

New Flu Vaccine Requirement for all Massachusetts students



October 28, 2020

Dear Saint Mary School Families:

Massachusetts public health officials announced this past summer that influenza immunization will be required for all children ages six months and older who are attending Massachusetts childcare, pre-school, kindergarten, K-12, college and universities. The new vaccine requirement is an important step to reduce flu-related illness and the overall impact of respiratory illness during the COVID-19 pandemic. ***Students are expected to receive a flu vaccine by December 31, 2020 for the 2020-2021 influenza season (unless they qualify for an exemption).*** Many of you have already done this; thank you! I have made a few telephone calls on your behalf in case you have not yet had a chance to have your child vaccinated for the upcoming flu season:

- Wegmans in Northborough has the flu vaccine and is vaccinating children ages 3 and up;
- Price Chopper in Shrewsbury has the flu vaccine and is vaccinating children ages 9 and up;
- Stop & Shop in Shrewsbury is out of the flu vaccine but expects to receive a shipment November 6; they vaccinate ages 9 and up;
- Walgreens (formerly Rite Aid) in the center of Shrewsbury has flu vaccine and vaccinates children ages 3 and up.

As winter approaches the demand for the flu vaccine will increase, so please make getting the flu shot a priority this coming week. *Save your paperwork and send to me.* Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Yours sincerely,

“Lisa” Elizabeth Powers, RN, MSN, Saint Mary School Nurse