



# ST. MARY SCHOOL

## Family Notes

April 9, 2018

### BOARD OF EDUCATION

There will be 4 openings on the Board of Education for 2018-2019, and 3 people have already expressed interest. Is that 4th seat yours??? These are 3-year terms. The remaining seat is for someone who is a member of one of our parishes. The Board is an advisory group that assists in school related matters for St. Mary's Parish. The board meets once a month from August - May. Board members also help with New Family Orientation, Catholic Schools Week Open House, & a spring reception for our classroom sponsors. If you're interested in helping us plan for the future, contact Mrs. Robertson.

Spring Fling tickets are going fast! Let us know if you need another one for friends or family.

If you'd like to donate to the Wall of Wine, we could use some dry reds or dry whites. We have lots & lots of sweet and semi sweet!



### Illinois requires the following for school registration:

Kindergarten: a physical exam, dental exam and eye exam by September.

Second Grade: a dental exam by September.

Sixth Grade: a physical exam and dental exam by September.

Your doctors will have the exam forms. Vaccinations must be up to date.

All families enrolling a student new to St. Mary School must provide a certified birth certificate for that child. This is the one that comes from the Records Clerk in the county where your child was born. We will photocopy it and return your original. \*\*If your child was baptized Catholic anywhere other than St. Mary's, we'll need to make a copy of their baptismal certificate. \*\*

### FIRST COMMUNION

St. Mary's First Holy Communion is Sun., May 6, at 2:00. Individual pictures begin at 1:00. The group photo will be taken at 1:40. Rehearsal will be Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m. Please keep these students in your prayers as they receive this Sacrament for the first time.



Return baby bottles with change collected for Loving Arms Crisis Pregnancy Center by April 13. Thanks for all your generosity!



**Children's Masses**  
**Tuesday, April 10—Gr. 6 travels to Taylorville Estates for 10:30 Mass.**  
**Thursday, April 12—Gr. 3 leads Mass at 9:00.**  
**Please join us!**

### Terrific Tuesdays!

Each spring our 6th graders host five fun events that help raise money for their class trip to St. Louis. This year's events are:

- April 10—Silly Sock Day
- April 17—Geography Shirts
- April 24—Crazy Hat Day
- May 1—Team Shirt Day
- May 8—Raffle (4 chances)

**Tomorrow: Ditch the boring uniform socks for any pair of your choosing!**

### Next Week:

#### Geography Shirt Day

In place of the uniform shirt, wear one that names a location anywhere in the world.

Sports jerseys, vacation t-shirts or button-ups are ok as long as they name a place, town, city, state, or country.

**No tanks or sleeveless shirts. Students must wear uniform bottoms.**

Each event costs \$1 per child. Parents may send \$5 to cover all the activities or pay for only the events your child selects. More info as each event draws closer!

## Coming Events

- \*Silly Sock Day—April 10
- \*4th Gr. Swim Lessons—April 10 at YMCA
- \*Board of Ed. Meeting—April 12—Library 6:00
- \*Geography Shirt Day—April 17
- \*4th Gr. Swim Lessons—April 17 at YMCA
- \*Midterms go home for Gr. 3-6—Apr. 18
- \*Spring Fling—April 21
- \*Crazy Hat Day—April 24
- \*4th Gr. Swim Lessons—April 24 at YMCA
- \*Music Festival—Gr. 4-6—April 27
- \*All School Sing—April 29—11:00 Mass
- \*4th Gr. Swim Lessons—May 1 at YMCA
- \*1st Communion—May 6, 2:00 Mass
- \*6th Grade Retreat—May 7
- \*Muffins for Moms—May 10 in caf. before school
- \*Mothers' Day Mass—May 10, 9:00
- \*Last Day of Preschool—May 11
- \*Awards Assembly—May 15, 1:30 in church
- \*6th Gr. Pizza Party w/ Teachers—May 15, 4:00 (Parents invited at 5:00 to watch time capsule video)
- \*6th Gr. Class trip to St. Louis—May 18
- \*Field Day—Monday, May 21
- \*Last Day—Tues, May 22, 11:30 dismissal
- \*6th Gr. Graduation Mass—May 23 -7:00 p.m

## Tuition Assistance for Catholic Families

Information for Catholic Assistance Program for Education (CAPE) for 2018/19 is available from me. Application can be made on-line at [www.smartaidforparents.com](http://www.smartaidforparents.com). The deadline for submitting is April 20.

*Families requesting CAPE funds should have applied to Empower Illinois first to attempt to secure scholarship funding through the Invest in Kids Act.*

Smart will generate a report that includes estimates of what families can contribute toward tuition. With the information in this report, Monsignor Lantz and I will stretch the available funds as far as possible.

No one will be considered for tuition assistance without first submitting the application to Smart Tuition Aid.

Smart rates the applications based on the completeness of information and documentation provided. In apportioning CAPE funds, Mass attendance, the rating of the application, and whether the deadline was met will all weigh in the decision. Tuition assistance will be divided to help as many **practicing Catholic families whose children are up to date on their sacraments** as possible.

To keep the CAPE fund solvent, a yellow envelope is included in the monthly parish envelope packet for all three of our churches. Parishioners have responded generously and used the envelopes to make donations, large and small, to CAPE.

## RE-REGISTRATION MATERIALS

will go out next week. Look for a big manila envelope. Please return re-enrollment materials in that envelope. We will keep the envelope to send you materials at the beginning of next year. Each re-enrolling family will be asked to complete the following forms:

- 1) Re-registration form
- 2) Tuition Form indicating the payment plan the family has chosen
- 3) Parent Contract

All re-enrolling families must include a \$50 registration fee made payable to St. Mary School. This fee is nonrefundable and is separate from tuition.

**Completed forms are due by May 1.** After that date the registration fee is \$100 for re-enrolling families.

No formal registration day will be held. Supply lists will be sent home to registered families in May. Textbooks & supplies will be ordered and teachers will be hired for next year based on the number of students enrolled as of May 1.

## Preschool Registration

We have 4 spots left in 3YO afternoon class and 7 openings in 4YO for 2018-19. Spread the good word. Forms are in the school office.

## Positions for next year:

\* Full time classroom teachers: must be state licensed.

\* Part-time preschool aide: 10-12 hrs per week. Can be a paid position or can apply toward tuition.

\* Recess supervisor: Every school day from 11:45 to 1:00. Can be a paid position or can apply toward tuition.

Empower Illinois is still accepting applications. You can begin the process at [empowerillinois.org](http://empowerillinois.org). If you plan to apply for CAPE funds for tuition assistance from St. Mary's, you must first apply to Empower Illinois. Any funding we receive through the state enables us to help more families with our own CAPE funds.

Empower Illinois should notify families directly regarding any awards received. I get an update each Monday. Still waiting for some good news!