

St. Mary's Catholic School

1019 South 7th Street, Temple, Texas 76504
254-778-8141

*St Mary's,
Moving Forward and Renewing Our Commitment to
Quality Catholic Education*

Falcon's Pride

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

March 6, 2018

Issue 139

www.stmarys-temple.org

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to March. Just seems that the year is flying by. Lots of exciting activities and events still on the horizon, so please make sure you read your newsletter each week and ask questions if anything is unclear or missing.

Last Thursday the school Science Fair was held. What an amazing groups of projects this year. Mrs. Guleria and the judges were very impressed. Thank you to Mrs. Guleria, Dr. Menjivar and Ms. McPhie for all your hard work helping our students research and create their experiments.

Thank you to Middle School teachers for your support and help with the Science Fair. Thank you to parents for your support of your child's project. Thank you to all Middle School students for your hard work! Last but not least congratulations to the winners. Students in first and second place will advance to the Diocesan Science Fair on April 14th.

Physical Sciences:

- 1st Stephan Galvez
- 2nd Joshua Barkis
- 3rd Katie Jolly
- 4th Josie Ogunmuyiwa

Life Sciences:

- 1st Waverly Stewart
- 2nd Alondra Arredondo/ Kelvin Duffy
- 3rd Callista Kurek and Miguel Flores Hernandez
- 4th Veronica Basile

Earth Sciences:

- 1st Kailey Felcha**
- 2nd Bryce Eichelkraut**
- 3rd Isabella Kuriger**
- 4th Patrick Stonebrook**

Team Projects:

- 1st Nicholas Bennett and Thomas Bennett**
- 2nd Anna Fiala and Audrey Basile**
- 3rd Valerie Schwartz, Isabella Garza and Brisa Gonzalez-Fernandez**
- 4th Nathaniel Nieser and Bryan Raines**

Saturday we competed in PSIA in Seguin. Over 700 students attended from 6 schools in Austin and the surrounding area. I am very proud of all students who attended and represented our school honorably. Congratulations to those students who placed in their event. First and second place will advance to the State PSIA meet on May 5th at TCU in Fort Worth. Information will be sent home for those students by Friday of this week.

Thank you to all faculty, staff and parents who coached our students. This is a year-long commitment and takes a great amount of time. We are grateful to you.

Grade 1

Creative Writing

- ✓ Anvitha Dileep (1st place: advances to State)
- ✓ Landon Ortiz
- ✓ Mina Haynes (5th place)

Storytelling

- ✓ Landon Ortiz
- ✓ Scarlett Simcik

Grade 2

Creative Writing

- ✓ Sean Lukose (4th place)

Spelling

- ✓ Sean Lukose (6th place)
- ✓ Olivia Maldonado (tie for 1st place: advances to State)
- ✓ Henry Birkholz (tie for 1st place: advances to State)

Storytelling

- ✓ Nathan Cayce
- ✓ Anuki Pelawatta

Mathematics

- ✓ Nathan Cayce
- ✓ Anuki Pelawatta
- ✓ Sean Lukose

Grade 3

Mathematics

- ✓ Ben Fiala (5th place)

Music Memory

- ✓ Mariana Lienhart (6th place)
- ✓ Cielo Fernandez-Gonzalez

Spelling

- ✓ Mariana Lienhart
- ✓ Cielo Fernandez-Gonzalez

Grade 4

Art Memory

- ✓ Charlie Glass
- ✓ Kalli Cayce (2nd place: advances to State)

Listening Skills

- ✓ Madison Donohue
- ✓ Sarah Barkis (2nd place: advances to State)
- ✓ Abram Haynes (1st place: advances to State)

Maps, Graphs and Charts

- ✓ Noel Kurtin
- ✓ Abram Haynes (1st place: advances to State)

Mathematics

- ✓ Wesley Kuriger
- ✓ Sarah Barkis (6th place)

Number Sense

- ✓ Noel Kurtin
- ✓ Wesley Kuriger (4th place)

Poetry Interpretation

- ✓ Sarah Barkis

Ready Writing

- ✓ Madison Donohue
- ✓ Sarah Barkis

Spelling

- ✓ Noel Kurtin

Grade 5

Dictionary Skills

- ✓ Tori Lucksinger (2nd place: advances to State)
- ✓ Barrett Burdine (4th place)
- ✓ Jared Solis

