

The Bulldog Barks

September 18, 2020

Mr. Dennis - Principal

randy.dennis@mystmarys.com

Our first eLearning day went well. So you know, teachers had an action-packed day. Two professors from Thomas Moore presented on ways to educate children in the case of a shut down. There was training on Google Classroom and Google Forms. Teachers were given a presentation by Misti Peak and Michelle Ryan on the virtual reality headsets and the 3-D printers. Best of all, they started their day with Father Ben in spiritual development.

**God Bless this
school year!**

Thank you to all of you that helped your children with the fundraiser! Everything you ordered should come to St. Mary's in 2-3 weeks. Clothing orders from the online store will come in the next few weeks as well. We are leaving the store open for a while if you didn't get a chance to order.

Please remember the Giving Basket is starting Wednesday, September 23. Students will be encouraged to bring in one item from the list to bring up during the offering at Mass. All items will be blessed and given to St. Vincent De Paul.

"There's no such thing as a free lunch." Sorry. There is. Thanks to a USDA program, ALL students are eligible for free lunch until Dec. 31 or until funds run out. No forms. No tickets.

Last thing-- FISH FRY!!!! The fish fry is this SATURDAY from 3-7. There are still open spots for volunteers if you would like to help out. We will see everyone else in the drive thru.

Fall in Love with Aurora

The Aurora Garden Club is once again hosting the "Fall in Love with Aurora" contest.

We are looking for volunteers to decorate at St. Mary's campus and/or make a scarecrow for Scarecrow Alley (aka George Street). Decorate for the fall season with things like: straw bales, mums, corn stalks, scarecrows, pumpkins, gourds, all things FALL!!!

Although they will not be having the Fall in Love with Aurora "Event" this year, they ARE having the decorating contest. Judging of the completed displays and scarecrows will be on September 27th.

In an effort to encourage more participation they have increased the prize money this year. First place is \$75, Second place is \$50, and Third place is \$25.

If you are interested in taking on this project, please call the school office.

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.

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. I appreciate all of your help in earning money for St. Mary's School.

THE NEW BOX TOPS LABELS



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.



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.

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

prek@mystmarys.com

The preschool kiddos are getting more and more comfortable in the school setting and we are on a roll lately! They are getting really good with using their manners whenever necessary and sitting & standing in a still pose. We learned about the letter "F" and talked about fire fighters and frogs. Next, we will be learning about the letter "G" and talking about "The Three Billy Goats Gruff". We also learned about the number 5 and will move on to the number 6 next. Please continue to work on their letters and numbers at home whenever you can! See if they can find their letters and numbers in books or around your house. We will be talking about the color purple and how you can mix the primary colors red and blue to make the secondary color, purple.

Have a wonderful week!

Kindergarten – Mrs. Denning

amy.denning@mystmarys.com

In Phonics this week we will be working on our 2nd vowel- short sound **Aa** (keyword-apple). Please continue reviewing letters/sounds, and blending. We'll be adding 11 short vowel "a" words to the caterpillar, and the children will need to look carefully at the words when blending. They are used to reading 'short o' words. The class will be bringing home their first "mini reader" this week, "*Hot, Hot, Hot*". We will also be learning our first sight words. A note will come home with the readers. We will also be spelling the words that we can read. The children need to "unblend" the sounds to spell. Help at home is always appreciated!

In Math we will be sequencing events, sorting, and working with triangles and squares.

It's all about apples! We will be learning about apples and will be doing taste tests with different varieties of apples. We'll also be comparing tastes for apple cider and apple juice. The class is looking forward to our experiments, and our tasty treats.

Have a great week!

Grade 1 – Ms. McPherson**mcperson.1@mystmarys.com**

In Phonics we will be reading and spelling new words that contain the letters Mm (as in monkey). We will also be working with the two sounds of the letter Ee (as in elephant and equal), and the sound of digraph ck (as in duck).

In Math we will continue to memorize our doubles facts (1+1 through 9+9) and practice writing number sentences. We will also create and read repeating patterns, and identify lighter and heavier objects using a balance.

Spelling list #3 goes home on Friday. Remember to help you child study his/her words throughout the week.

Grade 2 – Mrs. Grove**annmarie.grove@mystmarys.com**

I hope everyone liked their eLearning Day but were glad to be back in school on Thursday. I was happy to have my students back.

Our Spelling Challenge Words are getting more difficult. Please remember that these are just bonus words and will not count against your grade if misspelled. This is for the students that find the Second Grade Spelling Words too easy.

We are excited to be a part of the Giving Basket at Mass on Wednesday. We can help those less fortunate by bringing a canned good or paper product to offer at Mass.

Grade 3 and Grade 4 – Mr. Rector**adam.rector@mystmarys.com**

Hello! I would like to remind everyone to be checking their progress towards their reading log goals! Both 3rd and 4th will be testing in Science on Tuesday, so make sure you are ready! The spelling list, as always, is available online at https://quizlet.com/Adam_Rector1 if you want to study at home. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to reach out!

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

The fundraiser ended yesterday. Thank you to all who participated! Remember there is a Fish Fry tomorrow. 5th & 6th grade parents, if you like the weekly assignment sheet and would like it to continue, please mark it on the assignment sheet. Thank you for returning the midterms promptly. In case you haven't, do so ASAP. The end of the first quarter is October 1. Report cards go home after fall break.

