



# BRIDGES

WWW.STMATTHIAS.ORG ❖ APRIL 22, 2021



## UNIFORMS



When school opens in the Fall, students are expected to be in the proper uniform. There will be no changes in the uniform regulations. Used uniforms will be available at school throughout the summer by appointment. Our uniform supplier, Flynn and O'Hara is located less than 2 miles from the school at 8807 Annapolis Road, in Lanham. Parents may also order online at [flynnohara.com](http://flynnohara.com). However, the need for greater than usual ventilation due to COVID safety protocols and the fact that most students in grades 1-8 have not been in school for a good part of the year has made a strict enforcement of the uniform code less reasonable. It has come to our attention that a few students may be learning virtually because their old uniforms do not fit and getting new ones this early may result in needing another later next year. **All families who may be in this predicament are urged to send the children to school in partial uniforms**, PE uniforms or out of uniform. Mrs. Blackburn will assist those families to find used uniforms to finish out the school year. There are openings in grades 5, 6 and 8, where 6 feet social distancing can still be observed. Please contact the school if you have further questions.

## CHICK-FIL-A

Families of our "Roomies" and "Zoomies" are reminded that the order forms for the Chick-fil-A lunch on Wednesday, April 28 are **due this Friday, April 23**. Zoomies who cannot scan, email or fax may call in the order to Mrs. Blackburn by Friday, April 23. Zoomies are invited to come to school on Wednesday, April 28 to join their class for outdoor recess and lunch. Recess will begin at 11:30. Lunch will also be outdoors at Noon. (At this point the weather for Wednesday looks perfect – warm and partly sunny). Zoomies will be picked up at 12:30 in front of the school.



## ALL ARE INVITED AND NEEDED

All parents are members of the St. Matthias Home and School Association. The HSA Executive Committee meets monthly via Zoom to support the school and enhance our school program. There is a strong correlation between parent involvement and high student achievement. Many items of interest will be discussed at tonight's meeting as we begin to make plans for the coming school year. Please join us at 6:30 tonight at the link below. Parents who attend the meeting earn one volunteer service hour. "See" you there!

### Topic: HSA Exec Committee

Time: Apr 22, 2021 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83000040515?pwd=UG1kcXkySWFjTkZ4ZzZMxV moyRmVoUT09>

Meeting ID: 830 0004 0515

Passcode: ASMA2020

## Mark Your Calendar

**Friday , April 23**  
Chick-fil-A Forms Due

Community Reads 9:45 am

Pajama Day

**NOON DISMISSAL**

**Tuesday, April 27**  
God's Rods  
2:30 - 3:15 pm

Grade 7 Makeup Parent Zoom  
Meeting 7:00 pm

**Wednesday, April 28**  
Chick-fil-A Luncheon  
11:30 - 12:30 pm

**Friday , April 30**  
Mass 9:45 am

Grade 7 Pre HPST  
8:45 - 11:4 pm

**NOON DISMISSAL**

## RE-ENROLLMENT

Like other PG County Catholic Schools, St. Matthias had the vast majority of our families re-enrolled by March 15. We are very grateful for the cooperation and support of our amazing Mustang families! This is very helpful for staffing and other planning purposes. However, we need the help of all families to encourage friends and neighbors to consider St. Matthias for their children's education. Word of mouth is our most powerful advertising. To meet our enrollment and budget targets for the coming school year we need to fill kindergarten and the PK 3 and 4 class and to recruit 2-3 students in grades 1 and 3 and at least 4 students each in grades 6 and 7. Our students are very welcoming to new students who are assimilated very quickly. Sixth grade is a very natural transition for new students who would be attending a new public middle school. As you know there are many benefits to a St. Matthias education. Finally, more state funding is available for new families who demonstrate financial need. Current families who refer a new family receive a \$500 tuition credit in 2022-2023. Finally, families who are willing to place a yard sign on their property would be making a great contribution to our enrollment effort and will earn 2 volunteer service hours. Please email Mrs. Blackburn or Mrs. O'Hara if you can help in this way.

## VACCINATION CLINIC



COVID-19  
VACCINE

St. Matthias Parish will be hosting a vaccination clinic sponsored by Luminis Health on Friday, April 30 from 11:00 am - 5:00 pm. If you have not been vaccinated, this is your chance. Stop by or call the parish office (301-459-4814) to pre register. All they need is your name, address, phone number and email address. Luminis Health will contact you with an appointment time.

