



THE ACADEMY OF SAINT MATTHIAS THE APOSTLE

BRIDGES

WWW.STMATTHIAS.ORG ❖ MARCH 25, 2021



RE-OPENING PLAN

Please see the attached information for on-site students in the fourth and final quarter of the school year. To date 59.7% of the students will be in school beginning on Monday, March 29. Approximately 20 families have not indicated whether they are remaining at home or coming into school. After carefully reviewing the attached plan, parents who decide to have their children in school beginning on Monday, must contact the school by Noon tomorrow. Families who responded "Yes" to the most recent survey do NOT need to call or email. They will receive the required paperwork before Monday. New students will not be admitted on Monday without this signed documentation.

It is important to note that any family who is traveling outside of Maryland, DC, Virginia, or Pennsylvania over the Easter break may NOT return to school in person on April 12. Children from these families must follow the quarantine guidelines in place by the Prince George's County Health Department.

READ-A-THON SUCCESS!

Thanks to all the children and families who participated in our first Read-a-thon. Please see the attached flier with additional information and lots of good news! There are still 6 days left to donate.

REPORT CARDS

The third quarter report cards will be distributed to students on-site on March 31. Rediker closes on Friday, March 26 at 10:00 am. Students who are visiting for the Easter egg hunts will receive theirs then as well, provided they have let us know in advance that they are attending. Parents of students who are not on-site may view their child's report cards in Rediker.

Parents, please note that children who are missing major assignments will receive an "Incomplete" for the quarter. The students have until April 19 to turn in this work. Students who fail a subject for the year will need to complete summer work to return to St. Matthias in the fall.

LOOKING AHEAD

The calendar of school days, including early dismissal days is awaiting final approval by the Archdiocese of Washington. It will be sent out to all families enrolled for the 2022 school year with the next edition of *Bridges*, which goes out on April 15. The first day of school will be August 31. The school day will begin at 8 A.M. and end at 3 P.M.

Mark Your Calendar

Friday, March 26

Mass 9:45

Desks & Chairs due back

Rediker closes at 10:00 am

NOON DISMISSAL

Monday, March 29

Welcome Back Students

Wednesday, March 31

Virtual Student led Stations of the Cross

Report Cards Distributed

Easter Egg Hunts

Read-A-thon Celebration TAG Day

Celebrate the resurrection of our Lord!

Happy
EASTER



ATTENTION PARENTS OF 7TH GRADE STUDENTS

The third and fourth quarters of seventh grade are very important for students as they begin to consider their options for high school after graduation. Our principal, Mrs. Schratz, is hosting a second parent meeting for those who were unable to attend the meeting held on January 27. In addition, to report cards, teacher recommendations and the spring 2021 Scantron tests, the results of the High School Placement Test (HSPT) provide valuable data that the Catholic high school admissions committees use to select their incoming freshman. We want every 8th grader at St. Matthias to have the opportunity to attend the school of their choice. Therefore, preparation for the HSPT will begin when the students return from Easter break. On April 30 the students will be taking the Pre-HSPT from 9:00 A.M. to Noon in Friendship Hall.

IXL SPRING CHALLENGE AND PIZZA PARTY SHOWDOWN

Calling all students in grades PK-8 to take the IXL Spring Challenge! The students from each class who visit IXL the most days from April 1-15, clock the most minutes, or reach a smart score of 80 on the most skills in reading and math combined will be recognized with a special award and a chance to win a gift card. In addition, the class that answers the most questions on IXL between April 1 and April 30 will win an outdoor pizza party for the class! "Zoomies" are, of course, invited to come to school for the pizza lunch.

STAFFING NEWS

As you may already be aware, the St. Matthias Pre-school program is expanding! Over the summer the former art room will become a classroom for our three-year-old students. We are happy to announce that our current third grade teacher, Dr. Patrice Tyler will be the teacher of our youngest Mustangs! Dr. Tyler has over twenty years of experience as an educator with children of many ages. Dr. Tyler, who will also serve as the lead teacher for the PK program, is very excited to be returning to her roots, as being a Pre-K3 teacher was her first teaching job. She is also looking forward to working closely with Ms. Loughner, who, we are happy to announce, will remain as the PK4 teacher.

A search is underway to recruit a highly qualified teacher for our incoming third graders.

EASTER EGG HUNTS

Plans are being finalized for our first Home and School Association Easter Egg Hunt! The first of three hunts will begin at 10 A.M. The second group will begin at 11 A.M. and the final group will participate at 12:30 P.M. Parents of our Zoomies should look for and respond to the Easter Egg Hunt Evite as soon as it is received. Thanks to those who donated plastic eggs and candy. Donations will be accepted through Monday.

OPERATION RICE BOWL

The children have been learning about growing closer to Jesus through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Sharing their money with the poor is one way that we give alms and help those in need. On Easter Sunday, please count and send a check with your family donation to the school. We will be sending one donation to Catholic Relief Services. 75% will support their overseas projects and 25% will help the poor in the Archdiocese of Washington.

