

St. Mary's Parish School Newsletter
Week of October 18, 2021



KEY POINTS TO NOTE THIS WEEK



- #1 You will be receiving a “google sign-up sheet” from **your child’s teacher(s)**. This is for you to arrange the time that works for your family to meet with the teacher(s) for **conferences** on Thursday, November 4 and/or Friday, November 5. Be on the lookout for this.

There is **NO school on November 4 or 5**, but there will be childcare. Please sign-up for childcare on/by Friday, October 29: call the school office (208-882-2121) OR sign-up with Mrs. Johnson in Extended childcare.



- #2 **Plans for our yearly Jog-a-thon** have started. You should have received a pledge form on Friday. Here are some KEY points about the school’s Jog:

HOW Long does JOG last?

Four weeks to collect pledges. Jog is being held at the Kibbie Dome on Friday, November 12.

What is new this year?

- (1) Students will earn one ticket for *every pledge* they obtain. The students can “spend” their tickets for prizes in the “Jog Shop” every Friday during lunch.
- (2) For tickets to be handed out on Fridays, their **Pledge sheets must be turned in every Friday**. Their Pledge sheets will be returned at end of day so they can collect more pledges.
- (3) **Family owned businesses** please consider pledging all our students and get recognized on our sponsor banner!
- (4) **Starting this year, we have a team of two persons who will be organizing ALL the fundraisers: Natalie Johnson and Dianna Spellman. We are excited to have both women to be the leaders and coordinators for all our school fundraisers.**
- (5) If you have any questions about the Jog, please connect with Natalie Johnson and Dianna Spellman at the following email: fundraisers@stmarysmoscow.com or call the school and leave a message for them to call you bakck.

Pledge sheet and Prize sheet are attached for you.

Every year the local Knights of Columbus make sausage (patties, bulks and links) which is very delicious. They can't have their annual dinner due to COVID this year, but they are selling the sausage. Call Dale Freeman at 208-997-8417 to place your order: \$5.00 per lb. **DEADLINE to order is this Tuesday, October 19!**

Reminder from one of our parents: *Great War course* runs every Tuesday and Thursday (8:25-9:55 am PST) through December. You can join us on the zoom link, which can be found here, under the 'Vandal Catholic Intellect Courses' then on the 'via Zoom' last sentence of that first sub-heading. <https://vandalcatholic.com/intellect>

Items to note this week: *Italian Heritage Month*

Monday, October 18: **Hot lunch:** Cheesy Black Bean Homemade Burritos
Strategic Planning Committee meets at 6:30 p.m. at the school

Tuesday, October 19: **Hot lunch:** Spaghetti and Meatball bites

School will have its yearly inspection by the school's insurance company, Catholic Mutual

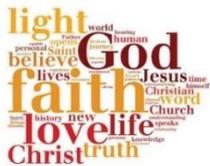
Dr. Sarah Quilici, Catholic Superintendent of Schools will be visiting the school in the afternoon.

Deadline to order Knights of Columbus sausage (it's really good!)

Wednesday, October 20: **Hot lunch:** Pretzel woven hot dogs

Latah County Board of Realtors Clothing Giveaway at Howard Hughes Parking lot from 10:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m

RCIA meets at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center



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.**

Thursday, October 21: **Hot lunch:** Orange Chicken with rice

Feast of St. Ursula, the patroness of the Ursuline Sisters.

Friday, October 22: Mass at 9:00 a.m. in St. Mary's Church; uniforms required.
Grade 2 are the prayer leaders.

Special Blessings and Happy Birthday to Scott Oliveria. our custodian!

Hot lunch: Tuna or Chicken Sandwiches with chips

Some Questions That We've Been Asked:

Q. When my child is absent, whom should I contact?

A. It would be good to send a note (text or email) to your child's teacher AND to the school office. **NOTE: there is a new email address for students who will not be in school: attendance@stmarysmoscow.com With this email it goes directly to Jeannie Farmer who is the office assistant in charge of attendance. Thank you!**

Q. What is the last day students may wear shorts?

A. Last day to wear them will be October 29 (Parent Handbook states that as of November 1 shorts may no longer be worn until spring).

Q. I heard that St. Mary's Parish School is a member with IdahoStars (ICCP). What is the Idaho Child Care Program (ICCP)?

A. This program provides financial assistance to help parents who qualify pay for child care costs. The purpose of the program is to support families working toward or maintaining employment. Eligibility is based on household income and family size.

Q. Is it possible that my family is eligible for such assistance?

A. At St. Mary's, you may qualify for ICCP assistance if you need child care for a child (or children) ages 3 and 4 (State of Idaho does **not** recognize schools that have a PS or PK classes.) Therefore, our PS and PK families may qualify for ICCP assistance that would cover the students in these grades.

Students at St. Mary's ages 5 through 12 may qualify for ICCP assistance IF they are enrolled in our Extended Care Program (after school and in-service days!).

Q. Who should I contact for more information about ICCP for my family?

A. Find out how to apply OR if you need more information, call Kathy Burton at our Business Office 208-882-2121.

Q. Is it true that the school is receiving COVID funds from the State to help finance the parents in the education of their child(ren).

A. No, this is not true. Parents *are being paid directly from the US Government* for support for their children (Child tax credit advance).

Q. What about the Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EAN) funds the school has applied for from the government? For what are these funds being used?

A. The reimbursement for COVID related expenses (Chromebook/technology, all sanitation, fans, purifiers, for the classrooms, partitions etc. all of which the school paid for so it could be opened safely and health wise during the pandemic. The school's expenses ran into thousands of dollars, expenses that were *not built* into the budget. Fortunately, EAN funds will cover our COVID expenses last year and this so we do **not have to pass on the expenses to the school families.**

Q. Will there be Halloween parties for the students this year?

A. Yes, there will be. There will be a Halloween Parade of costumes too. Parents are welcome to come to the parade (since it will be in the gym). However, parties in the classroom will be limited to the teacher and students only due to the restrictions for number in a space. More information will be in the next week's Newsletter.

Do you own a business?

If you own a business **or** if a parish family owns a business **or** an alum of St. Mary's Parish School who owns a small business **or** a sponsor who has consistently supported the school, then the businesses are eligible to have their businesses placed on the school's website. Please complete this short form to be added to our referral list on our website. We want to encourage the ***support of our community businesses, especially those owned by the parents.***



This Giveaway is coming this Wednesday, October 20. It is being sponsored by the Latah County Board of Realtors. If you have any questions, please call Ellie at 208-790-4460.

Reflection:

"Blessed is the one who makes the Lord the focus of trust and who does not turn to idolatry". Ps. 40:5 Do you idolatry anything?

"We can mistakenly believe that we are not prone to creating idols; we don't worship golden statues or create temples to false gods. I content that we are far from off the hook. In fact, I bet you have one of your idols right nearby on the table, in your pocket or in your purse. It makes one sound, and we respond immediately. We stare at it intently and often. It's the last thing we look at before we go to bed and the first thing we look at in the morning. It wakes us up, keeps our calendar and manages all our communication. We often pay more time and attention to it than we do our spouses, children, friends or Bibles. Our cell phone---technology created to help us manage our lives---more often than not, manages us. Let's challenge ourselves to intentionally shift our focus away from screens and back to God." Kristin Armstrong.