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ST. MARYS' SPARTAN NEWSLETTER



Volume 1
August 24, 2016

MISSION To provide a Catholic education that nurtures students' hearts and minds to become servant leaders in an ever changing world.

Front Office Corner

Office hours 7:30am-3:30pm and by appointment.

School Mass every Wednesday at 8:30am (or Fridays for the First Friday of each month)

Upcoming:

Aug 24: Sports Mtg

Aug 26: Volleyball

Aug 27: Volleyball

Aug 29: Curriculum Night 6-7:30 PM (Grades 5-8)

Aug 30: Volleyball

Sep 2: Mass @830am

Sep 1: Picture Day



The first weeks of school are always exciting and sometimes a challenge, but give us an opportunity to have a fresh start. While the students are away for the summer, the teachers and staff get ready for the year. I'd like to take this chance to highlight a few of the things that are new or refreshed this year.

Many of you know that we changed classroom assignments to create a Middle School area. We also set up the Pre-Kindergarten room back with the primary classes. Both moves allow the students to have a fresh perspective. The older students are in closer proximity to one another and we have gained a little more class time by not having students travel too far to specials classes. The PreK students are closer to boys and girls their age who can model good habits like getting along with one another or being good classroom helpers.

We have also started the update to the wireless network infrastructure. While we can't see it, we know this will help students be better able to use the Chrome Books and laptops to enhance lessons. Soon after the update is completed, we'll have new presentation hardware installed.

Of course, we have three new teachers and 36 new students from 17 new families. This year, like others offers us a chance to start fresh. I know we will make the most of it. Thank you for being a part of St. Mary's.

Patricia Wallinger

-Dr. Trish Wallinger, Principal

Student Appointments. If you child has an appointment, you can write a note, call or the preferred method is an email to both cathy.braxton@stmarysbelleveue.com (office) and teacher.

Fire Drill. On Monday, the school had its first fire drill of the year. Students practiced leaving the building in case of an emergency. Teachers explained the procedure to students so they know what they are to do.

What is Homework Room? To support our students academically, we provide a Homework Room after school on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays in the Music classroom. Students in grades 4-8 can come for quiet study time. If a younger student needs/wants to attend the HW Room, they must have work to do or a quiet activity to occupy them without disturbing others. Assistance is provided if a student needs assistance.

HW Room runs from 3:20-4:30 pm and there is no charge. Students go directly to HW room at dismissal. Parents may go to Extended Day any time between 3:30 and 4:30 to pick up their child(ren). Students who attend the Homework Room must stay there until 4:30 if not picked up before that time. Any students who remain will go to Extended Day at 4:30 and should be picked up there.

August Rush Fundraiser and Request for Volunteers (to benefit St. Mary's Youth Ministry): It is a wonderful family event on Sunday August 28th from 3pm - 8pm at the Columban Fathers grounds in Bellevue. It is an event to help with St. Mary's Youth Ministry and we can use YOUR help!! We ask you to come, bring your families and enjoy the day! We are also in need of many volunteers to make this day a success. Please click on the below link to see where you can help out!! This counts for Confirmation service hours. Questions, please contact the Youth Ministry at 402-292-7688.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0544aaa62dabfb6-august>

Safe Environment (SE) Training. All St Mary's School volunteers need to be SE Trained. The next session at St Mary's is Sept 15th from 6pm-8:30pm. Thanks to our parents who signed up for August's session. There are only 20 slots and you must pre-register at the archdiocesan website and click "Safe Environment" (www.archomaha.org).

Initial Adult Safe Environment Training "Circle of Care" is a two-hour training offered at parishes/schools throughout the archdiocese. SE certification is needed for staff and volunteers who have regular contact with children. Certification is for 5 years. Recertification is an online training for those already trained and whose certification date is near expiration. Background checks are required with recertification. This recertification is good for five years.

Like Us on Facebook. Did you know we have a [St Mary's School of Bellevue](#) Facebook page? All are invited to "like" us on facebook and if you have school related photos of your family, we'd love to see those too!

Volunteer Service Hours. All families are asked to volunteer in some capacity at our school to make it a vibrant place for all our students and families. To log hours in Sycamore, Log onto Sycamoreeducation.com using your id & password. Call the office if you are having trouble logging in. Our Sycamore school id is "1118". Go to "My School" (left bar) > Service Logs > New Log (upper right) > Enter date & time of hours served > Select appropriate Volunteer Opportunity and enter # of hours served and any notes. Submit!



the difference  can make.

