

St. Mary's Catholic School

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St Mary's,
Continuing Our Commitment to
Quality Catholic Education

Falcon's Pride

A weekly newsletter of the current events at St. Mary's Catholic School

October 4, 2016

Issue 84

www.stmarys-temple.org

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you to all who joined us for Family Mass on Sunday. How beautiful to witness our future leaders proclaiming God's word. Thanks to all students who came in uniform, proudly showing their school spirit. Thank you Mrs. Smith, and students, for organizing this Mass. Our next Family Mass will be November 13th at 10:30 at Christ the King Parish.

We are still struggling with parents dropping off their child after the 8:00 a.m. bell, without coming in to sign the tardy slip. This policy is for the safety of your child. If you choose to drop your child off late and do not come in we will call you to return to school to sign the tardy slip. Again this policy is for the safety of your child. Your child will go to class.

Last Friday I sent a test message from School Messenger. It was mildly successful. For some reason some of the phone numbers did not go through. Those parents who have already contacted me thanks, and I have made the adjustments. If you did not receive a phone call or would like a different phone number in the system please let me know. At this time we are not set up for text messaging, only phone and email. We will get there.

If your child has not signed up for PSIA, and is interested, the deadline for sign-ups is October 21st. We want to begin practicing and we need to have the list of students to know how many coaches we need and in what subjects. The sign up lists are in the office. If you have questions please do not hesitate to ask.

Conferences will be Wednesday, October 19th from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (There is no school on this day). A preview of the first quarter report cards will be available on RenWeb the 18th. Teachers will provide a paper copy at the conference. Please ensure you set up an appointment as this conference is mandatory for all parents. Students in grades 6-8 are required to attend the conference with parent(s).

All Middle School and Specialty teachers will be located in the gym while grades Pre-K through 5th grade teachers will be in their respective classrooms. To set up a conference with your child's homeroom teacher, or specialty teacher, visit that teacher's home page on

the school website and use the Sign-up Genius. **This will be active beginning Tuesday, October 11th. Call us if you have questions.**

Today our 6th graders left for their three day retreat to Peaceable Kingdom. Please keep them in your prayers. They will return on Thursday around 2:00 p.m.

Thank you for your dedication to your child's education.
God bless,
Mrs. Wyles

NEWS AND INFORMATION

PTC News

*October 20th is the next popcorn sale!! Popcorn is 50¢ as well as a drink for 50¢

*October 21st - Trunk or Treat!! We will begin @ 6 p.m. **Details to follow**

*If you would like to participate in the 2nd car decoration contest the cost is \$5.00. We will give trophies for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. We will be sending a slip home soon, with guidelines, that you can fill out and return to the school or email to meganhswoda@gmail.com.

Thank you for your continued support,
St. Mary's PTC

EIM Opportunities

In case you have not completed your EIM yet there are a few opportunities close by: October 10th, 6:30 p.m., St. Helen's in Georgetown and October 22nd, 11:00 a.m., Holy Family in Austin. To register, visit the Diocesan website.

Sports News

Last week the volleyball teams had two matches one at home against Westphalia and an away game at CTCS.

The Westphalia games were played on Monday and the JV team won their match with scores of 25-16 and 25-18. The Varsity scores were 17-25 and 16-25 with Westphalia winning.

On Thursday at CTCS, the JV scores were 18-25, 21-25 and 25-17. The Varsity won their match with scores of 22-25, 25-15, and 25-20.

Way to go Lady Falcons,

This week we played at home Monday, Oct 3rd and will travel to Taylor on Thursday October 6th.

Nita Bigon
Athletic Director

7th and 8th Graders

Don't forget to sign up for Luke Fest. This is a perfect opportunity for Christian Service hours. See Mrs. Wyles or Mr. Smith if you have lost your sign-up sheet.

Vision and Hearing Testing

Vision and hearing screenings will be the week of on October 24th for our Pre-K, K, 1, 3, 5, 7. We are in need of parent volunteers. Please let Mrs. Stewart know if you can help.
dstewart@stmarys-temple.org

Strategic Planning

It is time to revisit the Strategic Plan for St. Mary's Catholic School. Our Consultative School Board will head up this process with the full support and participation of the faculty and staff. If you would like to become part of the creation of our new plan please contact Mrs. Wyles. Your input is valuable.

Blessing of the Animals

Please mark your calendars for our annual Blessing of the Animals in honor of St. Francis. We will gather in the parking lot, by the rectory, on October 7th at 7:15 a.m. with our four legged friends and Father Steve will bestow blessings on all. The purpose of having our event before school time is so parents can take the pet home again. Please make sure dogs are on leashes and let me know if you have any questions.

God Squad News

The God Squad will collect donations of food and money for the Temple Animal Shelter. The event will take place on Friday October 7th at 7:00 a.m., in conjunction with the Blessing of the Animals. You can send in money early in an envelope marked animal shelter, or bring the money or the food to the Blessings of the Animals on Oct. 7th.

