



Letter From The Principal

Date: 01/29/2018

Dear Parents / Guardians,

We kicked off our Catholic Schools Week on Sunday with an amazing Mass led by our students. The Pancake Breakfast/Faith Fair in the gymnasium was very well attended. Please refer to the Catholic Schools Week Itinerary that was sent home a couple of weeks ago or this newsletter to help keep track of all the rest of the activities going on this week.

If you have not sent in your RSVP for the Parent/Grandparent luncheon on Wednesday, January 31st yet, please do so by **TOMORROW: Tuesday, January 30th**. This is very important so Mrs. Koenig knows how much food to prepare on this day. **If you have children in both groups, we will have the older students attend lunch at that earlier time so you may all eat together.**

This year's Catholic Schools Week theme is Learn, Serve, Lead, and Succeed. As for the service aspect, we will be doing a week long Dime War between the classes to raise money to be donated to several local charity organizations. Thank you so much for helping us to provide for those people in our community that our going through hard times.

If you are not familiar with how a "Dime War" works, here are some details. Students will be asked to bring in money to help their class win the Dime War. Each day the class with the highest point value will win a prize, with a Grand Prize of a Pizza Party and Non-Uniform Day going to the overall winning class. Dimes count for positive 10 points, so you want dimes in your class jar. All other money, counts as negative points, so you want to put those in other class jars to bring down their totals. For example: a quarter would count as negative 25 points, a dollar would be a negative 100 points, and so on.

We, as a school, will begin preparing ourselves for the Lenten Season. The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, on February 14th, and ends on Holy Thursday, March 29th. During these 40 days let us devote ourselves to the spiritual and corporal works of mercy that "remind us that faith finds expression in concrete everyday actions meant to help our neighbors in body and spirit." (USCCB) Help us, O Lord, to take inspiration for our Lenten journey through prayer, fasting, and giving alms.

K o f C Fish Fries

Every Friday during Lent, starting February 16th, the Van Wert Knights of Columbus will be hosting a fish fry at the Knights of Columbus Hall located at 425 Woodland Ave. There are dine-in and carry-out options available from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. The menu includes Alaskan Pollock, baked potato or French fries, vegetable, coleslaw, and a drink. The cost of an all you can eat adult meal is \$8. The \$4 children's menu includes macaroni and cheese, hot dog, vegetable, and drink.

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Tuesday, January 30th : Celebrating Our Students

*Students may wear St. Mary's Spirit Wear (or blue/gold shirt) and JEANS.

* **NO HOMEWORK DAY**

* **Bowling Fun Day** - Students and Staff will be going to the Bowling Alley from 12:30pm to 2:30pm. There is no cost to the students to bowl.

STUDENTS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO PURCHASE ANY CONCESSIONS.

Wednesday, January 31st : Celebrating Our Nation

* **Military Valentine Day Cards** - Students will create Valentine's Day Cards for those in the Military. If you know of any military personnel to whom we could send a card, please give their names and addresses to Mrs. Arnold or Mrs. Bloomfield.

* **Quiz Bowl – 10:20am – 11:00am** – Quiz Bowl Games 3 and 4

* **Parent / Grandparent Luncheon – 11:15am and 11:45am** - Grandparents/Parents are invited to have lunch with the students.

Thursday, February 1st : Celebrating Our Staff

* **Staff Surprise** – A little something special to say thank you for all they do will be provided.

* **Quiz Bowl – 10:20am – 11:00am** – Quiz Bowl Games 5 and 6

***6:30pm – 7:30pm** – Science Fun Night for ages 4 – 10 and parents; 5th & 6th Graders lead the Science-based stations. There is NO COST for this event but we ask, if possible, for one canned good per person to be donated to the Cooperative Ministry Food Pantry.

Friday, February 2nd : Celebrating Vocations

* **All School Mass** – Mass begins at 8:45am

* **Quiz Bowl – 11:00am – 11:40am** – Quiz Bowl Championship Game

* **Vocation Speakers – 12:30pm – 1:00pm** - We will have various people speak about their calling from God. There will also be a small reception for students and speakers with cupcakes and juice.

Saturday, February 3rd

3rd Annual Taste of St. Mary's Iron Chef – You are invited to join us for the Taste of St. Mary's on Saturday, February 3rd at 6:00 pm. There are still a limited number of tickets available. Tickets are \$25 each and available for purchase in the Parish office. Proceeds benefit St. Vincent de Paul which aids those in need in the Van Wert Community.

