

The Bulldog Barks November 30, 2018

Mr. Brookbank – Principal

brookbank.science@mystmarys.com

Hope everyone had time to relax enjoy the long weekend for Thanksgiving!

On Monday, December 17th we will have our next meeting to discuss Keep the Doors Open progress! The meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. I would like to ask that at least one family member attend the meeting.

Saint of the Month

St. Francis Xavier Cabrini

Primary Christmas Program (Grades K-3)

The Primary Christmas Program will be at 6:30 p.m. in church on Wednesday, December 5th. The children will meet in the cafeteria at 6:15 p.m. They are to wear dress clothes, no jeans. They have been working very hard practicing their songs. Thank you to Mrs. Vincent for all of the hard work she has done getting our program organized.

Lessons & Carols (Grades 4-8)

Our annual Lessons & Carols service will be at 7:00 P.M. this coming Wednesday, December 5th in our church. **This is a required activity for all students in grades four through eight.** Anyone who does not participate will be assigned a research project appropriate for the student's grade level. Students in grades four and five must wear a St. Mary's School uniform for the service.

Christmas Breakfast

PTO will host a Christmas Breakfast on Friday, December 7th. We will also be celebrating the schools saint that day for Mary of the Immaculate Conception. Students will come to school, go to their classrooms and then we will call them to the cafeteria by class.



We have created a separate page with information on *Keeping the Doors Open* campaign at the end of the Bulldog.

Donations can be made online at www.mystmarys.com.

Cash or checks can be dropped off or mailed to school office at 211 Fourth Street, Aurora, IN 47001. Make checks payable to St. Mary's School.

Night of Prayer

Thank you to everyone that joined us on November 19th. It was a a great night of prayer and singing. We had about 95 people in attendance!

Out-of-Uniform Day Reminder

Out-of-uniform dress must be respectful school clothes with NO inappropriate saying/sign/logos. Girls may only wear yoga pants or leggings beneath a skirt or shorts, or worn with a long top. No ripped or torn shirts or pants are allowed.

After School Care

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.

School Payments

Don't forget that school lunch, book and technology fees, and tuition may be paid online at www.mystmarys.com.

Box Tops for Education

*** Buy * Clip * Send * Earn***



Box Tops Clips are found on hundreds of product packages and are worth \$.10 for our school. All you need to do is send them to school before they expire! You can also drop them off in the back of church and we will pick them up. St. Mary's has a goal to raise \$1,000 this school year.

Kindergarten – Mrs. Denning

amy.denning@mystmarys.com

St. Mary's S.T.O. is having a Christmas Drive for those in need. Kindergartners are being asked to donate toilet tissue. Items will be collected the week before Christmas break. Thank you for your help.

On Friday, December 7, all students will be treated to a Christmas Breakfast in the cafeteria. Thank you to all who will be doing the cooking.

Our new letter in Phonics will be **Zz**- keyword-zebra. We will be focusing on the four short vowel sounds we have learned. (a, o, i, u) We will also get reader #6, "Zip".

In math we will be working with dimes- identifying and giving the value for, and counting dimes. We will also be counting by 10's to 100. We will work with AB and ABB patterns.

Our Christmas Program is on Wednesday, December 5, at 6:30, in church. The children will meet in the cafeteria at 6:15 p.m. They are to wear dress clothes, no jeans. They have been working very hard practicing their songs. Thank you to Mrs. Vincent for all of the hard work she has done getting our program organized.

In Religion we are talking about Advent as we get ready to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Please read the stories with your child, in the booklet that was sent home.

Show-n-Tell for the week of Dec. 3 will be letter-**Tt**.

Have a great week!

Grade 1 – Ms. McPherson

mcperson.1@mystmarys.com

The Primary Christmas Program will be held in church at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 5th. Please have your child meet in the cafeteria at 6:15 p.m. The students are being asked to wear nice dress clothes.

In Phonics the students are learning that a compound word is two words that come together to form one new word. We are also coding and reading words that have suffixes -less, -ness, and -ly.

In Math we are continuing to practice numbering a clock face and telling time by the hour. We will also be learning to use our rulers to draw line segments and learning how to draw tally numbers.

Grade 2 & 3 – Mrs. Grove**annmarie.grove@mystmarys.com**

Thank you for sending to school all the empty cd cases and knee high stockings for our unit on plant adaptations. Mrs. Legge donated all the seeds.

The second graders First Reconciliation will be with Fr. Steve Tuesday, December 4th. Send the completed Reconciliation poster to school please.

We love all the songs Mrs. Vincent chose for our Primary Christmas Program this Wednesday, December 5th. Please wear Sunday clothes and be in the cafeteria at 6:15 p.m. The program will be in church at 6:30 p.m.

