

# ST. MARY CATHOLIC MIDDLE SCHOOL WEEKLY UPDATE

DATE September 4, 2019



St. Mary Catholic Middle School  
Grades 6-8

## IMPORTANT DATES



SMCS EMAIL NEWSLETTER



SMCS CALENDAR PAGE

### September

- 6 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat 8:00AM-3:15PM
- 9 MAP testing begins
- 11 SMCMS Liturgy in FAC 10:39AM
- 14 Connect 5
- 16 DC parent meeting 7:30 PM
- 18 SMCMS Liturgy in FAC 10:39AM
- 20 SMCMS Social 3:15-5:00 PM
- 21 MMITM in FAEC 6:00 PM
- 24 Picture re-take day
- 25 SMCMS Liturgy in FAC 10:39AM
- 26 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Visit Day to SMCHS
- 30 No School- Staff Development

### **MAP Testing**

Map testing will begin on Sept. 9. Please make sure your child(ren) get plenty of rest and eat a good breakfast the day they are testing.



### **MMITM**

Join us on Saturday, September 21, from 6:00-10:00 p.m. in the St. Mary Catholic High School-Commons & FAEC Lobby. The theme this year is Rocking back to the 80's. Great food and music will be provided. [Tickets](#) are available for \$40/apiece which includes drinks and food for the evening.

We want to see all of our families at this event! This night is about middle school parents having a chance to meet one another. Please contact the school office to volunteer at this event and receive parent involvement hours. Please see the envelope coming home today with your student on more information.

### **Power School Log in Information**

Students will be bringing an envelope home today with information on how to set up our account for power school. If you have not done it yet, please take time to do this. You will be able to not only check attendance and grades, but also your child's food service balance.

### **Social**

Our first social is right around the corner. Mark your calendars for Friday September 20<sup>th</sup>. 3:15-5:00. Please watch for an email early next week with all the details and directions on how to sign up for this event.

### **Math Team**

Welcome to another fun and exciting year of math team. Math team will be meeting every Tuesday morning starting September 10 at 7:00 AM in Room 107B – Mrs. Bonertz room in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Pod until 7:35. To be in math team students can be in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> grade and just enjoy doing math. Students will be offered a variety of activities some of which could be practicing for math competitions. This year there will be three adults – Mr. Kerwin, Mr. Leonardi, and Mrs. Bonertz plus a variety of high school students working with the math team. There is no sign up and students don't have to come every week. Please just come when you are able.

### **SCRIP**

Please remember to update your information for special instructions for pick-up. This process insures we have in writing what the parent directs.



### **Note from Food Service**

Welcome back Middle School Students and Parents.

I wanted to share some exciting new changes to the Middle School food service. First, we have added waters, juices, and naked juices as ala carte items, that will be available for purchase. The prices are, Water- \$1.00, Tropicana Juices- \$1.25, and Naked Juices- \$2.00. These items will be available as students go through the lunch line. Parents if you do not want your child to purchase these items please discuss it with them ahead of time. These drinks are not part of the school lunch. Anyone wishing to purchase a beverage or a super must have money in their account or the purchase will not be accepted. Parents, you can check your students account or receive low balance and negative balance alerts, but you must sign up through PowerSchool. We have also made some changes to the entrees of the program. A fruit bowl will be offered as an entrée each day. This is made up of 3 types of fresh fruit, 4 ounces of yogurt and a string cheese. The chef salads will be offered every other week with a specialty salad offered the other weeks. These salads are grilled chicken salad, crispy chicken salad, and spicy chicken salad. The salad bar will also have a new look to it this year. If you haven't purchased hot lunch in the past I hope you stop down a check out the new changes and additions. I'm looking forward to a great year

Diane Agrell, SNS

St Mary Catholic Schools

Food Service Director

### **New Staff**

We welcome our new staff member Mrs. Lucy Wang. Mrs. Wang will be teaching both the Middle School Mandarin Chinese classes as well as the High School classes. Welcome Mrs. Wang!



