

# St. Mary's Catholic School

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

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## Falcon's Pride

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

September 6, 2016

Issue 80

[www.stmarys-temple.org](http://www.stmarys-temple.org)

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

I pray you enjoyed your long weekend. It was fun seeing so many St. Mary's families at the Holy Trinity football game on Friday night. We are blessed to be partners with Holy Trinity in the K-12 education of the students of our community. We are grateful to Holy Trinity for all they do for us; from providing coaches for a variety of sports to helping our students prepare for PSIA to allowing our cheerleaders, band and choir to be part of events at their school. What an awesome school ☺.

YE HA Parent Web is officially opened. Please visit our school website and click on ParentsRenWeb in the top right hand corner. From there you will be directed to the Create New ParentsWeb Account. The directions are very easy to follow. Once logged on you will find a section with school, student, and family information. The student information will allow you to check grades, attendance (only absences and tardies will show) and behavior.

I am sorry but the district codes for St. Mary's and Holy Trinity are different. If you have children in both schools you will need to set up two accounts. I apologize for the inconvenience. As the year progresses, and we all become more proficient with RenWeb, more areas will be available. Please let me know if you have questions.

Students are still being dropped off after 8:00 a.m., without a parent to sign the child in. Please do not drop your child off after 8:00 and drive away. You will be called to return to school to sign the tardy slip before your child can attend class. This policy is for the safety of our children and must be adhered to.

God bless and have a great week. Please remember that tomorrow night is our PTC meeting in the cafeteria. Dinner will be served at 5:30 followed by information of upcoming events and entertainment.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Wyles

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## NEWS AND INFORMATION

### **Reminder on School Forms**

All necessary Student Forms are available on the school web page on the right hand side next to the scrolling pictures (<http://stmarys-temple.org/>). Please print and fill out. You may return them as hard copies or scan and email back to the school at [cbrown@stmarys-temple.org](mailto:cbrown@stmarys-temple.org) or [rmorales@stmarys-temple.org](mailto:rmorales@stmarys-temple.org) All forms should have been returned by **Wednesday, August 31st**. If you have questions do not hesitate to call us. These forms are very important. Please do get them in ASAP.

### **PTC News**

Tomorrow evening, Wednesday, is our first PTC meeting. The evening begins with dinner provided by our second and third grade classes, a short meeting and then entertainment provided by our second and third grade classes. It will be a wonderful evening of community. Please plan on attending ☺

### **Box Tops for Education**

Please continue to bring in your Box Tops. The school will earn 100 bonus box tops when you buy 15 Box Tops for Education in a single transaction at HEB between 9/7 and 9/20. Or.....the school can earn 60 bonus box tops when you buy 10 Box Tops for Education products in a single transaction between 9/7 and 9/20/.

Be sure to visit [CashForYourEducation.com](http://CashForYourEducation.com) to print a collection sheet. This is a great way for your kids to track their collection progress.

Volunteers are needed to count and organize the box tops. This is a great way to earn your service hours. Please contact Mrs. Hickman if you are interested.

### **Mark your Calendars**

Mark your calendars for Taco Night on Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-7:00 p.m. Our wonderful Men of St. Joseph Parish organization, with the help of our PTC, will be selling Tacos to benefit the school Tuition Assistance fund. Presale tickets will be on sale beginning September 18<sup>th</sup> after Masses and in the school office beginning on September 19<sup>th</sup>.

Parents may earn service hours helping sell tickets after their Mass. Let Mrs. Wyles know please.

### **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 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **Friday Rosary**

Please join school parents, parishioners and friends, after the All School Friday Mass, to pray the rosary. This will begin this Friday.

### **Holy Trinity News**

Holy Trinity Basketball Skills Academy - FREE

Grades 5-8 10am - 11:30am

Grades 9-12 11:45 - 1:45 pm

To be held this Saturday, 9/10 (at St. Mary's Gym)

### **Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS)**

Monday, September 19th, we will begin ITBS testing in grades 1 through 8. For those of you who are not familiar with the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) please let me explain the purpose of the test and how the results are utilized for your child. The ITBS is a compilation of 13 achievement tests. Each test is designed to measure student's knowledge in a specific skill area. The skill areas measured include the following:

\*Vocabulary \*Reading Comprehension \*Spelling \*Capitalization \*Punctuation  
\*Usage and Expression \*Math Concepts and Estimation \* Math Problem Solving and Data Interpretation \*Math Computation \*Social Studies \*Science \*Maps and Diagrams  
\*Reference Materials \*Word Analysis (grade 3 only) \*Listening (grade 3 only).

In grades K, 2, 5, and 7 a Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) is also given. This is an abilities test that measures students' potential to succeed in school-related tasks. Specifically, it measures students' verbal, quantitative, and nonverbal reasoning abilities. The *Verbal Battery* measures verbal reasoning abilities that are essential for successful learning across the curriculum. The *Quantitative Battery* measures the ability to organize, structure, and give meaning to quantitative concepts. The *Nonverbal Battery* measures reasoning abilities using shapes and visual patterns that require the use of minimal outside knowledge.

The ITBS test is given to provide teachers with information they can use to meet the individual learning needs of each student. The test helps the teacher identify your child's strongest areas and areas in which the greatest improvement is needed. Your child's teacher can use this information to choose materials and methods of teaching that will best help your child learn. The test also helps teachers look at your child's learning from one year to the next. The ITBS test is designed to make it possible to measure growth from grade to grade.

An important fact to note is that the ITBS test is a diagnostic tool for the teachers. This is why we test in the fall instead of the spring. We want our students' results to be accessible for remediation, grade level learning, and enrichment. If you have any questions regarding the ITBS please do not hesitate to ask.

### **Save the Date: January 17, 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.

### **News From the CAC**

Hope you all have had a great summer, and we look forward to another great year. The Cultural Activities Center is pleased to share with you it's **after school activities and more** for kids ages pre-k through age 18.

More adult classes such as clay, creative writing, and ballroom dance will be posted online at [cacARTS.org](http://cacARTS.org).

Bricks 4 Kidz: Robotics - Mon. 3:45-5pm  
Ages 8+, begins Sept. 12, \$50/5 wks

Art After School - Tues./Thurs. 3:45-5pm  
Ages 6-11, begins Sept. 13, \$50/month, \$5 supply fee

Children's Creative Writing - Wed. 10-11am or 3:45-4:45pm  
Ages 8-12, begins Sept. 7, \$35/month

Taking the Stage -Thurs. 4:30-6pm  
Ages 8-18, begins Sept. 8, \$65/month (semester course)

Bricks 4 Kidz: Wheels in Motion (STEM) concepts Fri. 10:30am-12pm  
Ages 4-10, begins Sept. 9, \$40/5 wk

Tot Spot - Mon. 10-11:15am  
Ages 2-6, Every Third Monday Monthly,  
\$3/child for CAC members, \$5 non-members  
Dates: Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 21, Dec. 12 (Dec. moved due to the holidays)

Jane Boone  
Marketing Director

### **Important Dates to Remember**

Wed. Sept 7<sup>th</sup>

Fri. Sept 9<sup>th</sup>

Sat. Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>

Wed. Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>

Thurs. Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>

Fri. Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>

Sun. Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>

Mon. Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>

\*PTC Meeting 5:30

\*All School Mass 8:15 (Mass uniform)

\*Holy Trinity Basketball Skills Clinic

\*School Board Meeting 5:45 p.m. in the library

\*Spirit Day and popcorn day

\*All School Mass 8:15 a.m.

\*School Pictures

\*Progress Reports

\*Ticket sales for Taco Night begin

(Volunteers needed)

IOWA Testing begins