Grade 4 – Mrs. Meyer**amanda.meyer@mystmarys.com**

Students did a great job on their 10 Commandments Test last week. Their PowerPoints were also very well made. I think creating and presenting the PowerPoints helped in learning the Commandments.

Students should be preparing for their last book report project of the quarter- timeline or poster. Students have also been learning about prefixes and suffixes. They made flashcards to help them study the meanings. The suffix quiz will be Wednesday, December 5.

Remember Lessons and Carols is Wednesday, December 5 at 7pm. Students should wear their best uniform. Have a great week!

Grade 5 – Mrs. Baker**leslie.baker@mystmarys.com**

Fifth graders finished up their tall tale unit by writing their own tall tales. We have some very creative writers in this class! We then enjoying sharing our tales with the Kindergarten through third grade classes. In math we have started learning about fractions. We will be using factors a lot in this chapter. Knowing our multiplication facts will make these lessons much easier!

A Scholastic book order was sent home on Friday. If you would like to order, please do so online or send your order in to me by Friday, December 7th. That way our books will arrive before Christmas Break. There are a lot of great books that could be used for AR! Have a great week!

Grade 6 – Mrs. Rice**suzy.rice@mystmarys.com**

The 6th grade has been given a Holiday Shopping Project due on December 14th. The students should be able to complete it at school if they use their time well in the morning. Thanks to Mrs. Eaglin for the checking booklets. The students are enjoying learning to figure sales tax, writing checks, and keeping their checkbooks balanced.

Students will have the opportunity to make some Christmas ornaments soon using yarn and plastic canvas. If anyone has extra yarn or plastic canvas they want to donate, send it to room 6.

The 8th graders' chapter 4 tests were returned on Monday. They are working on chapter 5, functions now.

The 7th graders have been working on combining like terms and several other skills. They enjoyed doing Math Libs by combining like terms.

Grade 7 – Mrs. Rector

kim.rector@mystmarys.com

Please ask to see your student's book bag and binder. I have asked them to clean out their desks in an effort to stay more organized. Several of them are carrying around paperwork from the past and cannot find what they need to turn in or study guides and notes that are still needed. They are not allowed to throw away or recycle graded papers at school. As the work gets more difficult, organization is a necessary skill.

As a reminder, we do go outside for recess if it above freezing and dry weather. Students should be prepared and wear a coat now that the weather is colder!

Remember that Lessons and Carols is on Wednesday evening at 7:00. Mr. Waldon and the students have been putting in a lot of work to get ready. I look forward to seeing you there. Have a terrific week!

Grade 8 – Mr. Waldon

jim.waldon@mystmarys.com

This week we have been working intensely on Lessons & Carols which will be next Wednesday, December 5th at 7:00 p.m. The members of our choirs have been practicing music for many weeks; this week our attention began to include the lectors and the rest of the student chorus. The students are doing a beautiful job; even practices are inspiring and prayerful.

Our \$500 raffle will be held next Wednesday, December 5th. Everyone is encouraged to try to sell a few more (or a lot more) chances over the weekend!

In grammar, 6th graders are working on identifying prepositions and prepositional phrases, 7th and 8th graders are beginning to explore the complicated world of verbs, and we read on in our respective books in each grade. As always, we do a great deal of writing.

A letter is on its way to parents asking for you to commit that your 8th grader is planning to go on the trip and asking for parents who would like to go to commit also. This is the only way we will be able to project the cost of the trip.

Our S.T.O. is conducting a food/supplies drive before Christmas for St. Vincent de Paul. 8th graders are asked to bring in 15 ounce cans of vegetables.

Best wishes to our 8th graders who will be taking the placement test at Oldenburg this Saturday!
God bless.

Lessons & Carols

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7th & 8th Grade Science – Mr. Brookbank

brookbank.science@mystmarys.com

Both classes are delving into the specifics of the animal cell. We are identifying the organelles and each organelles function. Students will be expected to understand the following concepts:

- 1) How the different organelles work together to maintain the homeostasis of the organism.
- 2) Why studying the workings of the cell allows us to cure or prevent diseases.
- 3) How & why the many different cells within our bodies dictate our biological functions.

I realize I used some tech vocabulary, allow your son/daughter to explain. If they cannot you have my permission to ground them for a week!

I would like to receive feedback on our e-Learnig days. Looking for help as to amount of work, difficulty of work, too much technology or not enough technology, were directions clear. I have spoken to the staff and the students did a good job of returning the work on time. A small amount of improvement is needed in completing all assigned work & paying attention to detail.

Connie Powers, CRE
Prayer Shawl Ministry

connie.powers@mystmarys.com

We need more crochet-ers and knit-ers! You can help by attending Wednesday gathering or from home. Just give Connie a call at 812-926-0060. We meet the first and third Wednesdays of each month.

