

St. Mary's Parish School Newsletter
Week of October 25, 2021



Items to note this week: *Celebration of Filipinos, Italians, Germans, Polish American Heritage Month*

Monday, October 25: **Hot lunch:** Tacos

Picture make up/retake day....

Tuesday, October 26: **Hot lunch:** Mac n Cheese

Wednesday, October 27: **Hot lunch:** Crème Brule and Sausage

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

Thursday, October 28: **Hot lunch:** Chicken gravy over biscuits

Last day for shorts to be worn in 2021.

Friday, October 29: Mass at 9:00 a.m. in St. Mary's Church; uniforms required.
Fr. Chase is our celebrant and Grades 6-8 are the prayer leaders.

Hot lunch: Pasta with hamburger

Halloween Parade starts at 1:00 p.m. in the school gym; parties follow in the classrooms. (See below for more information.)

Monday, November 1: **is the Feast of All Saints. There will be Mass today (Monday) and not on Friday, due to conferences. Therefore, today, Monday Nov.1, all students need to wear their uniforms. Mass is at 9:00 a.m. in the Church.**

Some Questions That We've Been Asked:

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

A. Yes, there will be on **Friday, October 29**. There will be a Halloween Parade of costumes too in the gym starting at 1:00 p.m. Parents are welcome to come to the parade (reminder masks are required). However, parties in the classroom will be limited to the teacher and students due to the restrictions for number in a space.

Students are to wear their uniforms on Friday morning. ***If students are planning to wear a costume, they can put their costumes on after lunch. IF they are not wearing a costume, they are to continue wearing their uniform.***

Q. We have heard about two tests for COVID: antigen and Binax. Are these legitimate?

A. Yes, to both. Antigen tests are available at Walgreens (takes 15 minutes). And Binax is a home Covid test. You test yourself via nasal swab twice 36 hours apart and it gives immediate results.

Q. **Our child has been talking about a program they are being taught in school by Mrs. Izzo. It's called Friendly. I've never heard of this before this year. Is this new?**

A. Yes, it is. Here is more information from Mrs. Izzo about this great program.



Friendly Time with Mrs. Izzo

This year we have launched a social-emotional character development program called Friendly. This program teaches life skills to our students with the emphasis on building strong, healthy friendships. Social-emotional learning (SEL) is critical to our students' success in school and life. SEL is the process through which people learn to recognize and manage emotions, care about others, make good decisions, behave ethically and responsibly, develop positive relationships, and avoid negative behaviors.

In our first unit we focused on the idea that **WE NEED EACH OTHER** as a class and as a school. We learned how important friendship is and how to build others up. Our key verses were:

Genesis 2:18 "The Lord God said, It is not good for the man to be alone."

1Thessalonians 5:11 "Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up!"

This week we started our second unit, **LOVE AT ALL TIMES**. God's word instructs us to love all the time - not just sometimes. It's easy to love the loveable, but it can be tough to love someone who is unkind, cranky, or rude. Friendly will challenge and equip your child to show compassion and kindness ALL the time, even when it's hard. Our key verses are:

Proverbs 17:17 "A friend loves at all times."

1John 3:18 "Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truths by our actions."

When students struggle to love at all times, we are encouraging them to **H.A.L.T.** and ask themselves the following: Am I **Hungry, Angry, Lonely, or Tired?** **H.A.L.T.** reveals what may be going on below the surface. This practice of self-awareness helps to identify if a problem exists, then move on to ask the next question: What do I need to feel better so I can show love?

To expand on what your student is learning in the classroom, consider sharing your personal learning experiences. An excellent place for this conversation is over a meal around the dinner table. Share a time when someone showed you kindness and love when you were **Hungry, Angry, Lonely, or Tired**. Or share a time when you were able to love someone when they were not very loveable because they were **Hungry, Angry, Lonely, or Tired**. Students love hearing personal stories!

Mrs. Izzo is teaching Friendly in each of the grades.

=====



You should have received "google sign-up sheet". 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 Here are some KEY points about the school's Jog:

HOW Long does JOG last? Jog is being held at the Kibbie Dome on **Friday, November 12.**

New this year?

- (1) *Starting this year with the Jog, 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. 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 back.*
- (2) **Thank you to those family owned businesses** who have pledged to sponsor the Jog-a-thon. Also, **thank you** to an "anonymous donor" who has pledged each student \$.25 per lap!

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 the form (*attached*) 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.**

One of our parents, Emilie McLarnan, wanted to share information **on digital safety resources for parents.** Thank you, Emilie! Attached is what she shared. Also **attached is a booklet** that is given to participants in Diocesan training at Safety Environment Workshops. This part of the workshop includes 15 pages of updated information regarding social media.

Reflection:

A Parent's Prayer: Loving God, you are the giver of all we possess, the source of all of our blessings. We thank and praise you. Thank you for the gift of our children. Help us to set boundaries for them, and yet encourage each them to explore. Give us the strength and courage to treat day as a fresh start. May our children come to know you, the one true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. May your Holy Spirit help them to grow in faith, hope, and love, so they may know peace, truth, and goodness. May their ears hear your voice. May their eyes see your presence in all things. May their lips proclaim your word. May their hearts be your dwelling place. May their hands do works of charity. May their feet walk in the way of Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord. Amen.