



# “The Message”

a weekly newsletter of St. Mark School

August 19, 2021

## A note from Mrs. Bingham

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to another school year. It is wonderful to have the students back in the building! I have enjoyed catching up with them and hearing all about their summer adventures. It is great to see so many bright personalities shine; even through the masks. I also want to welcome all of our new families to St. Mark. We are happy to welcome you and hope you have felt at home with us.

Morning drop off has gone well. We would like you to remain in a single file line and do not pull around the car in front of you. As always, we ask that you exercise an abundance of caution as you pull through the drop off line. The safety of our students is our top priority. It is also helpful if you continue to use your family name signs in your car window to aid in a fast and easy pick up. Pulling all the way up to the first available cone allows us to keep the line moving. We thank you for your patience.

As we begin this school year, please encourage good study and homework habits at home. Doing this in the early weeks of the school year should help as the year progresses. I also pray that through continued social distancing, hand washing, and the wearing of masks we will have a healthy and safe school year. Thank you for your continued support.

Welcome back to a wonderful year of growing in faith, learning, and service.

St. Mark, Pray for Us.

Mrs. Bingham



## **Back to School Paperwork**

If you have not returned your back to school paperwork, please do so by Monday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## **Mass Ribbons**

A note to all of our Kindergarten and new families, each student is asked to have a Mass ribbon that is 1” wide and 36” long that has the first and last name of the student. The name can be in marker, paint or sticker letters. The ribbons are used during our All School Masses. The following colors are assigned to each grade:

- K: Green
- 1: Yellow
- 2: Purple
- 3: Red
- 4: White
- 5: Orange
- 6: Silver
- 7: Gold
- 8: Blue

## **Parents of 2<sup>nd</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students Who are Interested in Band**

Our band program is contracted out through Palmer Music. Students will have an assembly on Monday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> that introduces them to all the available band instruments. There will be a parent meeting on Wednesday, August 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the Music Room. Please enter through the wing doors by the Music Room and Science Lab. The purpose of this meeting is for parents to learn about the band program and set up payment with Palmer Music.

## Monthly Focus: Responsibility

Each month, we focus on a different mindset or virtue. This month, our focus is Responsibility. The students will work on the virtue of fortitude, which will help them to persevere and hang in there when the going gets tough. Coming back to school after a few months away always tests our desire to be responsible. It is a great way to start our year and encourage accountability and independence.

We have a quote that will change weekly. This week, our quote is: "The time is always RIGHT to do what is right."



### Fill the Van Food Drive

St. Mark is having a "Fill the Van" Food Drive to replenish the shelves at the Affton Christian Food Pantry. We will be accepting donations through Friday, August 27<sup>th</sup>.

Some of the "most needed items" are:

- Peanut Butter
- Canned Beans such as pork & beans, navy beans, & baked beans
- Entrees such as Spam, canned stew, chicken, chili and canned pasta (no tuna please)
- Ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise and salad dressings
- Baking goods such as cake mixes, frostings, cookie mixes, pudding, sugar, flour, vegetable oil and spices
- Shampoo and toothpaste

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Meeting

There will be a meeting for all 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents tonight at 7:00pm on August 26<sup>th</sup> in Miss Fazio's classroom. This meeting will review all the elements of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade school year so it is important that at least one parent attend.

## **Prevent and Protect STL**

Are you interested in coaching, attending field trips, class parties, or volunteering at school? The Archdiocese of St. Louis requires all volunteers to attend a Protecting God's Children workshop and have a background screening prior to volunteering in school or parish programs. In addition to attending a Protecting God's Children workshop, all volunteers must register for an updated background screening, view two online training modules on abuse reporting and Code of Ethical Conduct, and agree to the updated Code of Ethical Conduct. Please go to [preventandprotectstl.org](http://preventandprotectstl.org) to register.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Althage at 743-8641.

## **School Partnership with St. Louis Counseling**

We are happy to have Mrs. Courtney Hill with us again this year. Mrs. Hill is a counselor with St. Louis Counseling and is at St. Mark every Wednesday. Her introduction letter is attached. Consent forms are available in the school office if you are interested in this service for your child.



2020-2021 Yearbooks have arrived. If you did not preorder yours, fill out the attached order form and we will send a copy home with your child.

