

St. Mary's Parish School Newsletter
Week of September 27, 2021



Items to note this week:

Sunday, September 26: First session for **Sacrament of Reconciliation preparation** for parents and children at St. Mary's Parish Center. Call 208-882-4813 for more information.

Safe Environment Training see information in box below

Monday, September 27: **Hot lunch: Sloppy Joe's over buns + chips**
 Deadline to sign-up for childcare on Thursday + Friday

Tuesday, September 28: **Hot lunch: Corn dogs**
School Photos today (individuals)

Wednesday, September 29: **Hot lunch: Tacos**
 The school's **Garden Club** meets after school for Grades 3 through 8th. (3:00 to 3:45)
 RCIA meets at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center

Thursday, September 23: **NO SCHOOL**

Friday, September 24: **NO SCHOOL**

Sunday, September 26: Safe Environment Training for those who work with children (or are planning to work them as volunteers in the classrooms/school and/or driving students). Session will be 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. in Grade 2 in the school (lower floor by front door) Some forms will be sent ahead of time; other materials will be given at the session.

EMAIL OR CALL THE OFFICE TO LET US KNOW IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND.



NOTE: that **September 30 and October 1 classes will not be held** due to the Catholic Educators Conference being held virtually by the Diocese of Boise for all teachers (online). Moscow School District **is in** for these days. Their professional days are October 7/8---Moscow will be out; but St. Mary's will be IN session October 7 and 8th.

September 30 and October 1: **CHILDCARE is available at the school. Please call the school on/by Monday, September 27 to sign-up (208-882-2121) or let Ms. Lori Johnson know in the Extended Care Program.**

Some Questions That We've Been Asked:

- Q. I heard that some staff and students have come down with COVID. Is this true? Will protocols continue to be in place at the school?**
- A. Yes, all health protocols are in place. They will continue for the foreseeable future. The following have been found as sound practices to do in a school setting---we do all these daily:**

- Upon arriving at school, each person (students, staff) have their temperature taken at the kiosk in the lunch room
- Proper ventilation, we have been told is key. Windows and classroom doors are open for circulation of air. There are humidifiers, fans, purifiers in each room which keep also assist in proper ventilation
- Drinking faucets closed down; water coolers in each classroom with students have their own water bottles
- Distancing and masking when inside the building
- Eating from individually prepared lunches at their own desk
- Classrooms and inside areas are *fogged* to eradicate the germs in the building when students leave to play outside after eating
- Periodically wiping down tables, desks etc. with cleansing cloths
- Re-emphasizing good sanitation habits: bathroom procedures, washing hands and use of hand sanitizers throughout the day

Q. How many students/staff have contacted COVID since August 31?

A. Since school began, the number of **students with COVID** have been:

Early Childhood: PS and PK---6 cases
 Grade K---1 case
 Grade 1---0 cases
 Grade 2---0 cases
 Grade 3---0 cases
 Grade 4---1 case
 Grade 5 ---0 cases
 Grades 6-7-8 ---2 cases

The **number of students who have had to quarantine** due to a *family member with COVID*:

Early Childhood: PS and PK---0 students
 Grade K---1 student
 Grade 1---1 student
 Grade 2---0 students
 Grade 3---1 student
 Grade 4---1 student
 Grade 5 ---0 students
 Grades 6-7-8 ---0 students

The number of Staff with COVID = 0

Staff who had to quarantine due to a *family member with COVID* = 2

Q. You mentioned at the beginning of the school year, the school would periodically check the need of continuing guidelines, masking and other protocols. Has a decision been made to update/change? -

A. Given recent developments of COVID in our entire state and given the following two decisions: :

- 1) last night's decision by the Moscow School Board to extend the mask mandate for the remainder of the semester;

- 2) the decision this morning by the Diocese of Boise to have their Catholic Educators' Conference be totally virtual with ***no onsite attendance***
St. Mary's Parish School will continue following the health protocols that were established at the beginning of the school year.

Q. Any updated information about parents uniting to provide childcare on days when the school doesn't have them?

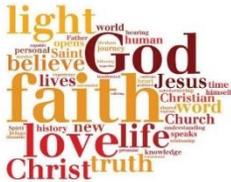
- A. The following is updated information from Karen Richel: Our little group of parents that need a little support with childcare when school is not in session found that share the following Zoom link with other parents to see if they are interested in having a discussion about childcare support options when school is not in session? **Topic:** Childcare Support **Meeting Time:** Oct 4, 2021 12:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada) **Join Zoom Meeting at:** <https://uidaho.zoom.us/j/87122302363> **Meeting ID:** 871 2230 2363 **Passcode:** 138295 You can reach Karen Richel at 208.883.2241 (direct line)

Q. We notice that Dr. Jennifer Beller, the former principal is building something on the school grounds. What is she doing?

- A. Those of you who know Dr. Beller know that she has the wonderful gift of crafting out of wood beautiful items. She has offered to build a shed for the school to house the snowblower, mower, etc. which has been kept in the school building. When she finishes with the shed all these items plus hoses, etc. will have a new "home". Thank you Dr. Beller!

Q. We are having trouble getting our uniform order with Schoolbelles. Whom should we contact at the school for assistance?

- A. Please call the school office to let them know your issues (208-882-2121).



Are you interested in knowing more about the Catholic faith? Or becoming a Catholic? Or do you know someone who would? Classes are on Wednesdays, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Each one is invited to **come, see and learn about Catholicism.**

Quote for Reflection: "The plain fact is that the planet does not need more successful people. But it does desperately need more peacemakers, healers, restorers, storytellers, and lovers of every kind."
 David Orr