



THE ACADEMY OF SAINT MATTHIAS THE APOSTLE

BRIDGES

WWW.STMATTHIAS.ORG ❖ JANUARY 28, 2021



SNOW POLICY

A "snow day" is a time-honored treat and tradition for students and teachers alike. If we have a day of snow, we will take the snow holiday for everyone. It looks like we may get this opportunity on Monday, February 1. We will have to wait and see. Announcements about school closures will be communicated to parents via e-mail. Whenever there is other inclement weather (ice, freezing rain) that makes travel hazardous or consecutive snow closures, we will revert to virtual learning for **all students in grades PK-8**. Whenever there is all virtual learning, it will be on the regular school schedule.

RE-OPENING UPDATE

We are excited to announce that we are bringing our first and second graders back into class beginning on Tuesday, February 2. Letters with additional information were sent to parents of these children who, on the last parent survey, indicated their desire to have the children return to school. Grades 3 and 4 will re-open beginning February 8 and grades 6-8 will open on February 15. **Please note that 2 families returned the survey with a "yes" to coming into school, but did not include names or grades.** If this is you or if you are interested in having your child in school on the dates listed above, please contact the school office.

RE-ENROLLMENT

Thank you to the 21 families who have already re-enrolled their children for the 2021-2022 school year. This includes two new kindergarten families. All families are encouraged to re-enroll today! The drawing for the Flynn and O'Hara gift card will take place on February 2. Only re-enrolled families will be eligible for this \$75 value.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Catholic Schools Week is an annual, nationwide celebration of Catholic education. Activities are planned for each day of the week, with a focus on a particular relationship between Catholic Schools the parish, local community, the nation, students, faculty and parents. Please see the attached flier for a list of events. On Monday we kick off the week with students wearing fun or funky hats to celebrate "HATS OFF TO CATHOLIC SCHOOLS"

On Friday, February 5 all families are invited to our CSW School Spirit drive through at 11 A.M. The teachers and staff look forward to seeing you there!

Mark Your Calendar

Sunday, January 31

Open House 1-2 PM

Monday, February 1

Open House
9:00 - 10:00 am

CSW Service Project

Celebrating Community

Tuesday, February 2

Open House 4:30-5:30 PM
In Spanish

Tuesday, February 2

Celebrating Students
Re-enrollment Drawing

Wednesday, February 3

Celebrating Our Nation

Thursday, February 4

Celebrating Vocations

Friday, February 5

NOON DISMISSAL

Friday, February 5

Celebrating Faculty, Staff
and Volunteers

Show your Spirit Drive
Through Parade for Students
11:00 AM



REPORT CARDS

The second quarter report cards are ready. Children in grades Pk and K will be taking them and the report cards of their older siblings home today. 7th and 8th grade report cards are with the math books that parents are picking up this week. All others (grades 1-6) can be viewed in the parent portal of Rediker. If you need help with setting up an account, please contact Mrs. Blackburn at 301-577-9412.

SCANTRON READING TEST UPDATE

All children in grade 2-8 have completed the mid-year Scantron reading test. Parents will get a full report of their children's progress once the math tests are completed in late February. Parents and teachers of students who have met or surpassed their mid-year growth target are encouraged to keep up the good work in supporting those students. On the other hand, we have concerns about those who are below or far below their expected level of growth. Teachers are meeting to develop strategies and interventions to help these children, but parents have a very important part to play, especially in this time of remote learning. One of the most significant practices to strengthen reading skills is to read. Instead of family TV time, why not have a family reading time? If you need reading materials, our school library is well equipped to share. Mrs. O'Hare takes requests and leaves the books in a bin outside the main door. Making sure that your children are attending all classes on time, doing their assignments, and studying for spelling, and vocabulary tests is helpful. Finally, encouraging your children to write as often as possible supports language development and reading proficiency. Children who have met their growth targets at the mid-year are being honored as "Scantron Super Stars" in this publication. Affirming the children who are on this list and encouraging those who are not is very important.

LATE PICK UPS

Parents with children in the school building are expected to adhere to the drop off and dismissal times. Late pick-ups will be charged at a dollar per minute with a \$10 minimum beginning at 2:35 or 12:05 on Friday. This policy will go into effect on Monday, February 1. Frequent lateness could result in the student reverting to remote learning.

IXL CHALLENGE WINNERS

Congratulations to the following students who successfully met the IXL Winter Challenge by completing 15-20 days on IXL or by having the greatest number of hours on IXL in their class. We are so proud of these hard working and dedicated students!

Kindergarten:	Melanie Azeh
Grade 1:	Ashley Lara, Bih Ndi, Sabine Ndi, Chelsea Esene, Zariah Kinard,
Grade 2:	Dylan Diaz, Nuella Tamia, Yahir Carino
Grade 3:	Isatu Conteh , Anthony Ekong, Agnes Barnett
Grade 4:	Stephanie Oben, Sydney Esene, and Beza Khumbah.
Grade 5:	Quinton Fonge, Mario Bush, Solomon Adeyemi, Malcolm Johnson, Chimieli Madika
Grade 6:	Renaud Williams, Nememma Okpalanaka, Angel Hernandez, Patrick Lara
Grade 7:	Lucia Alemnji
Grade 8:	John Ted Alemnji, Amia Hayling, Mia Johnson

SCANTRON READING SUPER STARS

Aaron Wilson	Chizurum Obiaga	James Grillo	Mario Bush
Alexis Oye	Chloe McCarthy	Jason Sotelo	Mason Johnson
Amanda Wisdom	Daryll Ndeutchoua	Joelene Nkeng	Michael Morfaw
Angel Henandez	David D'Abreau	Jordin Parker	Nememma Okpalannaka
Ania Awunor	Deron Asongfua	Julianne Walters	Olivia Udebuala
Asheri Njodzeka	Dylan Diaz	Kenechuwu Akunwafor	Quinton Fonge
Ashton Riley	Elsie Anosike	Kyri Dicks	Roosevelt Anosike
Awah Ndi	Enuma Offiah	Leah Masih	Sebastian Aaron
CeNaiya Green	Idara Onyewu	Lily Inogbo	Yana Achaleke
Charlean Ndi	Isabella Baird	Luke Nguyen	Zion Anosike
Chijioke Akunwafor	Ivan Valdez	Malick Myrville	
Chimelu Madika	Jade Carter	Maria Bush	