



THE ACADEMY OF SAINT MATTHIAS THE APOSTLE

# BRIDGES

WWW.STMATTHIAS.ORG ❖ JANUARY 21, 2021



## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

The CSW 2021 theme is "Catholic Schools: Faith. Excellence. Service." Catholic schools have a specific purpose to form students to be good citizens of the world, love God and neighbor and enrich society with the leaven of the gospel and by example of faith. As communities of faith, Catholic schools instill in students their destiny to become saints. Academic excellence is the hallmark of Catholic education intentionally directed to the growth of the whole person – mind, body, and spirit. Finally, service is fundamental to Catholic education and the core of Catholic discipleship. Service is intended to help form people who are not only witnesses to Catholic social teaching, but also active participants through social learning.

The CSW logo emphasizes that the Catholic school, like the Catholic Church, is not a building or an institution, but it is the people. As the people of God, we work together to bring the Kingdom of God to Earth and raise up the next generation to do the same. The image of teachers and students forming the foundation of the school shows that they are active people of faith who serve others and God. May we all strive to live in active service of Jesus and his mission as we nationally unite during Catholic Schools Week and always.

As a Catholic School, the Academy of St. Matthias the Apostle embraces its mission in partnership with parents, to form disciples of Christ and develop our students' minds, hearts, souls, and bodies for service to the greater good. We are indeed dedicated to forming saints and scholars! Although our CSW celebrations will be mostly virtual, we are excited to engage in festivities that celebrate our school!



## Our CSW Schedule of Events:

### Sunday, January 31

### Celebrating Our Parish

- Students lector at the 9:30, 11:30 and 7:00 PM masses
- Share video of students expressing why they love St. Matthias at mass
- Open House 1-2 PM

### Monday, February 1

### Celebrating Our Community

- Hats off to Catholic Schools-hat day!
- Share video of students at morning prayer
- CSW Mass at 9:45
- Teachers encouraged to match up with other students from other schools (4th grade)
- Service project to work on throughout the week: thank you cards for local food providers

## Mark Your Calendar

### Thursday, January 21

HSA Executive Committee Meeting 6:30 pm Zoom  
All are welcome

### Friday, January 22

Mass Cancelled  
CommUnity Reads  
Parent Portal Closes at Noon  
NOON DISMISSAL

### Monday, January 25

Open House  
9:00 - 10:00 am  
Scantron Grade 3 Reading

### Tuesday, January 26

Scantron Grade 3 Reading

### Wednesday, January 27

Report Cards Emailed

### Scantron Grade 2 Reading

Grade 7 Parent Meeting  
6:30 pm

### Thursday, January 28

Scantron Grade 2 Reading  
Junior Drama Club 2:30 pm

### Friday, January 29

CommUnity Reads  
NOON DISMISSAL

**Tuesday, February 2****Celebrating Our Students**

- No homework day
- Dress down day
- Other activities TBD

**Wednesday, February 3****Celebrating Our Nation**

- Students and Staff wear red, white, and blue
- Prayer service for our government leaders, civil servants, and military

**Thursday, February 4****Celebrating Vocations**

- Father Jack speaking at prayer
- Dress up as what you want to be when you grow up

**Friday, February 5****Celebrating Faculty, Staff, and Volunteers**

- Drive through parade for students
- Students encouraged to show school spirit, dress up in spirit wear and decorate cars
- Teacher celebration following
- Deliver cards to employees at local stores and restaurants

**REPORT CARDS**

The second quarter has ended. The parent portal in Rediker closes tomorrow at noon. Parents are encouraged to view their children's grades, taking note of missing work. Summative assignments that are missing will result in children receiving an "I" for incomplete in that subject. Students have two weeks from the reception of report cards to turn in this work. Report cards will be emailed beginning January 27.

**RE-ENROLLMENT**

Children in grades PK3 through grade 7 must be enrolled in TADS by March 15. The re-enrollment fee is \$350 per family. However, for families who enroll on or before March 15 the fee is lowered to \$200 per family. Families who are enrolling new siblings must first put these children in the Admissions tab in TADS. If you have any questions or encounter difficulty, contact the school office. The first incentive drawing will take place on February 1. All families enrolled by then will be in a drawing to win a \$75 Flynn and O'Hara gift card. Flynn and O'Hara supply our school uniforms.

If you have family or friends interested in St. Matthias for the 2021-2022 school year, please let them know that the application for financial aid through the Archdiocese of Washington has a deadline of Feb. 19, 2021. Completed applications must be on file by this date to be considered. Enrollment is now open for new families. We are happy to help with financial aid applications and applications for admission. A call to the school office (301-577-9412) to schedule an appointment is needed.

WE have several virtual open houses scheduled for prospective new families. They are Sunday, Jan. 31, 2021 from 1-2 p.m., Monday, Feb. 1, 2021 from 9-10 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 2, 2021 from 4:30 -5:30 p.m. in Spanish, and Tuesday, Feb. 9, 2021, from 9 -10 a.m. A call to the school office or an email to Mrs. O'Hare (ao-hare@stmatthias.org) is needed to reserve a spot and receive the link for the zoom session. Your positive comments to family and friends are, by far, our best advertising. Feel free to share attached flyer Thank you!!!

**SCANTRON**

Scantron testing for reading continues next week for children in grades 2 and 3. Please encourage your child to do his or her best. It is our goal that every child show growth. Children who meet or succeed their annual growth targets are honored at the closing Mass and Honor Roll ceremony on June 11, 2021. The math Scantron tests will take place next month. Once both tests are complete parents will receive reports for their children. Please review these carefully. Questions may be directed to the children's teachers or to the principal.

**SACRAMENTS**

Recently, a letter was sent to parents of students currently in our second-grade inquiring about interest in the reception of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. These parents are reminded to respond to this request. Parents of children who may be in other grades that are interested in having their children receive these sacraments in our parish are encouraged to contact the school office as soon as possible. Likewise, students who are in 8th grade and are baptized in the Catholic faith are invited to prepare for and receive the sacrament of Confirmation in the Fall. Parents of these students need to contact the school office if they are planning on Confirmation at St. Matthias.