Box Tops. St. Mary's has two new Box Tops Coordinators: Suzy Godwin (1st grade parent) and Jamie Coleman (PK parent). They are looking for a few more parents for this committee...this is a great opportunity for anyone who would like to earn service hours from home.

Certain products have “box tops”. Box Tops are each worth 10¢ for our school. If every student brought 15 box tops/month, that would be \$\$288/month for St Mary’s to use on projects to support our students—we need your HELP! Look for items with the box tops label to earn \$ for St. Mary’s.

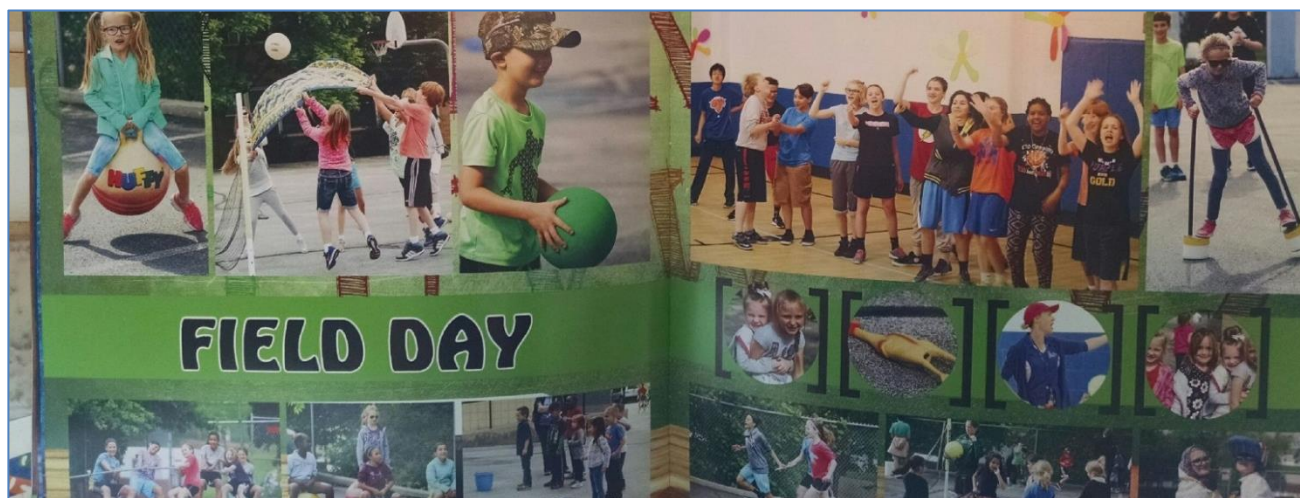
Sports Registration. If you have any sports program related questions, please contact the appointed coach or Jen Kreps, the Sports Program Coordinator at (402) 881-2576 or megjen992000@yahoo.com.

School Pictures. Picture day will be Thursday, September 1st. Orders forms are going home today.



Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge is scheduled for 12pm on the 10th of September at the St. Matthew's Soccer Field. All 9 - 14 year old boys and girls are allowed and encouraged to participate. The POC is Ricky Bennett, bennetra@cox.net, 402-541-8216.

It is not too late to buy a yearbook? Check out the nice excerpt below...Please call the office to purchase.



Home and School Association

What A Blast! Our fireworks fundraiser was again a great success thanks to the tireless efforts of our volunteers and supporters. HSA rose over \$12,500 during this year’s sale! Money raised through HSA fundraising goes back into our school to support field trips, school activities/parties, and teachers classroom needs, just to name a few. We need your continued support have a successful school year. Look for ways you can volunteer; thanks for your support.



Home and School Meeting. Our first HSA meeting of the year is scheduled for Monday, September 12th at 6:30 P.M. in the school library. Meet this year’s executive officers, tell us what you like – or areas for improvement – and get involved in your children’s education. Remember, your attendance at the Home and School Meetings counts toward your volunteer hours!

Upcoming Events:

H&S Meeting Monday, 9/12 @ 6:30pm

Trivia Night Friday 10/7

Parish Picnic (H&S Cake Walk) Sunday, 9/11

B&B Food Night Thursday, 9/22 5:00-8:00pm

Halloween Fun Night Friday, 10/28