### **Check students backpack today**

Many things are coming home with your child today. Please check backpacks with envelopes containing PowerSchool information along with Meet Me in The Middle information.

### **Zephyrs Basketball Club**

As we welcome another school year, I wanted to make you aware that our Zephyrs Basketball Club (ZBC) Registration Night will be **September 12<sup>th</sup> at the SMCMS from 5pm to 8pm**. As like last year, you are welcome to sign-up throughout that time (drop-in and leave as you wish) as we will be collecting paperwork, payment and handing out uniforms.

The Zephyrs Basketball Club is a competitive youth basketball tournament team program that looks to develop and groom players for more competitive play. Open to players grades 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>, the goals of the program are different for each grade level.

There will be ZBC representatives available that night to answer any of your questions you may have.



## Campus Ministry and Guidance Update

### Mass

We had our first all school Mass last Wednesday. What a blessing to begin the school year as a faith community with teachers and staff leading the Mass parts and modeling the various liturgical ministry roles for our students. We were also able to introduce Father Bob Kollath who was the celebrant. Father Bob is the newly assigned (as of July) pastor of St. Gabriel Parish. The middle school Masses are celebrated by the three system priests who rotate that responsibility. We are fortunate to have each of them so visible and supportive of our Catholic School system.

### Retreats and Teambuilding

The school year also begins with teambuilding and retreats. Last Friday seventh graders traveled to Camp Tekakwitha, the Diocesan Camp, and this Friday the eighth graders will travel to the Adventure Park in Green Bay. The retreat part of the day explores a specific grade level theme which is reinforced with scripture, discussions and activities that promote faith integration and become a solid foundation for the school year. Additionally, you may not fully understand the value of the teambuilding activities, but we certainly see the result in leadership, friendship, cooperation and respect among the students throughout the year. Sixth graders have been doing some teambuilding in their advisory groups and will have a specific day for additional activities in a few weeks as well as a Fall retreat in November.

### Service

As Christians, we are called to serve others. With that in mind, there is a service requirement for each student as part of the religion curriculum. Your child's religion teacher will explain details and how to track the required service. If you have any questions please ask. In addition to the required service, SMCMS also offers an optional service club called Builders Club. This is the middle school version of Key Club and is sponsored by the Neenah-Menasha Kiwanis. If your child is interested in learning more about this club, please read the attachments and encourage them to attend the informational meeting on Wednesdays, September 18.

### Guidance

St. Mary Catholic Middle School employs a School Counselor whose role is to advocate for students' educational, social, emotional and spiritual well-being. Because she is also our Campus Minister, Mrs. Kalaus can be found at school all day, every day. Mrs. Kalaus meets with each grade throughout the school year in various classroom settings and works with the health teacher as well as the ADVISORY teachers to help students learn more about developmental issues they face as young teenagers. Topics including; conflict resolution, problem solving, decision making, career awareness, resiliency against drugs and other unhealthy behaviors and acceptance of diversity. These are just a few examples of "Developmental Guidance" subjects that will be covered. Mrs. Kalaus can also be found in the cafeteria walking around talking to students before school and during lunchtime. Counselors love to hear about the positive things that are happening with young people as well as the challenging... no matter how "big" or "small"! Students and parents can feel free to partner with Mrs. Kalaus with any concerns, to find healthy and productive solutions to any concerns they face.



# **St. Mary Catholic MS Builders Club**

**September 18, 2019**

**3:20-4:50 p.m.**

**SMCMS Commons**

## **WELCOME TO BUILDERS CLUB**

**You are invited to the first meeting of the year of the St. Mary Zephyrs Builders Club.**

**(See the following page for more information.)**

### **Why come?**

- **Free PIZZA and beverage**
- **Learn what our service club does**
- **Find out why your friends want to join**
- **To be a person pf service**

***Fill out the slip below if you are interested!***

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**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I will attend the meeting on Wednesday, September 18. **(check your pizza preference) \_\_\_\_\_ cheese; \_\_\_\_\_ sausage; \_\_\_\_\_ pepperoni**

\_\_\_\_\_ I am including the membership fee of \$10, which covers meeting expenses including monthly snacks.

