



THE ACADEMY OF SAINT MATTHIAS THE APOSTLE

BRIDGES

WWW.STMATTHIAS.ORG ❖ MARCH 19, 2021



REOPENING PLAN UPDATE

At this point 58.6% of the student body will be in school by March 29. All classes will be able to maintain the optimal six-foot distance. However, it is important to note that the Archdiocese has given us permission to reduce the distance to 4 feet if necessary to fit everyone. We will not do so without parent permission. Work is underway on a revision of the Re-Opening Plan that was completed and published back in September. With children in every grade, it is important that we vigilantly enforce distance, masking, hand washing, sanitation, and ventilation to keep everyone safe. Teachers are ensuring that children stay apart, and wear masks always. Parents of the children in school also have an important role to play to keep everyone's children safe. Making sure that their children have multiple masks that fit, have their own water bottles each day, provide adequate snack, and lunch and remind them to wash hands properly. Parents should take temperatures before leaving the house and never send children to school who are sick, even with just a cold. Temperatures will also be taken upon arrival at school. Children who are in the building and travel outside of Maryland, Virginia and Delaware must follow the Prince Georges' County quarantine regulations. The revised Reopening Plan for On-Site Learners will be reviewed by the St. Matthias Reopening Committee on Monday, March 22 and sent out to all families on Tuesday, March 23.

IF YOU HAVE AN ASMA STUDENT DESK AND/OR CHAIR...

Children who are returning to school on or before March 29 are asked to return their desks and chairs by Friday, March 26. If the desk and chair came from grades 1 or 2, please drop them off in Friendship Hall. If they came from grades 3-8, please take them to the front door. Kindly clean and sanitize the desk before returning it.

REPORT CARDS

The third quarter ends on Wednesday, March 24. The teachers will be preparing report cards which will be available for parents to view in their parent portal in Rediker on March 30. Printed copies will be available for pick up at school on Wednesday, March 31 between 8:15 and 3:15. Please review your child's grades in Rediker before it closes on March 26 at 10 A.M. If your child is missing work, please see that the work is submitted. Contact the teacher if you have questions.

Mark Your Calendar

Friday, March 19

CommUNITY Reads 9:45 am
Stations of the Cross 11:30 am
Virtual Open House
English 9-10
Spanish 10-11

NOON DISMISSAL

Monday, March 22

Re-Opening Committee 6:30 pm

Tuesday, March 23

School Advisory Board
Meeting 7:00 pm

Wednesday, March 24

Drama Club 2:15 pm
Aftercare Response Due
3rd Quarter Ends

Title I Parent Workshop 6:30 pm

Thursday, March 25

Junior Drama Club 2:30-3:30 pm

Friday, March 26

CommUNITY Reads 9:45 am
Desks due back, Rediker closes
at 10:00 am
Student led Stations of the Cross

NOON DISMISSAL

DISMISSAL

With more children in school, we have returned to a car line dismissal on the side lot for children in grades K-8. It is getting better every day. **It would be extremely helpful if the drivers got out of their cars when the whistle blows** that signals the children to walk quickly to their cars. We would like to be respectful of everyone's time and clear the lot as quickly and safely as possible. Thank you for your cooperation.

EASTER EGG HUNTS

On Wednesday, March 31 students of all ages will participate in one of three Easter egg hunts at school. Students who are learning from home are invited to join in the fun at school. It is important that we have an accurate count of participants, so an invitation will be sent to our "Zoomies." Kindly respond as soon as you get the Evite and let us know if your child will be coming. To ensure that the egg hunt is safe and Covid-19 compliant the children must wear masks and will be on the field in very small groups for a short period of time. The eggs will contain candy, coins, free dress passes and tickets for other prizes. This event is sponsored by our Home and School Association through the leadership of Katie Aaron (chair), Elizabeth Johnson, Ana Moran, Theresa Burrell and Concheeta Wright. **Donations of plastic Easter eggs are greatly appreciated!** These can be dropped off at the school office and are needed by Monday, March 29.

READ-A-THON NEWS

As of this morning, St. Matthias has read for 22,486 minutes & raised \$8,310! We can get to 25,000 reading minutes! We can raise \$10,000! Or more!

We are proud of our students, grateful for your support, and the Academy of St. Matthias is elated about our students' reading! Can you share the excitement with friends, family, co-workers and neighbors? Who else can you share the St. Matthias Read-A-Thon with? Share the St. Matthias website <https://school.stmatthias.org> or send them information directly from your student's Read-A-Thon dashboard. Email us at ASMAreadathon@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Are you using the resources on your student's Read-A-Thon dashboard? Resources include: Cash Logs, Printable Reading Logs, and pre-written messages to share and more! Thanks so much and keep up the great work! **We're proud of our scholars!**

FULL STEAM AHEAD!

The middle school students who are currently at school are looking forward to the opportunity to build, configure, and install a state-of-the-art weather station on our school's roof! This solar powered weather station will collect data from its rain gauge, sunlight sensor, UV sensor, anemometer, temperature and humidity sensor, and wind direction vane. The weather station will run through a Raspberry Pi computer, which will allow it to be wireless, and be a data-source for a multitude of local weather/news outlets. Once online, the weather station will be broadcasting its data 24/7 and will be accessible to anyone around the world! Ms. Anastassiadis will be spear-heading this STEAM initiative as part of the Teacher's Initiative Grant awarded to her over the summer. The sensors, Raspberry Pi, and other parts are on their way, so make sure to follow us on our website and on Facebook to see this project come to life!

AFTERCARE

We are exploring the feasibility of providing aftercare services after Easter. If you need this service, please send a request to Mrs. Blackburn at mblackburn@stmatthias.org. Please indicate the days of the week that you need and pick up time. Please note that no aftercare would be available on Fridays. The deadline to request aftercare for the remainder of the 2021 school year is **Wednesday, March 24.**

TITLE I PARENT MEETING

Parents of our Title I students are invited to participate in a virtual workshop that addresses parent and family engagement. Learn some tips on helping your child be more motivated to learn and succeed. RSVP required. See attached flier.