



Faith. Academics. Service.

Catholic Schools Week 2012

Dear Families,

Each year, beginning the last Sunday in January, Catholic schools across the nation celebrate. We celebrate the mission Catholic parishes have undertaken since the 1800's to educate children both academically and spiritually. Locally, we celebrate our school, our students, our families and our staff during a week packed with special events and fun.

This year the National Catholic Education Association has proclaimed January 29 - February 3 as Catholic Schools Week. The theme for 2012 is "Catholic Schools: Faith. Academics. Service."

St. Mary's has traditionally asked families to participate in some way during Catholic Schools Week. In addition to being invited to Grandparents' Day (Feb. 2), open house, All School Sing, lunch and many other activities during, we also invite you to complete a short homework assignment. **Please write a short response to the following question:**

What do you value about your child's Catholic education?

The question is intended for parents and guardians. It is very general so as not to limit your ideas. In other words, there are no wrong answers.

You may email your response to me at crobertson.stmaryschool@gmail.com or write it out and send it via backpack mail. We will print them and display them for Open House on Sunday, Jan. 29. I hope all of you are able to respond.

Your child is also bringing home a Catholic Schools Week assignment. Each child has been given a grocery bag to decorate with a St. Mary's theme. The artwork can be completed with any media. Children may decorate one or both sides of the bag. It must say "Catholic Schools Week 2012" and "St. Mary's School." The rest of the design is up to your child. You may decide whether to include your child's first name. Feel free to help younger students with lettering. The bag should be returned to school by Wednesday, Jan. 25. I will return them to Taylorville Food Center. The store will begin using them on Sunday, Jan. 29.

A full schedule of events will accompany next week's newsletter. Thank you in advance for your participation, and I hope to see all of you during Catholic Schools Week.

Cathy Robertson