

The Bulldog Barks
August 11, 2017

Principal – Mr. Tush

jim.tush@mystmarys.com

We are off to a great start! We will be taking time to observe the eclipse on August 21st. Mr. Brookbank, our new science teacher, and our classroom teachers will educate our students before the event so that they can understand it better. Please join me in wishing Ms. Stemler a temporary farewell as she heads into her student teaching in Kentucky, and then all the way to Ireland. She will return in December. Mr. Waldon will take the helm until she returns. Mr. Waldon is, and has always been, an asset to our school and parish. We are truly blessed to have him!

Please take time to read the *Bulldog* each week. This is our main form of communication with our school community.

Early Release

This year we will have 6 early release days. We plan on releasing students at 12:40 p.m. (give or take 5 minutes), but this will be determined when the South Dearborn buses arrive. Once the buses have been loaded and left St. Mary's, we will release all the other students. As a reminder, there will be NO After School Care on early release days. The first early release day is Wednesday, August 16th.

After School Care Program

The After School Care Program will be supervised by Ms. McPherson in the 1st grade room from 2:35 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., Mondays - Thursdays and from 2:35 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. on Fridays! The cost is only \$2.25 per half hour! If you have any question about the After School Care, please call the office or email Ms. McPherson at mcperson.1@mystmarys.com.

Safe and Sacred

All volunteers must take the Safe and Sacred training; this includes anyone interested in going on class field trips and the 8th grade class trip. Please go to safeandsacred-archindy.org to register and attend the required class.

Book Fair: Week of August 27-September 1

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming! The book fair is the primary way we get new books for our school library and classrooms, so your support is needed. The book fair will be open on Sunday, August 27 after Masses, and during the week after school until 3:15. Students will also be able to shop during their library time on Monday or Tuesday, at lunch on Wednesday and Thursday, and with their class on Friday beginning at 12:45 until the end of the day.

If you are available to work at the book fair, please let Mrs. Rector know at kim.rector@mystmarys.com. We have one experienced volunteer who is willing to work all of the hours during school, so you would not be working alone!

PTO

Thank you to everyone who signed up for our Farmers Fair Booth and PTO committees at our Open House meeting. I am working on entering all the shifts into the online signup page. As soon as that is ready, I will email a link to everyone, and then anyone who hasn't signed up already can do so.

Please send in your Box Tops and check your Kroger receipt to see if you are signed up for rewards. Please look for papers to come home with more information on both Box Tops and Kroger rewards.

If you have any questions or concerns feel free to call or email.

Thank you for volunteering,

Michelle Ryan

PTO president

[859-240-9390](tel:859-240-9390) / michelle.ryan03@gmail.com

Kindergarten – Mrs. Denning

amy.denning@mystmarys.com

In Phonics this week we will be working on our first vowel, short vowel Oo- keyword- octopus. We will learn to code the short vowel with a breve. We are focusing on rhyming words and counting words in spoken sentences. We are also reciting the alphabet and identifying the vowels and consonants. Please have your child tell you the five vowels when they are practicing at home.

In math we are identifying numbers 0-10, counting objects using 1-1 correspondence, creating AB color patterns, and graphing.

In religion we are focusing on creation being a gift of God's love, and we are practicing "*The Sign of the Cross*".

We had our first computer class this week. Mrs. Ryan has asked that you practice using the mouse with your child at home. Some of the children had some trouble with that skill.

We are practicing reciting addresses, phone numbers, and birthdays. Other basic skills the children should know include - **tying shoes**, zipping, buttoning, and snapping articles of clothing. (Practice at home would be very helpful :).

Thank you for your help at home with handwriting. Please remember when practicing printing at home, the children should not start on the bottom line and write up. They start at the top and go down. Also, please erase mistakes if made, and have your child print the letters correctly.

Have a wonderful week!

Please remember that we have an early dismissal day on Wednesday, August 16. School will dismiss at approximately 12:40 p.m. If you pick your child up at the kindergarten room, please be there at 12:20 p.m.

Grade 1 – Ms. McPherson

mcpherson.1@mystmarys.com

It sure is great to be back in school! The first graders seem very eager to learn new things this year. Everyone did a great job returning their permission slips/forms and homework. What a great way to start out the school year!

