE + 16 WALLETS + 1-5x7 + 1-8x10	\$31.00
PK# 4 ALL-N-ONE + 16 WALLETS + 2-5x7 + 2-8x10	\$43.00

BONUS--PAY BY CASH ON AN ORDER OF \$26 OR MORE AND **GET 4 FREE WALLETS !!!**
OR BONUS--PAY BY CASH ON AN ORDER OF \$43 OR MORE AND **GET 8 FREE WALLETS !!!**

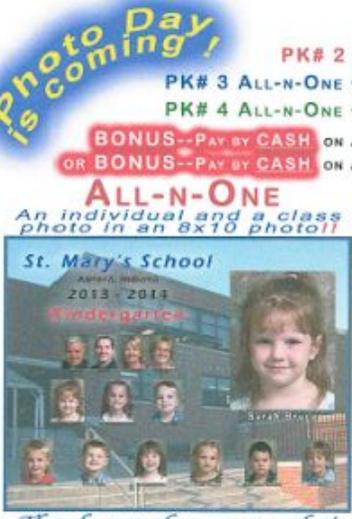
ALL-N-ONE
 An individual and a class photo in an 8x10 photo!

EXTRAS MAY ONLY BE ADDED TO A PACKAGE (PK#...)
SORRY, NO EXCEPTIONS.

8 WALLETS	\$ 8.50
16 WALLETS	\$15.50
4-3 1/2 x 5	\$ 8.00
2-5x7	\$ 8.00
4-5x7	\$15.00
1-8x10	\$ 8.00
2-8x10	\$15.00

3 Driver's License #:
 Necessary if paying by Check - write in on the check!

4 Enclose Payment for \$
 PLEASE MAKE CHECKS TO: BOB MATTINGLY
\$20.00 CHARGE ON RETURNED CHECKS

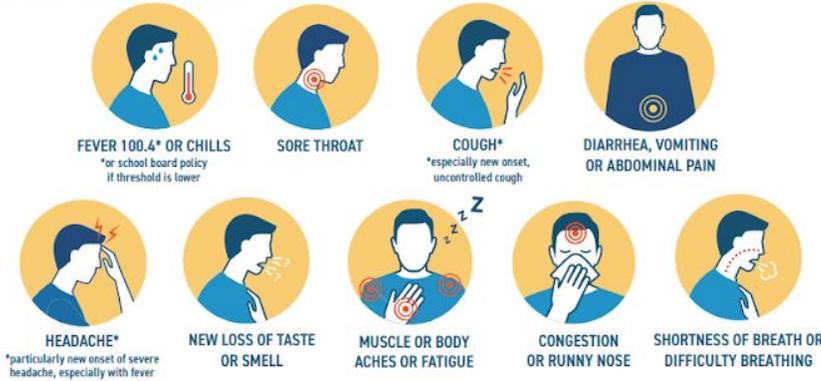


COVID-19 Screening for Parents

Every morning before you send your child to school please check the following:

1 Your student does **NOT** have a fever greater than 100.4 degrees (may be lower based on your school's policy) **OR** lower if your child is not feeling well.

Other signs of illness such as:



2 Were you in close contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) with anyone confirmed with COVID-19 within the last two weeks?

3 If the answer is **YES** to any of the questions, **DO NOT** send your student to school. Instead, begin isolation of your child and contact your healthcare provider. Strongly consider COVID-19 testing.

➔ If you have trouble breathing, chest pain, new confusion, inability to wake or stay awake or bluish lips or face **CALL 911!**

Updated: 8/7/20



COVID-19: When a student, faculty or staff member can return to school



Individual	Symptomatic	No Symptoms
Not Tested with Alternate Explanation (ear or urinary tract infection, etc. as determined by a provider)	May return to school after 24 hours resolution of fever AND note (including email and fax) from provider stating the individual has an alternate diagnosis and the provider believes it's appropriate for the patient to return to school.	N/A
Not Tested Without Alternate Explanation	Must remain home for at least 10 days from the first day symptoms appeared AND 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medicine and with improvement of symptoms.	N/A
Tested and Negative	1) If no alternative explanation, <i>isolate</i> for at least 10 days from the first day symptoms appeared AND 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medications and with improvement of symptoms. OR 2) The individual can return to school if tested negative AND with a note from the provider stating they believe the patient to have an alternate diagnosis and it's appropriate for the patient to return to school.	1) May proceed with attending school as long as individual has no exposure to a positive case. OR 2) A known close contact (within 6 feet of a confirmed case for more than 15 minutes) must complete a 14-day <i>quarantine</i> , even if test results are negative for COVID-19.
Tested and Positive	Must remain home in <i>isolation</i> for at least 10 days from the date symptoms began AND individual is 24-hours fever free, symptoms have improved. (CDC does not recommend test-based strategy except in certain circumstances, including provider's advice and test availability.)	<i>Isolate</i> at home for 10 days from the day the test was taken. (CDC does not recommend test-based strategy except in certain circumstances, including provider's advice and test availability.) *If the individual develops symptoms, then isolation time starts on day 1 of symptoms (see symptomatic tests positive.)
Close Contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes of someone with confirmed COVID-19)	N/A If an individual becomes symptomatic, refer to the symptomatic scenarios. The individual must <i>quarantine</i> for 14 days after contact with the COVID-19 Positive person even if the student has an alternate diagnosis for symptoms.	<i>Quarantine</i> for 14 days before returning to school. Must remain symptom-free. If individual develops symptoms, then refer to the symptomatic scenarios.

Note: **QUARANTINE** keeps someone who was in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 away from others. **ISOLATION** keeps someone who is sick or tested positive for COVID-19 without symptoms away from others, even in their own home.

Updated: 8/7/20



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**

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