## Home & School Association News

### A REWARDING READ-A-THON!

Congratulations on our first Read-A-Thon! Embarked upon in place of our annual ASMA spring fund-run to keep our school community safe, yet engaged, school staff researched alternate fun and fundraising options.

Read-a-Thon provided just that, an opportunity for further developing our scholars' reading interest and skills paired with an opportunity to raise funds that will be used for renovating our school playgrounds/playscapes. Thank

you to all of our students, parents, faculty, and staff for your efforts. We had a great first experience and are already looking forward to enhanced options for the next! Additional thanks to parents Phyllis Colclough (grades 1 and 2) and Ugochi Ibetoh (grade PK4), Michelle Hayling, Emma Hadley, and faculty/staff: Ann O'Hare, Marsha Blackburn, Julie Kelly, and Patricia Schratz for their efforts to spread the word and provide updates within the ASMA community throughout the fundraiser. A sincere debt of gratitude goes to the Read-A-Thon chair, Mrs. Kenique Freeman.



We're proud of each and every one of our scholars and grateful for our teachers and their in-class read-a-thon engagement. See below for some of the participation highlights! Congrats to all of our scholars!

### School totals

Minutes Read: 31,153!

Dollars Raised for Playground/Playscape Renovations: \$11,330.12!

The students and classes with the highest number of minutes read and dollars raised are listed below. Let's celebrate with one another!

### Students

#### Most Minutes Read:

Enuma Offiah, 4th Grade - 1,625 minutes

Yana-Neveah Achaleke, 6th Grade - 1,610 minutes

Jade Carter, 6th Grade - 1,170 minutes

### Most Dollars Raised:

David D'Abreau, 3rd Grade - \$1,075

Keelyn Hadley, 2nd Grade - \$600

Ivan Valdez, 8th Grade & Natalie Valdez, 4th Grade - \$575

### Classes

#### Most Minutes Read:

Shaughn Smith, 4th Grade - 4,882

Patrice Tyler, 3rd Grade - 4,810

Barbara Madera, 6th Grade - 4,413

#### Most Dollars Raised:

Patrice Tyler, 3rd Grade - \$2,345

Shaughn Smith, 4th Grade - \$1,750

Krista Wood, 2nd Grade - \$1,745

Every reader is a winner! Read-A-Thon rewards will be distributed next week for roomies and made available for pick-up for zoomies. Your dashboard pages are still available for review and celebrating your success. Log in with your secret code to see what rewards you can expect to receive next week! One of our teachers will also receive something from their wishlist in appreciation of their Read-A-Thon efforts and support!

Additional St. Matthias Read-A-Thon thanks to the following businesses for their support of our school and scholars: Pain and Rehab Center in Washington DC, Pinnacle DOT Physicals, Chick-fil-A @ Bowie Marketplace, and Mini Chefs & Bakers!

### COMING SOON - HSA FAMILY FUN!



With some virtual and some physically distanced, we've connected through fun activities with our St. Matthias family. We've enjoyed virtual paint nite, bingo, and an Easter Egg Hunt, encouraged more than 31,000 minutes of reading for our scholars, and raised over \$10,000! In the midst of, spring has sprung and we're ready for more fun!

Details on the next HSA-sponsored activity coming soon.

### SHARE YOUR ST. MATTHIAS YARD SIGNS

Are you spreading the word and sharing your love for St. Matthias? If you have your St. Matthias Yard Sign up, take a pic, and share! Send your photo to [ASMAREADATHON@gmail.com](mailto:ASMAREADATHON@gmail.com). We may share it on the bulletin board, in Bridges, or on St. Matthias' social media pages.



### MORE PICS!



Did you take a spring break selfie with a book?

Were you comfy in your favorite reading nook?

Send us your photo! We'd love to share and see who reads here, there, and everywhere!

### PARENTS: ARE YOU ORDERING FROM AMAZON?

For no extra cost and all the same convenience, log into AmazonSmile to support St. Matthias. With your current or a new account, simply log in to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) (instead of [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)) and give to St. Matthias while you shop!

	Your current charity <b>Saint Matthias Catholic Church</b> has received	<b>\$195.64</b> as of March 2021
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### HSA WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!



Do you have ideas or interests you'd like to see implemented within the St. Matthias school community? Begin jotting down your ideas. We'd love to hear from you! Email us at [Saint-MatthiasHSA@gmail.com](mailto:Saint-MatthiasHSA@gmail.com).