Mathematics

- ✓ Leah Lukose
- ✓ Arianna Gonzales

Ready Writing

- ✓ Leah Lukose (4th place)

Spelling

- ✓ Tori Lucksinger
- ✓ Barrett Burdine
- ✓ Leah Lukose (2nd place: advances to State)

Grade 6-8

Art Memory

- ✓ Alondra Arredondo (2nd place: advances to State)

Calculator Applications

- ✓ Joshua Barkis
- ✓ Seth Orf
- ✓ Caleb Snider

Listening Skills

- ✓ Aidan Collins
- ✓ Folakemi Fregene
- ✓ Valerie Schwartz

Maps, Graphs and Charts

- ✓ Henri Summers
- ✓ Cooper Kurek
- ✓ Callista Kurek
- ✓ Nicholas Boor (5th place)
- ✓ Zach Boor (3rd place)
- ✓ Elias Deen (3rd place)
- ✓ Isabelle Kuriger (2nd place: advances to State)

Mathematics

- ✓ Nicholas Boor (5th place)
- ✓ Camila Reano (5th place)
- ✓ Sadie Castillo

Modern Oratory

- ✓ Sophia Howell-Dancer (2nd place: advances to State)

Number Sense

- ✓ John Ham (6th place)
- ✓ Zachary Boor (5th place)

On-Site Drawing

- ✓ Vanessa Pink
- ✓ Mia Pink (1st place: advances to State)
- ✓ Kalli Cayce
- ✓ Folakemi Fregene (5th place)

Poetry Interpretation

- ✓ Caty Hassell (6th place)

Impromptu Speaking

- ✓ Theresa Lindberg (5th place)
- ✓ Sophia Howell-Dancer (4th place)

On-Site Drawing

- ✓ Katie Jolly (3rd place)

✓ Aaron Martinez

✓ Kailey Flecha

Science 6th Grade

✓ Folakemi Fergene (6th place)

✓ Gillian Kurtin (4th place)

✓ Thomas Bennett (2nd place: advancing to State)

Science 7th Grade

✓ Bruce Reed (1st place: advancing to State)

✓ Dustin Rink (4th place)

✓ Stephan Galvez

Science 8th Grade

✓ Bryce Eichelkraut (5th place)

✓ Nicholas Bennett (4th place)

Spelling Grade 6

✓ Aidan Collins

✓ Folakemi Fergene

Spelling Grade 7

✓ Camila Reano (4th place)

✓ John Gonzales

Vocabulary Grade 7

✓ Camila Reano (4th place)

✓ John Gonzales

This Friday is the fourth of six Fish Frys sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and the KJT. Each Friday night through March 23rd, we will need seven students to help. This week, the following students have volunteered and should be at the Knights of Columbus Hall at 4:30 (2218 West Ave. D. Please keep in mind the construction going on around that area. You may need extra time to find your way ☺.)

Thank you to Anna Fiala, Caleb Snider, Alondra Arredondo, Camila Reano, Brisa Gonzalez-Fernandez, Savannah Shadburn and Katie Jolly.

Next week, March 16th the following students have volunteered. Thank you to Caty Hassell, Caleb Snider Brisa Gonzalez-Fernandez, Austin Morgan, Carolina Compean, Sophia Howell Dancer and Danica Bingham.

Thank you for all you do for the school.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Wyles

Accreditation and Next Year's Calendar

Our calendar for the 2018-2019 school year has been approved by the Diocese and is attached to this newsletter. Please note that there will be nine early dismissal days. Seven of those days will be designated as teacher work days to write our Self Study for Accreditation during the 2019-2020 school year. The bus will run early on these days as well Zone will be open. I am working on an agreement with Zone for those who just need them on the early dismissal days.

The self-study is undertaken by each school as part of the accreditation process. It begins 12 to 18 months prior to the accreditation visit. The demanding self-study process enables each school to measure existing qualities, to show compliance to standards, and to identify means and methods of continuous growth.

