

St. Mary's Parish School Newsletter
Week of January 10, 2022



Items to note:



Thank you to **Matt Johnson** for taking care of some the snow pile-up at school---we truly appreciate his help as well as some of our students who have assisted with the mounds of snow/ice!



Your prayers are requested for fullness of healing for:

- ❖ one of our parents who underwent by-pass surgery this past week. He is doing well!
- ❖ One of the parents wrote to request prayers for healing for her aunt who has stage 4 breast cancer
- ❖ Sister-in-law of Dr. Jennifer Beller who has multiple myeloma.

what's happening this week

*Please note: due to the no school last week, we have made **TWO changes this week** to the publicized menu: **Tuesday**: will be **waffles/bacon** and **Wednesday** will **hot dogs/chips**.*

Monday, Jan. 10:	Lunch:	Tacos with meat, cheese and lettuce
Tuesday, Jan. 11:	Lunch:	Waffles + bacon (NOTE this is a change to the printed schedule) School Board meeting at 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 12:	Lunch:	Hot dogs + Chips (NOTE this is a change to the printed schedule)
Thursday, Jan. 13	Lunch:	Cream of chicken with mashed potat oes
Friday, Jan. 14		Mass at 9:00 a.m. Grade 1 are the prayer leaders UNIFORMS <u>are required</u> today
	Lunch:	Buttered noodles with ham

Some Questions That We've Been Asked:

Q. What way(s) will be notified of school closures?

- A. There are several ways that one will hear news of school closures:
- Emails to all parents/staff
 - St. Mary's FACEBOOK page
 - Radio (KRPL)
 - TV stations (KHQ/KREM/etc.
 - If need be, please call Sister Margaret at 208-301-0293

Reminder: if Moscow School District is closed due to the weather, so is St. Mary's Parish School....

Q. Are School Board meetings "closed" sessions?

- A. No, they are not closed. Meetings are on the second Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. IF we can meet at school, we do. If not, we meet by ZOOM. If you want to attend or if there are things you would like the Board to discuss, etc. you can email Chair: Kevin Kirchner at kevinbkirchner@gmail.com We will be sending the Minutes of the School Board meeting once they are approved by the Board members. You will receive December's Minutes next week. Attached are the Board's November Minutes.

Q. Is the school open to having volunteers (i.e. parents) in the classrooms yet?

- A. Yes, we are under certain circumstances:
1. contact the teacher(s) with whom you would like to volunteer to see the need(s) s/he may have that you would be able to assist with as well as day(s)/time(s) for volunteering.
 2. All volunteers must go through Safety Environment training. This is required by the Diocese of Boise. Sister Margaret is one of the certified trainers by the diocese. She is happy to set-up training sessions (lasts about two hours) for anyone who wants to be a volunteer (or drive students). Please contact her at the school (208-882-2121) or via email: sisterm@stmarysmoscow.com

Future Event

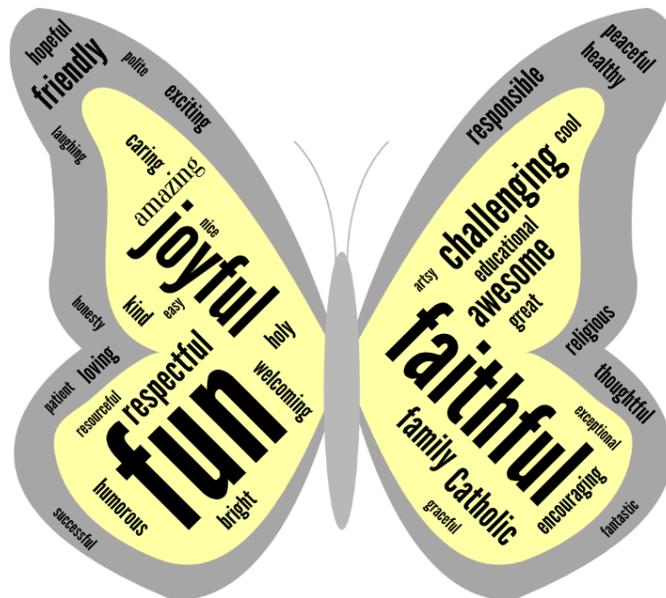
The school has been working these past two+ years on discussing and writing a document for the Accreditation of our school. Since the 1970's St. Mary's has been accredited.

Our school will be visited this coming February 2-4 by a Team of six persons (Superintendents, teachers, principals) from Spokane, Boise, Grangeville and Montana. By the time they visit us, they will have read our Self-Study document and all accompanying documents the school has provided as "evidence" what we have been doing since our last Accreditation (2015) and the key areas which we see that we need to do moving forward in the next six years. The document we used was from the accrediting agency for Catholic Schools: Western Catholic of Association Schools (WCEA)

for our Self-Study was called “*The National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools*” (NSBECS). This document had “four domains” on which strong, effective, Catholic schools are built. These Four Domains are:

1. **Mission and Catholic Identity**
2. **Governance and Leadership**
3. **Academic Excellence**
4. **Operational Vitality:** this area focuses on the schools: finances, human resources/personnel, facilities, and institutional advancement.

When the Visiting Team is here, they will be visiting classrooms, investigate the written evidence of responses to the WCEA criteria, holding interviews with the members of the school community, and preparing a written report on its findings. The Visiting Team also writes a recommendation for the Accreditation Status of our school based upon factors relative to the school community’s successes and growth needs. This Action Plan will serve as the guide for St. Mary’s School as it moves forward the next six years.



(Reminder: this butterfly is filled with the words the student from Grades 3 through 8 used to describe their school experience at St. Mary’s. Size of words show how often that word was repeated by students.)