

Board of Education Meeting
The board will meet on Thursday, Oct. 8, at 6:00 in the All Purpose Room. Board members are reminded to bring the long range planning materials to this meeting.

Great Job!
Thank you for clipping all those Box Tops for Education. We collected 2,599 in the month of September. That translates to \$259.90 for our school. Keep up the good work!

Gambino's Louisiana Restaurant has become a Partner in Education for St. Mary's School. Families will periodically receive cards to present at the restaurant. The school will receive a portion of all sales associated with the cards. These donations will help fund our Art Program as well as other enhancements to our curriculum. The first cards are coming home in backpacks today. Enjoy!



ST. MARY SCHOOL

FAMILY NOTES

October 5, 2009



Living Rosary
Students in Grades 2-6 will present the Living Rosary on Thursday, Oct. 15, at 2:00 in the church. Grades K & 1 will attend. Please join us for this beautiful way to offer prayers to our school's patron saint.



FIRST PENANCE
Parents of second grade children are reminded that a mandatory meeting will be held on Thursday, October 22, concerning preparation for their children's First Penance. The meeting will be held in the All Purpose Room at 7:00.



Tuesday, Oct. 13
Proceeds go to
Relay For Life

Children's Masses
Tues., Oct. 6, at 10:30 a.m., Grade 4 will celebrate Mass with the residents at Hickory Estates.
Thurs., Oct. 8, at 9:00 a.m., Grade 1 will lead the School Mass.

Join us!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
We need a **lunchroom** person for Mondays from 11:20 to 1:00.

We also need help in the **Primary Library** on Thursdays from 12:30-2:00.

Volunteer one day a week or one day a month.

Please call if you can help.

No Bus Service Friday
We are in school ALL day Friday, Oct. 9. Public schools are not in session at all.

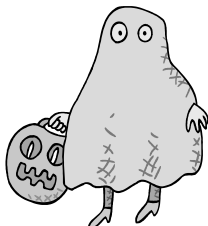
NO SCHOOL
Monday, October 13, in honor of Columbus Day.

DECATUR HERALD AND REVIEW MEGA-BUCKS PROGRAM
Please clip and save the "Mega Moolah" coupons that appear daily in the Decatur Herald and Review. Send them to the school office and we will use the coupons to bid on items to auction at Spring Fling.

HALLOWEEN COSTUMES

When selecting a costume for your child for the St. Mary School Halloween Parade, please remember that we want to emphasize a violence-free Halloween theme. No weapons or “weapon-look-alikes” will be permitted.

Please avoid the look of violence, gore, macabre, etc. We appreciate your cooperation. The categories for costume judging in our parade are: Religious, Funniest, Most Original, Ugliest, Prettiest, and Group.



HALLOWEEN SOCKS may be worn with uniforms from October 13 through October 30. Remember, the last day for shorts and skorts is Friday, October 30.

MISSION MASS

Students in Grade 5 will travel to Little Flower in Springfield to celebrate this year's Mission Mass on Wednesday, October 7. Lunch will be provided. Students are to be in uniform.

St. Mary's Night at Florinda's

On Wed., Oct. 7, from 5:30 to 9:00, the school receives 15% of sales, eat-in or carry-out. Just mention that your order is for St. Mary's, and we will receive the credit.

Deadline

All Kindergarten and 6th grade students must have an up-to-date physical on file in our office by next **Thurs., Oct. 15**. Students in those grades who do not have a new physical on file will not be admitted to school until the proper document is provided.

Kroger Cards

Kroger gift cards are in. They are preloaded with \$5. Use them at our local store by adding to the balance, then using the card at the check-out. The school gets a 3% cash rebate from the sales.



MISSION CARNIVAL

The month of October brings plans for our annual Mission Carnival to be held this year on Friday, October 30. Students have the opportunity to participate in a Halloween parade, and teachers and parents turn the gym into a Halloween funfest. All profits from these activities are given to the Holy Childhood Missions and the Columban Fathers Missions. We will need many volunteers and donated items for the day. A detailed letter from our Mission Committee will be forthcoming.

Tardies

Fewer students are coming in late for school, but tardies are still too numerous.

Children need to be in their classrooms at 8:20 a.m. when the bell rings.

Coming in late sets a tone for the day that isn't conducive to learning. It disrupts the other students. It stops the progress of the group when the teacher has to help a late student catch up. It is often difficult for the late child to settle into the routine of the day, and it reinforces a bad habit.

Because of the change in starting time, I have not enforced the school's tardy policy as outlined in the Parent/Student Handbook. However, I feel that I have given plenty of time for adjustments to be made.

According to the handbook, if a student is tardy more than three times in a quarter, a parent conference with me is required. I will send out letters today to all families with three or more tardies. If that family is tardy again during this first quarter of school, a conference will be scheduled.

**Thank you,
Mrs. Robertson**