***Make checks payable to: St. Mary Catholic Schools***

\_\_\_\_\_ I cannot attend the meeting, but would like to join.

*(Print out and complete the **Permission to Participate** form that follows and attach check or cash)*

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like more information about Builders Club.

Talk with a club officer, or go to the following website:

**<http://www.buildersclub.org/Discover.aspx>**

**<http://www.buildersclub.org/Discover/WhoWeAre.aspx>**

*Return this to SMCMS office no later than 8 a.m. Wednesday, September 18.*

*Will Lawniczek*

President: St. Mary Zephyrs Builders Club

*Mrs. Kalas*

Club Advisor



# Kiwanis Builders Club

## Permission to Participate Form



Builders Club is a student-led community service organization for middle school students. The local Kiwanis Club of Neenah/Menasha will serve as the club’s sponsor. Mrs. Kalas will act as Builders Club faculty and will be in attendance at all club meetings. Meetings will be conducted monthly on the following days and at the following time.

Day: The third Wednesday of the month (subject to change)

Time: 3:20-4:50

Location: SMCMS Commons

Members in this service organization are students who are interested in service to school and community. The objectives of Builders Club are:

- To provide opportunities for working together in service to school and community.
- To develop leadership potential.
- To foster development of a strong moral character.
- To encourage loyalty to school, community and nation.

**Interested students need to complete the form below and return it with a parent signature to the school office by Wednesday, September 18.**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

STAR teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Why I want to participate in Builders Club:

### Permission to Participate:

I hereby give permission for my child to participate in the Kiwanis Builders Club program and agree to pay the **\$10 annual dues.**

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**SMCS SCRIP Agreement**  
[www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com)

**Family Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Method of Pick up: Check one

Send Home with Child (student name/school): \_\_\_\_\_

I will pick up at school: \_\_\_\_\_  
(name of school)

**Family Tuition Credit**

I want my credit to go to:

- My SMCS Tuition Account
- A Parish Account
  - St. Margaret Mary Parish
  - St. MM Religious Formation
  - St. Gabriel Parish
  - St. G Christian Formation Center
  - St. Patrick Parish
- SMCS Scholarship Fund
- Different SMCS Family Tuition Account

**SMCS Gives 5% Back**

Please check if you are an active member of one of these participating parishes:

- St. Gabriel Parish
- St. Margaret Mary Parish
- St. Patrick Parish

<b><u>Name of Family or Families</u></b>	<b><u>% to give</u></b>
_____	_____
_____	_____

**Initial**

- 1. I agree to all terms on the shopwithscrip.com website.
- 2. I understand that all orders and payment meet the Monday deadline to guarantee my order will be placed that week and filled by that Thursday.
- 3. I understand that the rebate shown online is the total amount given to SMCS. Then in return will give back 80% as selected above. The remaining 20% will be used for administrative costs, tuition assistance and parish incentives.
- 4. I understand that any returned checks will incur a \$30.00 fee.
- 5. I understand that all SCRIP gift cards are to be treated like money and SMCS is **NOT** responsible for any cards lost or stolen.
- 6. I understand that I am responsible for contacting the vendor first then Great lakes if there is a problem with a gift card balance. SMCS is not responsible for tracking gift card balances.
- 7. I understand that I need to return a Scrip card I ordered, I will be charged a restocking fee of 5% of the card value with a minimum of \$5.00, as well as paying the shipping charges to send back to Great Lakes.
- 8. I understand if I place an online order and do not submit payment for order within 2 weeks it will be cancelled.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

***All SCRIP orders with payment need to be placed by 9:00 a.m. on Monday and will be ready for pick up the same week Thursday. You may change any of this information at any time by filling out a new form and returning to SMCS.***