Accreditation is a rigorous process by which a private school is audited and must adhere to certain requirements on governance best practices, financial transparency, curriculum quality, student safety, and staffing. Texas Private School Accreditation Commission (TEPSAC). TEPSAC ensures quality in private schools through well-run monitoring organizations whose accrediting criteria are constantly evaluated and updated.

Accreditation standards are often more rigorous than public school standards in operations, curriculum, staffing, and instruction. These standards include: consideration of the school's goals and objectives; compliance with state and federal statutes; effective administration and governance; the teaching of a rigorous curriculum; hiring qualified instructional leaders with college degrees; student achievement; and quality of learning standards.

History of Catholic School Accreditation in Texas

Catholic schools were established across Texas during the 19th and early 20th centuries. Although Catholic education in Texas can be traced back prior to the 18th century, it was not until the 20th century that schools sought formal recognition through accreditation. Many of the Catholic schools that are still in operation received accreditation during the early years of the Texas Education Agency (TEA).

In 1956 Msgr. Edward Maher and Bishop T.K. Gorman of the Diocese of Dallas-Fort Worth led a unified action to have a blanket plan of accreditation for all Catholic schools in the seven existing dioceses. Msgr. Jack Meyers of the Dallas-Fort Worth Diocese collaborated with other Catholic school superintendents to negotiate with TEA for accreditation in 1962.

In 1965 the bishops of the then nine dioceses agreed on requirements to initiate the accreditation process within six years. The following year TEA visited the Diocese of Dallas, granting a five-year probationary status. When fully approved, accreditation of all of its schools would be retroactive to 1965. Full accreditation was approved by September 1971. Over the next several years, a small number of schools were visited and accredited.

Massive public educational reform supported by legislation in 1984 created mandates, parameters, and problems with accreditation for all private schools in Texas. The superintendents of the then 14 dioceses collaborated to formulate an accreditation process placed under the Texas Catholic Conference Education Department (TCCED) which was under the aegis of the bishops of the state.

Cooperative efforts characterized the history of Catholic accreditation from 1986–1989. As collaboration continued with the state via TEA, the Texas Association of Non-Public Schools (TANS) and a core group of private school associations, a single umbrella organization for private school accreditation came into being, Texas Private School Accreditation Commission (TEPSAC).

The Texas Catholic Conference Education Department, through its association with TEPSAC, is recognized by the Texas Education Agency, and is responsible for the implementation of the accreditation process for Texas Catholic schools.

Elementary Stations of the Cross

On March 23, elementary students will pray Stations of the Cross in the gymnasium while middle school students conduct Live Stations of the Cross in the church. As we walk with Jesus, recalling the suffering of his last few hours, we will be reminded of his call to love our neighbors. A modified version of Catholic Relief Service's Stations of the Cross will be used with student art work, and other pictures to accompany each station. CRS has great resources, including video Stations of Cross and videos showing families whose lives have been improved with the assistance of Catholic Relief Service's Rice Bowl program: <https://www.crsricebowl.org/>. Please consider donating as part of your Lenten journey.

2nd Grade Bake Sale

Homemade pretzels anyone? Elementary students are hosting a Lenten bake sale as our way to give during the Season of Lent. Students will make pretzels and other treats to sell following the Walking for Education on March 28. All items will be 50 cents and proceeds will be donated to Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl. Students have been learning about the needs and challenges of their brothers and sisters in other areas of the world and how CRS Rice Bowl assists families with the love of Jesus Christ, recognizing the dignity of all human life.

Pictures

We will have Pictures Thursday, March 8th, in the auditorium starting at 8 AM for these groups:

- Track
- Golf
- 8th Grade
- Club Pictures (Student Council, NJHS, God Squad, PSIA)
- Any teacher who has not had their picture taken

*PSIA bring your medals,

*8th grade bring or wear, a white button down shirt.

*God Squad bring your God Squad t-shirt.

If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Shadburn

lshadburn@stmarys-temple.org

Christian Service Hours Opportunity Grades 5-8

- ✓ If your child is in need of Christian Service Hours the parish office has daily work needing done. Please contact Becky Theisen if your child would like to help. (773-4541 or becky.theisen@stmarytempletx.org)

Walking for Education T-Shirt and Lunch Order

Please click on the link below to order a Walking for Education t-shirt and lunch for the day of the event. Please note that the cafeteria will be closed so if your child does not want the hamburger/hotdog meal, he/she will need to bring a sack lunch. Deadline to order is March 8th. Call the office if you have questions. <https://goo.gl/forms/pD4q1q5iDqVXRatI2>

Living Stations of the Cross

Living Stations of the Cross will take place on Friday, March 23rd. The Diocese of Austin directs that only Junior High (6th-8th grade) may attend this event. If you have a younger child and would like the child to attend you may take him or her.

