

SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT NEWS



St. Mary Catholic High School
— Est. 1928 —

IMPORTANT DATES

DATE December 2, 2016

Upcoming College Visits

Dec 2 – St. Mary's, Winona, MN
Dec 7 – Paul Mitchell School

Now through December 21

Freshmen Conferences

December 10

FVTC Discovery Day

December 15

UW Fox Campus Preview

January 14

ZAPS at NHS

March 18

ZAPS at SMC

Grades 9-12

Potential New Courses for 2nd Semester

Please see Mrs. Castagna to find out if they will fit into your schedule.

- **Drama** – This course provides the opportunity to explore the art of theatre through performance, script/character analysis, design, costuming and makeup, the technical arts, and musical theatre. Students will examine the process of putting a play or musical together from casting through strike. Learning will be assessed through performance, writing, presentations, and other projects. There will be a final display at the end of the semester for students to present their work. Additional Requirement: Fine Arts fee of \$75.00.
- **Music Theory (NEW)** – Do you want to know how music works and why it does? Then music theory is your class. You will learn the behind the scenes make-up of music and be able to understand why and how it works. This includes everything from note and rhythm reading, intervals, chords, inversions, form, style, composition, and more. By the end of this course students will be ready and able to succeed in any music program at any college or university.
- **Pop Music Through the Decades** – This class takes a close look at the music from 1880 to the present in decade-long segments. Students will research and present different aspects of music throughout each decade by themselves and in groups. Upon completion, students will have an in-depth knowledge of what caused and influenced pop music along with the changes pop music experienced throughout the past century.

Grade 11

Badger State

Badger Boys & Girls State are week long summer programs that help students become better informed citizens on how state government functions. Participants are divided into two political parties and “learn by doing” as they run for office and function on city, county and state levels. SMC selects at least one male and one female candidate each year. Students apply through their Social Studies classes. For more information visit: www.badgergirlsstate.org and www.badgerboysstate.org

Junior Conferences

Conferences will start after the holidays. Watch for an email invitation from Sign Up Genius to schedule an appointment that is convenient for you and your child.

PSAT Scores

PSAT results are expected in early January and scores will be reviewed during Junior Conferences.

ACT/SAT



Students register online for both tests. Our **school code is 501280**.

ACT: <http://www.act.org/>

SAT: <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat>

ACT Preparation Resources

- **Mrs. Peterson** will be holding free math prep sessions over the lunch hour. Contact her for details.
- **ACT Test Prep Seminar at Xavier HS:** <http://acttestprepxavier.com/>
- **ZAPS at NHS and SMC:** <https://store.zaps.com/seminars/>
- **Free practice booklets** are available in the School Counseling Office.
- Find **free help** at: <https://quizlet.com/subject/ACT-test-prep/>
- **ACT Practice tests** can be found at:
http://www.wisconsinprivatecolleges.org/sites/default/files/public/downloads/free_act-sat_prep_sites.pdf
- **UW Oshkosh ACT Prep Course Jan 7-Feb 11** <http://oce.uwosh.edu/personal-and-professional-development-programs/youth-programs/act-test-prep-course/>

Grades 11 & 12

New Course for 2nd Semester

CAPP Speech is being offered 2nd semester. The cost for the class is \$270. You will earn 0.5 credits on your SMC transcript and 3 credits on a UW-Oshkosh transcript. If interested, please see Mr. DuVernay about course content and Mrs. Castagna to determine if the class might fit into your second semester schedule.

For further details on the CAPP program, please visit: <https://www.uwosh.edu/capp/>

Grade 12

College Applications

Priority deadlines are fast approaching for most colleges. If you haven't submitted your applications yet and need help, please see Mrs. Castagna.

FAFSA

Remember to file at <https://fafsa.gov/> or get free help at a College Goal WI event: www.collegegoalwi.org

Scholarships

- **Zephyr Scholarships (formerly called "Local Scholarships")** Several generous donors have contributed money toward scholarships for SMC graduating seniors. By completing a single application, students are considered for several different scholarships ranging from \$200 - \$2,000. We highly encourage all seniors to take advantage of this opportunity. Applications will be sent directly to seniors in the next few weeks.
- **Other scholarships** that come through the Counseling Office are emailed directly to seniors. For a list of scholarships please visit: <http://smcatholicschools.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Scholarship-List-for-Seniors.pdf>