Monday, February 5th

***District Spelling Bee** – Angela Mendoza will represent St. Mary's at the Van Wert County Spelling Bee. The Spelling Bee is held at the Marsh Foundation and begins at 7:00pm. **Good Luck Angela, we all believe in you!**

Tuesday, February 6th

School Council Meeting – The February School Council Meeting begins at 7:00pm in the School Library. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Wednesday, February 7th

Feast of St. Blaise – Fr. Stan will be coming to each classroom and doing a Blessing of Throats.

Friday, February 9th

Family Movie Night – This month, the movie “*Cars 3*” will be shown in the gymnasium. Doors open at 6:00pm with the movie beginning at 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend this Family Movie Night.

Monday, February 12th

Officer Phil – Our Kindergarten through 3rd Grade will have an assembly discussing the important role that police officers have in our communities and lives.

Royals Read-A-Thon Pledge Drive – Students are to begin gathering Sponsors for our Read-A-Thon. The Read-A-Thon will begin the following week. Sponsorship forms will be sent home with students on this day. All money collected from the Read-A-Thon will go to purchase books from the Book Fair for the Classrooms and the School Library. There will also be prize incentives for students to collect pledges. More details will come home closer to the date.

Wednesday, February 14th

Ash Wednesday – All School Mass

We start the Lenten Season with students receiving ashes at 8:45am Mass. All adults are welcome to attend this Mass and receive their ashes, as well.

St. Valentine's Day – This is more of just a reminder to all the Dads.

Thursday, February 15th

Monthly Tuition Payments are due.

Friday, February 16th

Bread and Bowl – On **Friday, February 16th**, St. Mary's School will host the Bread and Bowl Meal for people in need in the Van Wert community. You will receive a letter closer to this date with what items to donate. Everyone is welcome to come that night and help with serving the meal.

Sunday, February 18th

God, Flag, & Country Contest – Myles Moody and Hank Kopack will be representing St. Mary's in the God, Flag, & Country Oratory Contest. The contest is held at the Delphos Eagle and begins at 2:00pm. Good Luck Myles and Hank!

Monday, February 19th

No School – Presidents Day

Royals Read-A-Thon Begins – Students are to begin logging their minutes of reading time. They will keep track of their minutes for the entire week. There will also be prize incentives for students with the most reading minutes; more details will come home closer to the date.

Tuesday, February 20th

No School – Professional Development Day

Saturday, February 24th – Friday, March 2nd

Scholastic Book Fair – We will be hosting a book fair in the gymnasium starting Saturday, February 24th after the 4:00pm Mass. The Book Fair is open on Sunday, February 25th after the 8:30am and 10:30am Masses. The Book Fair hours during the week are Monday through Thursday 7:30am – 8:15am and 3:05pm – 3:45pm. The Book Fair will close at 9:00am on Friday, March 2nd. We hope that you will take an opportunity to stop by and pick up some books for your children. Books are available for readers of all ages. Also, part of the proceeds from our Book Fair comes back to our school and helps us purchase new books for the classrooms and library.

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Online Book Fair - If you are unable to make it to the Book Fair, you are still in luck. There is an online portion of our Book Fair that runs from Saturday, February 24th through Sunday, March 4th. Any online purchase will be credited to our school and contribute to more Scholastic dollars for our teachers to use to purchase new books for their classrooms. You simply need to go to the following website: www.scholastic.com/fair and then enter our zip code, 45891, and St. Mary Assumption Catholic book fair.

Monday, February 26th

Royals Read-A-Thon Pledge Collection – Students are to collect all pledges from their sponsors.

Tuesday, February 27th

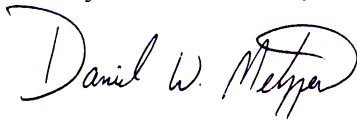
School and Family Pancake Breakfast Day – We will be holding a Pancake Breakfast Day on **Tuesday, February 27th at 7:30am until 8:15am in the gymnasium.** The cost is \$2.00 for pancakes and for just an additional \$1.00, you may get sausage as well. Parents/Guardians, Grandparents, siblings, or other friends/relatives are welcome to enjoy breakfast with our students before school that day. This would be a great day to also check out our Book Fair with your children or grandchildren.

Royals Read-A-Thon ends – Students are to return their Sponsorship Form, all pledge money collected, and their Reading Logs to be eligible for prizes.

Monday, February 26th – Friday, March 2nd

Right to Read Week – The week of Monday, February 26th through Friday, March 2nd is Right to Read Week. Students will be taking part in many fun activities throughout the week to help encourage them to be more active readers. A detailed agenda of the week's activities will be included with each student's reading log. Please refer to this agenda for what activities are going on throughout the week.

Thank you and God bless,



Mr. Daniel Metzger
Principal-Minister