In Phonics we are reading and spelling words that contain the letter Nn (as in nest), the short and long sound of the letter Oo (as in octopus and overalls), the sound of the letter Tt (as in tent), and the sound of the letter Pp (as in pig).

In Social Studies we have been learning about different American symbols such as our country's flag. All of the 1st graders did a great job reciting the Pledge of Allegiance!

Grade 2 – Mrs. Grove

annmarie.grove@mystmarys.com

Thank you for all the supplies and coins for math class. We will try to make them last.

We loved the bird demonstration that Mrs. Velda Miller presented to our class on Thursday. We were able to see, up close, preserved birds that lived in our area. We will go to the Art Show at the Southeastern Indiana Art Guild's building this Monday afternoon. It will be like walking through an Art museum!

Grade 3 – Mrs. Rector

kim.rector@mystmarys.com

I have enjoyed getting to know the new third graders this past week. We have been busy establishing routines and reviewing what we know so that we are ready for the new challenges ahead. Please make sure to check your student's assignment book each day so they can stay on top of their work. Each night they should be reading 20 minutes for AR. Let me know if no books are coming home to read or the book they have is too difficult, and I will help them select a book. Let me know if you have any questions! Have a great week!

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Grade 4 – Mrs. Meyer

amanda.meyer@mystmarys.com

Welcome back! We have had a great start in fourth grade so far! Students are adjusting to being upstairs and having lift top desks. Those are usually the two things they are most excited about!

We have already taken our first spelling and reading tests. In science we began our life science unit with earthworm behavior inquiry. Students loved the hands-on opportunity to learn about inherited and environmental traits. In math students will be reviewing place value and working with numbers up to millions. We have also been practicing different problem solving strategies.

I hope everyone has another great week!

Grade 5 – Mrs. Baker

leslie.baker@mystmarys.com

We are off to a great start in fifth grade! Each fifth grader is required to read 20 minutes each night. They do not have a reading log. Please make sure they take the time to read to reach their AR goal. Also, look for AR papers coming home this week with your child's goal for the 1st quarter. Please sign and return as soon as possible.

We have started our vocabulary units this week. Vocabulary tests are on Fridays, and the pages in the book are also due on Friday. Part of our vocabulary study is using the words in a sentence properly. This is also a big part of the test. Spelling practice tests are on Wednesday, and final tests are on Friday. Our spelling words for the week can be found in your child's assignment book.

Grade 6 – Mrs. Rice

suzy.rice@mystmarys.com

It's great to be back in school! We are getting used to our new routine. We will have a beginning of the year school store special very soon. We sell pencils, erasers, folders, spiral and composition notebooks, and other things throughout the year at a reasonable price. Store hours are 7:45 a.m. - 8:05 a.m. and 2:20 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Grade 7 – Mr. Johnson

brady.johnson@mystmarys.com

Thank you to all the parents for their support for our school at the beginning of the new year. We are off and running. The start off school has been great.

8th Grade - We will have our first chapter test on Tuesday, August 15th.

6th and 7th Grade Geography - To start the year, both grades are studying the basic skills of Geography. We are examining the 5 themes of geography, map skills, and how to find locations using Latitude and Longitude coordinates.

Grade 8 – Ms. Stemler

stemler.8@mystmarys.com

6th Grade Reading- This week the sixth graders began the book *Fish in a Tree*. We spent most of the week doing pre-reading activities, such as quote mingles and theme explorations. The main character in the novel, Ally, has dyslexia. Students got to experience firsthand what dyslexia might feel like through an online simulation. Next week students will continue reading the book and begin vocabulary.

7th Grade Reading- This week the seventh graders began the book *Counting by 7s*. Students were engaged in pre-reading activities such as quote mingles, character reflections, and theme explorations. Next week students will continue reading and begin vocabulary.

8th Grade Reading- The eighth graders started *Wonder* this week. This book focuses on bullying and overcoming adversity. Students wrote encouraging notes to Auggie (the main character) for his first day of school. They also watched an Anti-Bullying video and shared their reflections. Next week students will begin reading *Wonder* along with their double entry journals.

Writing- All students this week have been working on their NoRedInk grammar, journal entries, and Greek Roots. Our main focus though, was on letter writing skills. Students finished their first Pen Pal

letters. Tomorrow is my last day here, so we will be spending class time discussing Ireland and celebrating with Irish food and music!

