



ST. MARY'S PARISH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
for week of October 14, 2019



*The Mission of St. Mary's School is:
To Grow Disciples of Christ*

Principal's
Message

Thank you all who attended the Jog a Thon. There were a lot of laps that were run from “babies in the womb” to babes in “strollers” and to “wise elders” among us. It was a great and fun event for all from Preschool + !!

Next week the lions will be let “free” from my office once we know who ran the most laps in each category. Once we get all the pledge sheets + money is collected, we’ll be able to distribute the other prizes.

We are grateful to Mayor Lambert for taking time to come and do laps around in the Dome. (*see the pic below with some of the runners.*) We are most grateful to the Vandal athletes who helped “check in” the runners. A special thank you to one of our alums who helped MC---Bryson Armstrong.



DATES to note:

This Week

Tuesday, October 15 Sarah Quilci, Superintendent of Catholic Schools, will be visiting us.
Wednesday, October 16 Mass Feast of St. Luke; Second Graders are the prayer leaders



see how well they have coded. It really is very cool to watch!!!

Recently, in the third-grade science lesson, the students focused on learning how to do coding by using ozobots (*think* mini robots). The students do the coding on the computers to program the ozobot to move in straight lines, turn, spin, and rotate. Once they have coded on the computer, they hold the ozobot up to the computer monitor and the coding on the computer transfers to the ozobot. They then turn the ozobot loose and



This past week, at morning assembly, students from first through 8th grade daily watched a short video of someone with a *disability*. Many of these disabilities dealt with physical disabilities. After they watched the video, they were asked a series of questions by Mrs. Beller to get them to reflect on the challenges the person(s) with the disability had as well as their gifts, and talents. She led them to reflect on what they had learned about *themselves* through the person(s) with the disability.

A good example of what happened with one of the videos is the following experience: the students had experienced a mother and child that had been born with no hands and the video showed *how* they dealt with their situation. They were able to eat, brush their teeth, write, etc. like anyone else. Later in the day, Mrs. Beller, visited some of the classes, and she challenged each student to write his/her name on a lined piece of paper using only their feet to hold the pencil and paper. You probably can imagine the comments she heard. "This is too hard!!" "I can't do it!!" "It's impossible".



She then stopped the students. She wanted them *to become aware* of what they were saying. As you can imagine, the comments were very negative. Students were asked the question: "*What does negative talk do to our brains?*" As she told the students: "*It's okay for things to be hard – most new things are difficult and hard to start – the more we practice and the more we are positive, the more we will grow.*"

She then asked the students about the individuals (mother and child) in the video about *their situation*? The students responded on how positive, upbeat, and happy the mother and child were. Mrs. Beller then encouraged the students to become "more positive" in their speech as they tried the exercise again. Amazingly, as the students redid the project of writing with their feet, one could start to pick out letters and names! And, their words were more positive.



Why have we spent the time of doing this "*disability week*"? The goal of this program was to see if we could assist the students to grow in their view of how people "who may be different" from them (in various ways, including physically) and that, in reality, they are the same as they in so many ways! Through videos, through discussions, through reflections and similar exercises in the classrooms as was done with students trying to use their feet to write. Our Mission says we are encouraging and leading the students "*to grow as Disciples of Christ*". Varied "experiences" (like videos) along with discussions, including reflections, similar exercises and prayer can be ways God assists a person to grow in discipleship and compassion.



Monday, October 14
 Tuesday, October 15
 Wednesday, October 16
 Thursday, October 17
 Friday, October 18

Hamburger Gravy over mashed potatoes + corn
 Cheesy Tater Tot Breakfast Bake
 Waffles + sausage + applesauce
 Taco salad + choice of toppings
 Corn dogs + baked beans + salad + ice cream



A big welcome to our newest family---**the Vasdekis Family**. Their daughter, Rena, recently entered our first grade. We are happy that they are with us at St. Mary's.



• FOR YOUR INFORMATION • **FLYER(s):**

1. **Booklet of Businesses** who supported the school at the Auction last year. There were 228 businesses who did this. Please consider supporting them. If you do, please tell them “thank you” for their support. We will be sending home a booklet next week with your child.
2. **Youth events** in Moscow Flyer
3. **Trunk or Treat** Flyer
4. **Musical Chairs** option by Nikki



Grades 6-7 and 8 have a GREAT project they want to do again for the Auction. Last year they created a gorgeous glass-cutting collage. They want to do it again. However, they need colored glass in all colors, more specifically various shades of brown, red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, and white. If

you have glass to donate or if you know of someone who may be able to donate colored glass, please let the school know. Thank you so much!

AUCTION will be here in January 2020. Part of preparing for this wonderful event is to contact businesses for a donation from their business. Last year we had 228 businesses who donated to our Auction. The Auction Committee needs the assistance of parents who would be willing to contact about 15 businesses. *Would you be willing to give a few hours in this venture? Amount of time? Three hours to four hours spread over the next month or two.* If so, please contact Sister Margaret at the school (208-882-2121) to let her know. Thank you so very much for your wonderful assistance! Many folks giving two or three hours over the next few months will make this task so easy to accomplish!

Buddy Families needed for four of our new families. Please let Sister Margaret know if you are willing to be a “buddy”. Thank you.



Conferences with your child's teacher(s): coming on **Thursday, October 31** and **Friday, November 1**. Sign for your conference time on Google docs. Debbie Johnson will send out the sign-up this week.

October 31 and November 1 are NO SCHOOL days; but there is **Childcare available** (7:00 a.m. till 5:30 p.m.). Please call the office at 208-882-2121 to sign your child up for childcare.

Mayor Lambert will be leading St. Mary's students on a "walk to school" from Family Center parking lot to St. Mary's School, departing at 7:45 a.m. Tuesday, Oct 22. Mayor will stay for assembly. There will hot chocolate, coffee and donuts to all the walkers!

Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 27 from 4 to 7...see flyer (attached) for more details.

Knights of Columbus Sausage Feed is coming on Sunday, November 3. Please plan on attending with your whole family.



A huge thank you to the following employees at Schweitzer Engineering Lab who have named St. Mary's School to receive a corporate gift. SEL has given to the school \$1500 in the name of these 15 employees. We are very grateful to Mr. Schweitzer and to each employee listed below. (* Indicates a parent presently in school. # Indicates a former parent or student.)

#Martha Bieker
#Krystal Conley
Brandon Cortner
#Christine Curet
*Riley Fitt

Brent Frei
#Armando Guzman
#Joe Plummer
*Jillann Poxleitner
#Lisa Poirier

Brian Richards
*Thomas Ristine
#Paul Salskov
#Lori Schnider
Royce Taylor



A YouTube film you might be interested in viewing: *Be still ...Little vine...Be still.*

A good resource for prayer and spirituality is: Father Ronald Rolheiser (also found on YouTube).



In the local area:

Oktoberfest on Sunday, October 20 In the Uniontown Community from noon till 4:00 p.m. for the benefit of Guardian Angel—St. Boniface School.

Sacred Heart Church (Pullman) on Saturday, October 26 there is an Auction & Lasagna Dinner for all. Go to www.sacredheartpullman.org to purchase dinner tickers and see auction items. There is free childcare from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.