Registration is now open for the 2018-2019 school year.

Simple Steps for Re-Enrollment for next year

1. **Pay the registration fee (\$375/each). If you have multiple children and need to make arrangements, please contact Ms. Morales (rmorales@stmarys-temple.org)**
 - ✓ **You may pay the building fee (\$200) in the office or it can be added to your tuition.**
2. **FACTS will automatically have your next years account already set up.**
 - What if I need to make changes?**
 - ✓ **Simply log into FACTS account**
 - ✓ **Change bank account if necessary**
 - ✓ **If you are adding another child, it will be done for you.**
 - What if I am applying for tuition assistance?**
 - ✓ **Simply log into FACTS account**
 - ✓ **Upload your 2017 Tax Return and W2's**
 - Anything else? You will be contacted if further information is needed.**
 - What is next?**
 - ✓ **Your tuition agreement in FACTS will be completed by the office**
 - ✓ **Reminder: FACTS will add their \$45 annual fee to your account**
 - ✓ **Important Note: You will receive an email from FACTS before Mrs. Morales is able to deduct fees you may have already paid. It takes up to 24 hrs. for FACTS to process on their end. As soon as that is complete, she will deduct any payments you may have already made. She will then email you once everything is completed.**

- ✓ If you are applying for tuition assistance, it will be determined by May and your tuition agreement will be completed once the amount is determined.

3. Reweb Re-Enrollment for 2018 - 2019 school is ready for you to digitally sign forms and update emergency contacts, address, phone numbers, etc.

How do I do this?

- ✓ Simply log into [Renweb](#)
- ✓ Click on Family Information
- ✓ Click on enrollment/reenrollment and follow the instructions.
- ✓ If you do not have a username/password, you can create one. The district code is SMAR-TX
- ✓ There are few authorizations we need, as well as emergency contact information.

Anything else? You will be contacted if any further information is needed.

Do I need to upload anything? We should have all necessary paperwork (birth certificate, etc.) on file. Therefore, there is no need to upload anything. We will contact you if further information is needed.

That's it! If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact us.

Tuition assistance will be available to those who qualify. Applications opened February 20th. Applications must be processed by March 30th. This includes supporting documents (W-4 and tax return from 2017). You must be current on all school financial commitments to receive tuition assistance for 2018-2019 school year. Those who receive tuition assistance will be required to help raise money during our tuition assistance fundraisers (\$100.00 for every \$1000.00 awarded).

Late tuition assistance applications will be considered only after the first tuition payment has been made for the 2018-2019 school year. However, please keep in mind that there is no guarantee that monies will be available at that time.

Important Dates to Remember

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Tues. March 6 th | *School Board 7:30 p.m. |
| Wed. March 8 th | *Spring Sports Pictures |
| | *Popcorn Day (not a Spirit Day) |
| Fri. March 9 th | *All School Mass 8:15 a.m. |
| | *Pi Day in Mrs. Reed's Math classes |
| | *Stations of the Cross 2:30 |
| | *Fish Fry at Knights of Columbus Hall 5:00-7:00 |
| | *3 rd Quarter ends |

Mon. March 12th-Fri. March 16th *Spring Break

Mon. March 19th *4th Quarter begins

Thurs. March 22nd
Fri. March 23rd

- *Awards Assembly and Principal for the Day
- *All School Mass and NJHS Induction Ceremony
- *Living Stations of the Cross
- *Final Fish Fry at the Knights of Columbus 5:00-7:00

Tues. March 27th

- *Chrism Mass 10:30 a.m.

Wed. March 28th

- *Walking for Education

Thurs. March 29th

- *Holy Thursday: Noon dismissal: Easter Break

Fri. March 30th

- *Good Friday

Sun. April 1st

- *Happy Easter

Tues. April 3rd

- *School reopens