During Ms. Stemler’s absence, Mr. Waldon will take over reading. We are blessed to have someone so knowledgeable in Language Arts!

7th & 8th Grade Science – Mr. Brookbank

brookbank.science@mystmarys.com

I am excited to join the family of St. Mary’s parish. I began teaching in 1979 & enjoyed 38 years of educating students. I am fortunate to continue teaching and having an impact on young people's lives.

The students and I are in the process of evaluating our different personalities. I am impressed with the atmosphere in the classroom and your children's work ethic. We are preparing for the August 21 total solar eclipse. We are studying basic scientific information, attempting to build a strong base in order to pursue more detailed topics in the future.

Cafeteria and Playground hours:

Cafe: First lunch is served at 11 a.m., so arrive 10 – 15 minutes early. Serve three lunch periods and help clean up kitchen, wash dishes, etc. You should be finished around 12:45 p.m.

Playground: Arrive around 11:15 a.m. and help the teacher supervise students on playground, Activity Center or at the park (depending on weather). You should be finished around 12:30 p.m.

Lunch Tickets: Remember you can go online at www.mystmarys.com and purchase lunch tickets! Navigate to the School tab and click on: Tuition and School Payments. Once you enter your information and your transaction is approved, an email will be sent to the office, and Ms. Ann will write out lunch tickets. *It’s so easy, even Mr. Tush has successfully completed a lunch ticket purchase online.* 😊

Cafeteria Volunteers:

08/14 – Monica Ramsey, 08/15 – Marge Beinkemper, 08/16 – Marge Waldon, 08/17 – Barb Maness, 08/18 – Patty Kent, 08/21 – Pat Scharf, 08/22 – Aleece Palmer, 08/23 – Marge Waldon, 08/24 – Barb Maness, 08/25 – Quinn Moeller, 08/28 – Barb Langdon, 08/29 – Marge Beinkemper, 08/30 – Marge Waldon, 08/31 – Barb Maness

Playground Volunteers:

08/14 – Bernadine/Carolyn, 08/15 – Meghan Oatman, 08/16 – Monica Ramsey, 08/17 – Anna Townsend, 08/18 – Monica Ramsey, 08/21 – Bernadine/Carolyn, 08/22 – Meghan Oatman, 08/23 – Monica Ramsey, 08/24- Anna Townsend, 08/25 – Lauren Schewe, 08/28 – Bernadine/Carolyn, 08/29 – Megan Oatman, 08/30 – Lauren Schewe, **08/31 – HELP NEEDED**

Please contact the school office at 812-926-1558, if you are available to work one of the OPEN positions.

Lunch Menu: \$14.50 per ticket

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
14	15	16	17	18
3-Way Tossed Salad Green Beans Crackers Fruit Milk	Chicken Nuggets Bread Corn Green Beans Fruit Milk	Hamburger French Fries Baked Beans Fruit Milk	Taco (Beef or Chicken) Corn Refried Beans Fruit Milk	Pizza Veggie Sticks Carrots Fruit Milk

Young Rembrandts

Sessions at St. Mary's

Classes are for students in Grades K-8

Time: 2:45 – 3:45 p.m.

	Wednesday	Days off	Session Length	Cost
Session #1	8/30-9/27		5 weeks	\$65
Session #2	10/25-11/15		4 weeks	\$52
Session #3	11/29-12/20		4 weeks	\$52
Session #4	1/24-2/21		5 weeks	\$65
Session #5	3/7-4/11	3/21, 3/28	4 weeks	\$52
Session #6	4/25-5/16		4 weeks	\$52

Contact Michelle Easton (513)283-6169 or michelle.easton@youngrembrandts.com.
www.youngrembrandts.com/northernky-southwestoh

Calendar of Events:

08/15	Mass 8:30 a.m. – Holy Day/Feast of the Assumption
08/16	No student mass
08/16	Early Release at 12:40 p.m.
08/21	Officer Phil (Grades K - 4)
08/27-09/01	Book Fair in the Activity Center (08/27/2017 from 9:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.)
08/30	Vision Screening (Grades 3, 5, and 8)
08/30	Hearing Test (Grades 1, 4, and 7)
09/04	Labor Day – No School
09/13	Early Release at 12:40 p.m.