Let's work out any problems you had with eLearning now, so they will be overcome before the next eLearning day. Are students comfortable connecting to their home WIFI? Do students know how to get into google classroom when at home? They should, because they do it at school. I will try to use google classroom more to make them and myself more comfortable. Being in 5th - 8th grade, students should become more responsible for themselves. Please encourage that from home. Students should turn in the assignment when it is completed in google classroom.

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

The fifth and sixth graders came to the exciting conclusion of *How to Eat Fried Worms*. They were glad to see that the boys remained friends. The seventh grade is getting closer to finding out Rascal's fate in their novel. We should finish up next week.

Along with our regular curriculum in social studies class, we took some time out in each class to discuss the U.S. Constitution on Thursday, which was Constitution Day. Some students knew quite a bit about the Constitution, while others had to figure out which came first, the Constitution or the Declaration of Independence. They quickly figured it out once we discussed their content and the reasons both were written. Have a great weekend!

Grade 8 – Mr. Waldon

jim.waldon@mystmarys.com

Thanks to everyone who helped support our fundraiser!

The eighth graders are just beginning their next book, a work of historical fiction entitled Johnny Tremain which is set in Boston, just at the beginning of the American Revolution. Johnny is a character the students can enjoy and relate to, and the plot conveys a good bit of information about the way of life of our colonial ancestors.

For those who want to work ahead, the religion assignment for October will be to memorize the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. Students will receive copies of the works of mercy and should keep those inside the cover of their religion books.

This next week we will be beginning Unit 5 in our vocabulary books. That unit will be due on Thursday, October 1st. Because that will be our last school day before fall break, we will check Unit 5 on October 1st!

Remember, 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. If parents would like copies, they are welcome to them.

God be with all of you!

SSO (Student Service Organization)

We have a new student organization to replace the STO. The Student Service Organization (SSO) has been organized and will start meeting on September 30. Due to Covid restrictions, we cannot do what was originally planned, so we have made some adaptations. All students in grades 5-8 will be the inaugural members of SSO. Each of the homerooms for 5-8 will plan school-wide activities that focus on serving others and making our community a better place. Eventually, we hope to involve all grade levels in the planning process.

The students in grades 5-8 have been invited to participate in a contest to design a logo for our new group. Entries are due on September 24 for this voluntary contest. Watch the Bulldog for future updates!

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:

09/21 – Diane Patterson, 09/22 – Kay Gigerich, 09/23 – Marge Waldon, 09/24 – Charlotte DeVille, 09/25 – Lisa Grove, 09/28 – Diane Patterson, 09/29 – Kay Gigerich, 09/30 – Marge Waldon

Playground Volunteers:

09/21 – Tara Schuler, 09/22 – HELP NEEDED, 09/23 – HELP NEEDED, 09/24 – Connie Powers, 09/25 – HELP NEEDED, 09/28 – Tara Schuler, 09/29 – HELP NEEDED, 09/30 – HELP NEEDED

****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)

21	22	23	24	25
Rotini with Meat Sauce & Meatballs Bread Stick Tossed Salad Green Beans Fruit Milk	Popcorn Chicken Buttered Noodles Corn Green Beans Fruit Milk	BBQ on a bun Fries Baked Beans Fruit Milk	Bowl of Chili Peanut Butter and/or Jelly sandwich Corn Fruit Milk	Sausage Gravy with biscuit Sausage Links Carrots Green Beans Fruit Milk

Calendar of Events:

Saturday, September 19th Drive Thru Fish Fry – 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. (2 of 3)

Thursday, October 1st End of 1st Quarter

Friday, October 2 –
Sunday, October 11th Fall Break

Tuesday, October 13th 1st Quarter Report Cards go home

Saturday, October 17th Drive Thru Fish Fry – 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. (3 of 3)

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>

--
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:

St. Mary’s School
 211 Fourth Street
 Aurora, Indiana 47001

Phone: 812-926-1558

Randy Dennis, Principalrandy.dennis@mystmarys.com
 Ann Hutchinson, Administrative Assistant.....ann.hutchinson@mystmarys.com
 Amy Denning - Kindergartenamy.denning@mystmarys.com
 Mandy McPherson – 1st grademcperson.1@mystmarys.com
 Ann Marie Grove – 2nd grade annmarie.grove@mystmarys.com
 Adam Rector – 3rd & 4th grades adam.rector@mystmarys.com
 Suzy Rice – 5/6/7/8..... suzy.rice@mystmarys.com
 Kim Rector – 5/6/7/8 kim.rector@mystmarys.com
 Jim Waldon – 5/6/7/8..... jim.waldon@mystmarys.com
 Becky Strasemeier - PreK.....becky.strasemeier@mystmarys.com
 Jessica Wismann - PreK jessica.wismann@mystmarys.com
 Danielle Dozier - PreK.....danielle.dozier@mystmarys.com
 Marge Beinkemper - Art.....margebein@gmail.com
 Trina Hetzer - Art..... trinaquilts@gmail.com
 Michelle Ryan – Computer/Technology.....michelle.ryan@mystmarys.com
 Connie Powers - Library connie.powers@mystmarys.com
 Claire Vincent – Religion/Musicclaire.vincent@mystmarys.com