# Upcoming EVENTS

August 25<sup>th</sup> – Band parent meeting ~ 6:30pm in the Music room

August 26<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade parent meeting ~ 7:00pm in Miss Fazio's room

September 1<sup>st</sup> – Back to School meeting & curriculum night ~ 6:30pm in the cafeteria

September 6<sup>th</sup> – No School

September 10<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade Scavenger Hunt

September 13<sup>th</sup> – Fall pictures

September 15<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> Mid-Quarter

September 20<sup>th</sup> -September 24<sup>th</sup> – ITBS Testing ~ grades 3-8

September 22<sup>nd</sup> – Academic Fun Night ~ 6:00 pm- 7:30 pm

September 24<sup>th</sup> – Noon dismissal & Faculty Meeting

September 26<sup>th</sup>- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Parent Meeting for Reconciliation ~ 6:30pm in the Church



# **Yearbook Order Form**

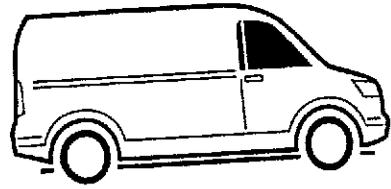
## **2020-2021 School Year**

**If you did not preorder your yearbook last May, it is not too late! Fill out the attached form and we will send it home.**

Family Name \_\_\_\_\_

Current grade(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed ~ (\$15.00 each)



# Fill the Van Food Drive

St. Mark is having a "Fill the Van" Food Drive to replenish the shelves at the Affton Christian Food Pantry. We will be collecting through Friday, August 27<sup>th</sup>.

## Most Needed Items:

- Peanut Butter
- Beans – especially pork beans, navy beans, and baked beans (no kidney beans)
- Entrees such as Spam, canned stew, chicken, chili, and canned pasta (no tuna)
- Ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, and salad dressings
- Baked goods- especially cake mixes, frostings, cookie mixes, pudding, and Jell-O
- Sugar, flour, vegetable oil, and spices
- Shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, and dishwashing detergent (no soap)

*A cart will be available at morning drop off to collect donations.*



Food  
Collection



**SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM  
(SPP)**

9200 Watson Rd., G-101  
St. Louis, MO 63126-1528  
P: 314.544.3800 F: 314.843.0552

August 18, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Saint Louis Counseling will be continuing to offer counseling services at St. Mark for students for the 2021-2022 school year. I wanted to reconnect and let you know I will be the counselor again at the school this year. I look forward to working with St. Mark again this year!

I will be at St. Mark on Wednesdays for the school day. Students can meet with me individually one time without a signed consent form. After that I need to have a signed consent form. Consent forms are available in the school office or I can email you one or send home with your child. Each session is typically 30-45 minutes, depending on what is best for the student and his/her schedule.

I meet with students for a variety of reasons related to school issues/adjustment, emotional and social issues, family-related issues/changes, anxiety/worry, emotion regulation/sadness/anger, trauma, or other things that may cause a student to struggle. I am also here to help kids navigate through the many changes that Covid-19 has created, including how it has affected some of our thoughts and feelings. Sessions with students are kept confidential. This is so the student and I can build trust in the therapeutic relationship. Please know that I will contact you if I have any questions, concerns, or suggestions. I can also discuss his/her progress in therapy.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. The best way to reach me is through email at [chill@ccstl.org](mailto:chill@ccstl.org). You can also call/text me at 314-252-0449 or email me through Teacherease.

Sincerely,  
Courtney Hill, MA, LPC  
Licensed Professional Counselor  
Saint Louis Counseling- School Partnership Program





**SAINT LOUIS  
COUNSELING**

IMPROVING LIVES SINCE 1955

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(rev 5-1-18)

**Consent Form: Parent/Guardian**

**Note: Please read and sign both sections.**

I give permission for my child \_\_\_\_\_

to participate in counseling services with Saint Louis Counseling's school counselor.

Counseling services will be provided at \_\_\_\_\_ School.

Parent/Guardian's Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Best Time to Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

I give permission for the therapist to speak with and/or write to the principal, or other referring school personnel for the purpose of sharing information that will help the school staff understand and work with my child. This consent will remain in effect until counseling is terminated.

Parent/Guardian's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_

Some case records may be used for auditing purposes. All records will be kept in strictest confidence, however.



United Way  
of Greater St. Louis