PSIA Sign up Deadline

The deadline to sign up for PSIA is Friday, October 21st.

Yearbook Flyers Attached

Please use the attached flyers to order your yearbook, purchase an ad, and share photos with the yearbook team. If you order your yearbook early they are only \$23.00.

School Spirit Items

Have you had the chance to purchase our very cool looking Spirit items yet? We are proud of our school and want all to know. We have hats, koozies, cooler cups and stickers in the office. All have the school logo. Stop by the office and take a look.

Casino Night

Our Casino Night is coming up in November. We will be selling tickets after all Masses until October 30th. If you would like to earn service hours and support this worthy cause please call the school office.

Parents RenWeb

If you are having problems signing up for Parents Web please let us know. We can help.
District Code: smar-tx

Save the Date: January 28, 2017: Celebrating Catholic Schools Award Dinner

The Office of Catholic Schools will hold its 2017 Celebrating Catholic Schools Dinner and Awards Ceremony on January 28, 2017 to recognize our Catholic schools and honor those who serve and support our schools. The purpose of this event is to recognize those individuals whose dedication enables schools to accomplish their missions and good works.

I am pleased to announce that this year's nominee for St. Mary's Catholic School will be Mrs. Angie Stolp. Mrs. Stolp has been a dedicated member of the St. Mary's family for over 30 years and is very deserving of this award. The event will take place at 6:00 p.m. at the Hyatt at Town Lake in Austin. The featured speaker this year will be Cardinal Dolan. As soon as tickets become available I will let the community know. Please do mark your calendars and show your support for a wonderful teacher.

Important Dates to Remember

Tues. Oct. 4 th	*Grade 6 leaves for retreat at Peaceable Kingdom
Thurs. Oct. 6 th	*Grade 6 returns from retreat at Peaceable Kingdom
	*Taco Night 3:00-7:00 in Parish Hall
Fri. Oct. 7 th	*Blessing of the Animals 7:15 a.m.
	*All School Mass 8:15 a.m.
	*God Squad to visit Animal Shelter.
Mon. Oct. 10 th	*Diocesan Inservice: No School
Wed. Oct. 12 th	*School Board Meeting 5:45
Thurs. Oct. 13 th	*Grade 3 to CAC 10:00-2:00
Fri. Oct. 14 th	*School Mass 8:15 a.m.
	*First Quarter Ends
Mon. Oct. 17 th	*Second Quarter Begins
Wed. Oct. 19 th	*Parent-Teacher Conferences (details to follow)
	(No School on this day)
Thurs. Oct. 20 th	*Spirit Day
	*4 th and 5 th to CAC 8:30-11:15
	*Awards Assembly in the Church 2:00 p.m.
Fri. Oct. 21 st	*All School Mass
	*Trunk or Treat 6:00 p.m.
Mon. Oct. 24 th	*Hearing and Visions Screening begins
Tues. Oct. 25 th	*3 rd and 4 th to UMHB 8:15-12:00
Wed. Oct. 26 th	*Fire Safety 9:00-10:00 Pre-K -2 nd
Fri. Oct 28 th	*All School Mass with Bishop Vasquez to kick off our anniversary of 120 years ☺

PSIA (Private School Interscholastic Association)

Statistical research has shown that students who participate in academic extracurricular activities score higher on achievement and assessment tests than those who do not participate in such academic programs. We also have found that participants whose parents are actively involved in working with their children in extracurricular academic programs have the greatest success in competition, as well as in their future academic studies.

St. Mary's Catholic School has elected to participate in the Private Schools Interscholastic Association (PSIA) extracurricular academic program for elementary and middle schools again this year.

Over the next few weeks, your child will have the opportunity to consider trying out for one or more of these PSIA academic events: **Coaches are needed as well, so parents and teachers please let me know if a you would like to do your part and become a much-needed coach.**

Art Memory 4-5	Maps, Graphs & Charts 4-8	
Calculator 6-8	Mathematics 4-8	Prose 4-8
Creative Writing 1-2	Modern Oratory 7/8	Ready Writing 3-8
Dictionary Skills 4-8	Music Memory 3-8	Science 6-8
Impromptu Speaking 7/8	Numbers Sense 4-8	Spelling 2-8
Listening Skills 4-8	On-Site Drawing 6-8	Storytelling 1-3
		Vocabulary 5-8

Since our academic coaches may select only a limited number of students from each grade to be entered at the district level in each event, we encourage you to visit with your child about his/her interests and the possibilities of entering these events. From our district meet held on **Saturday, March 25, at Holy Family Catholic School, Austin**, students who place first and second will advance in each contest (some events are combined) to the PSIA State Meet, to be held at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth on **Saturday, April 29, 2017**.

Further information about each contest may be found on the PSIA web site: www.psiaacademics.org . We anticipate an exciting academic year. Students may sign up in the office. If you are interested in coaching please let me know. All faculty and staff will be involved in the event.

Thank you for your participation.
Mrs. Wyles