



THE ACADEMY OF SAINT MATTHIAS THE APOSTLE

BRIDGES

WWW.STMATTHIAS.ORG ❖ FEBRUARY 25, 2021



COMING SOON! THE 1ST ST. MATTHIAS READ-A-THON IS COMING IN MARCH!

The St. Matthias Community will be promoting strong reading skills and raising money for our playgrounds/playscapes too! Get your readers ready and we will get the rewards ready! Stay tuned for more info!

If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Kenique Freeman at kdpfreeman@gmail.com or 770.316.5435. We need parent support for student success!

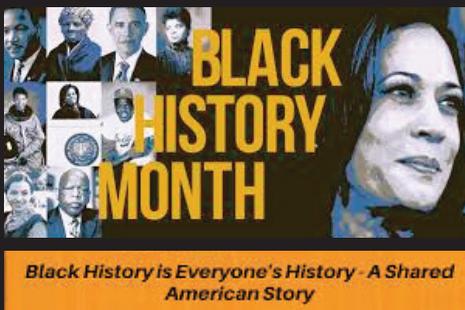


INTRODUCING THE ST. MATTHIAS READ-A-THON COMMITTEE TO DATE

Plans are underway for our first Academy of St. Matthias Read-a-thon. We would like to take this opportunity to introduce our Read-a-thon chairperson, Kenique Freeman (grade 2). Mrs. Freeman will be overseeing the project and as the administrator will work closely with our read-a-thon associate to ensure that our first Read-a-thon will be a great success. Mrs. Freeman will be assisted in the tasks of sponsorship, communication, and school spirit by Mrs. Phyllis Colclough (grades 1 and 2) and Mrs. Ugochi Ibetoh (grade PK4). St. Matthias' own, Mrs. O'Hare will be the faculty "cheerleader" and helper. We hope that this will be an annual event during March in conjunction with the national "Read Across America" celebration. Our current plan is to have our fourth annual Fund-Run in October 2021.

Both fundraisers will help support our playground renovation projects. Please note that these projects include the Tot Lot, the basketball courts, and the playground behind the Tot Lot, as well as the addition of a primary exploration center in the courtyard in the primary wing. These are very ambitious initiatives which will benefit our entire school community. **We need every family to enthusiastically support all fundraising efforts to provide more engaging play and athletic areas for our students.**

Mark Your Calendar



Thursday, February 25
Confirmation Meeting via
ZOOM 6:30

Friday, February 26
Progress Reports Emailed
CommUNITY Reads 9:45

Monday, March 1
1st Raffle Drawing

Tuesday, March 2
Re-enrollment Drawing

Read-A-Thon Launches

Friday, March 5
CommUNITY Reads
NOON DISMISSAL

STUDENT RE-ENROLLMENT FUN

Beginning on Monday, March 1 every student in grade PK-7 who has been re-enrolled for the 2021-2022 school year will have a chance to roll the dice for a class prize. Prizes vary by age group. Teachers will be sharing details with their students on Friday.

Parents may join in the fun by being eligible to win a \$200 re-enrollment fee credit. The drawing will take place on March 2. All families re-enrolled with the fee paid, will be eligible to win. Finally, if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child returning to St. Matthias in the fall, please do not hesitate to contact the principal, Mrs Schratz.

LAST CALL FOR RAFFLE TICKETS

All raffle ticket stubs, and payment are due on Monday, March 1. Thanks to the many families who supported this important fundraiser. Each family was given 35 tickets to sell at \$10 each. The \$350 fee will be charged to TADS accounts unless it is received on or before March 1. In a previous edition of Bridges the amount due was erroneously stated as \$300. We apologize for the confusion. We still have a few families who did not pickup their tickets. If you are not in possession of tickets, your account will be charged.

PROGRESS REPORTS

On Friday, February 26, progress reports will be emailed to parents of students in grades 1-8 who are not doing well academically. In some cases, the progress report will be indicating attendance, tardiness, or behavioral concerns.

SCANTRON TESTS

The students have completed the mid-year testing. Reports will be sent to parents soon. Please note that we are reviewing not only whether each student has reached the halfway point for expected growth, but also what areas of instruction, study and practice would best help him or her to achieve that annual growth target in May. Parents are encouraged to note the suggested learning objectives on the reports and support those in whatever way possible. The teachers have a more comprehensive list of these and are designing instruction to address them.

FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION

Any student in grades 2 and 8 who is a baptized Catholic is invited to receive the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation, respectively this year. Parents of children preparing to receive First Holy Communion that did not attend the parent meeting last week are asked to call the school office to get a link for the recorded meeting. Parents of 8th graders who wish to receive Confirmation at St. Matthias are invited to a parent meeting via Zoom tonight. Click the link:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/97776505826?pwd=OUl0cStiYWt4SHFaMXZsc1dlem9TUT09>

Meeting ID: 977 7650 5826

Passcode: fK1ZEg

Parents of children in grades 3-8 who have not received First Communion and would like their children to do so, must call the school office as soon as possible.

LENT

This Sunday we celebrate the Second Sunday of Lent. During the six weeks of lent we are reminded that God is calling us to turn our hearts more completely to Him. The three Lenten disciplines can help us to train our hearts in love. Through prayer, fasting and almsgiving we grow closer to God. Praying is a conversation with God and a way to be closer to God. At school, the children are praying a little more, adding the Stations of the Cross and prayers for others to their routine. The third discipline is almsgiving. The word comes from the Greek meaning "compassion" and is associated with giving food, money, or clothing to the poor. We are encouraging our students to do extra chores and donate their earnings to the poor through the annual Operation Rice Bowl project sponsored by Catholic Relief Services. Please encourage and support your child's participation.