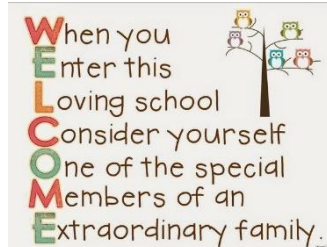


St. Mary's Parish School Newsletter
Week of January 16, 2022



Items to note:



To our new students/families:

Harrison Duncan (PS) son to Shane and Marie Duncan
Jordy Garrett (PS) brother to Grayson in Gr. 1
Lillian O'Brien (PS) daughter of Wesley and Tara O'Brien

To our returning students/families

Hannah (Gr. 7) and Peter (Gr. 5) Johnson-Leung children of Fok and Jennifer
Mackenzie Waynant (Gr. 5) daughter of Kristopher Waynant & Tara Hudiburg

Your prayers are requested for:

- ❖ Ron Mikkelson who is on comfort care due to his liver failing. Mr. Mikkelson videotaped our music concerts for years.
- ❖ Continued prayers for a parent's aunt who has stage 4 breast cancer
- ❖ Continued prayers for sister-in-law of Dr. Jennifer Beller who is dealing with multiple myeloma.



*what's happening
this week*

Monday, Jan. 17:	Human Rights Day NO School
Tuesday, Jan. 18:	Lunch: Hamburgers + French fries
Wednesday, Jan. 19:	Lunch: Spaghetti with meat sauce
Thursday, Jan. 20:	Lunch: Waffles + bacon
Friday, Jan. 21:	<i>Mass at 9:00 a.m. Grade 6+7+8 are the prayer leaders UNIFORMS are required today</i>
	Lunch: Hot dogs + chips
Saturday, Jan. 22:	Happy Birthday to Mrs. Sandy Otto!

Some Questions That Have Been Asked:

- Q. Will there be a Family Rosary in January?**
A. Yes, there is. It is being held on **Monday, January 24 at 5:30 p.m.** ALL are welcome to come with your entire family. We will share *how* to pray the rosary and you don't have to be Catholic to participate in this prayer experience. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Swam at DSwam@stmarysmoscow.com

Q. If my child is sick and I want homework for him/her, what do I need to do?

A. There are two things for you to do/know:

- 1) Call the school before 9:00 a.m.. to let the school know your child will not be school. Then tell the person you would like homework for your child who is home sick.
- 2) Homework for your child will be ready **by 4:00 p.m.** and it will be in the drop box. Since teachers do not have “free time” during a day to get the needed assignments together, they will be able to do this after school for your child.

Q. How is the search for principal of St. Mary’s developing?

A. Since June 2021, many avenues are being pursued: locally, state-wide and nationally. Some of the agencies/avenues being pursued are: National Catholic Educational Association (nationwide); Diocese of Boise (<https://www.catholicidaho.org/current-openings>); Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) through Notre Dame University; educational programs at the university levels like U of I and WSU; search engines such as Idaho jobs; Catholic parish bulletins, our school’s website, etc. Dr. Sarah Quilici, Superintendent of Catholic Schools in Idaho is actively assisting us in the principal search. Do continue to keep in your good prayers the person that is being called to leadership for our school. It is in process. If you have any questions, please ask Father Joe McDonald, our pastor.

Q. Is the school open to having volunteers (i.e. parents) in the classrooms yet?

A. Yes, we are under certain circumstances:

1. contact the teacher(s) with whom you would like to volunteer to see the need(s) s/he may have that you would be able to assist with as well as day(s)/time(s) for volunteering.
2. All volunteers must go through Safety Environment training. This is required by the Diocese of Boise. Sister Margaret is one of the certified trainers by the diocese. She is happy to set-up training sessions (lasts about two hours) for anyone who wants to be a volunteer (or drive students). Please contact her at the school (208-882-2121) or via email: sistterm@stmarysmoscow.com

Future Event

The school has been working these past two+ years on discussing and writing a document for the Accreditation of our school. Since the 1970’s St. Mary’s has been accredited.

Our school will be visited this coming February 2-4 by a Team of six persons (Superintendents, teachers, principals) from Spokane, Boise, Grangeville and Montana areas. By the time they visit us, they will have read our Self-Study document and all accompanying documents the school has provided as “evidence” what we have been doing since our last Accreditation (2015) and the key areas which we see that we need to do moving forward in the next six years. The document we used was from the accrediting agency for Catholic Schools: Western Catholic of Association Schools (WCEA) for our Self-Study was called *“The National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools”* (NSBECS). This document had “four domains” on which strong, effective, Catholic schools are built. These Four Domains are:

1. **Mission and Catholic Identity**
2. **Governance and Leadership**
3. **Academic Excellence**
4. **Operational Vitality:** this area focuses on the schools: finances, human resources/personnel, facilities, and institutional advancement.

When the Visiting Team is here, they will be visiting classrooms, investigating the written evidence of responses to the WCEA criteria, holding interviews with the members of the school community, and preparing a written report on its findings. The Visiting Team also writes a recommendation for the Accreditation Status of our school based upon factors relative to the school community's successes and growth needs. These recommendations will serve as an "Action Plan" for the school as it moves forward the next six years.

Help needed during the Accreditation Visit: We need help with the following:

- Donate breakfast snack items (bagels, cream cheese, etc.) for the Team's 3-day visit
- Be present to visit with the Team as they are having breakfast snacks/coffee (7:30 to 8:00 a.m.) Wednesday, Thursday or Friday (Feb. 2, 3 or 4)
- Cook and bring a meal for the 6 on the Team on Thursday, Feb. 3 by **5:00 p.m.**
- Take one the of the Team Members to the Pullman Airport leaving school by 3:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 4



One of the members of our school community is in the position of hiring three persons for his place of work. They are the following: prep cook, front desk ordering, bartender. Are you interested? If yes, please send your response to Sister Margaret (sistterm@stmarysmoscow.com) and she will forward your response to the owner.

IGNITING *faith, knowledge, creativity and service*