Family Formation Night: Mary: The Yes that Changed the World.

Saturday, December 8th at 6 p.m.; after the 5 p.m. mass. Dinner, Presentation, Prayer and Activities
Open to the whole parish!

Vacation Bible School - Save the Date!

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for June 24 – 28, 2019
Interested in assisting, call or email Connie Powers.

Saint of the Month

November – St. Francis Xavier Cabrini

The Kindergarteners have chosen St. Francis Xavier Cabrini for our November saint. Her saint day is November 13th. She is the patron of immigrants and hospital administrators.

Frances Xavier Cabrini MSC (Italian: Francesca Saverio Cabrini; July 15, 1850 – December 22, 1917, died at age 67), also called Mother Cabrini, was an Italian-American religious sister, who founded the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, a Catholic religious institute that was a major support to the Italian immigrants to the United States. She was the first naturalized citizen of the United States to be canonized by the Roman Catholic Church, on July 7, 1946.

Cafeteria/Playground

Contact Aimee Hollingsworth at 744-8738, to sign up for cafeteria and playground duty. The schedule is online at www.mystmarys.com, under “Student Life”, under “Cafeteria/Playground”. If you can fill in one of the open positions, you can call the school office to let us know!

Lunch:

11:25 a.m. – Grades 3 – 5
11:35 a.m. – Grades K – 2
12:00 p.m. – Grades 6 – 8

Recess:

11 – 11:35 a.m. – Grades K – 2
11:55 – 12:20 a.m. – Grades 3 – 5
12:25 – 12:45 p.m. – Grades 6-8

Cafeteria and Playground hours:

Cafe: First lunch is served at 11:25 a.m., so arrive 10 – 15 minutes early. Serve two lunch periods and help clean up kitchen, wash dishes, etc. You should be finished around 12:45 p.m.

Playground: Arrive around 10:50 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.

Cafeteria Volunteers:

12/03 – Pat Scharf, 12/04 – Marge Beinkemper, 12/05 – Marge Waldon, 12/06 – Help Needed, 12/07 – Monica Ramsey, 12/10 – Diane Peters, 12/11 – Help Needed, 12/12 – Marge Waldon, 12/13 – Help Needed, 12/14 – Monica Ramsey, 12/17 – Pat Scharf, 12/18 – Marge Beinkemper, 12/19 – Marge Waldon, 12/20/18 – 01/02/2018 – Christmas Break

Playground Volunteers:

12/03 – Carolyn/Bernadine, 12/04 – Help Needed, 12/05 – Randi McGraw, 12/06 – Chris Strzok, 12/07 – Chris Strzok, 12/10 – Carolyn/Bernadine, 12/11 – Kathy Simon, 12/12 – Randi McGraw, 12/13 - Chris Strzok, 12/14 - Chris Strzok, 12/17 – Carolyn/Bernadine, 12/18 – Help Needed, 12/19 – Randi McGraw, 12/20/18 – 01/02/2018 – Christmas Break

Lunch Menu: \$15.00 per ticket (5 meals)

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| 3 3-Way Tossed Salad Green Beans Crackers Fruit Milk | 4 Petite Chicken Strips Buttered Noodles Corn Green Beans Fruit Milk | 5 Cheese Stuffed Bread Stick with Pizza Sauce Tossed Salad Broccoli Fruit Milk | 6 Cheese Coney Veggie Sticks w/ Dip Fruit Milk | 7 Chicken Rice Bowl Corn Black Beans - cheese, lettuce, salsa and sour cream available Fruit Milk |



St. Mary's School
 211 Fourth Street
 Aurora, Indiana 47001
 812-926-1558
www.mystmarys.com

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| Bob Brookbank, Principal | brookbank.science@mystmarys.com |
| Beth Legge, President – School Commission | beth@mccabesflowers.com |
| Randy Dennis, Vice President - School Commission | sdrdennis@hotmail.com |
| Michelle Ryan, PTO President | michelle51703@yahoo.com |
| Ann Hutchinson, Administrative Assistant | ann.hutchinson@mystmarys.com |

St. Mary's School has been known as a legacy of excellence in the parish and in the community. We are striving and praying that we can continue this level of excellence by continuing to keep the doors of school open. We as a parish and school have had some financial hardships and are hoping to reach out to the parishoners and community to help financially contribute to our 'Keep the Doors Open' campaign. We have several ideas in the works to produce more income in the future (i.e. preschool, scholarship program) and will also be making cuts to become financially sustainable. Please consider making a financial contribution to our school for the children in this community.

Our website www.mystmarys.com is the best way to donate! If you would rather write a check, you can drop off directly to school, or mail to the address above.

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|---------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| As of 11/29/2018: 102 Donations | \$82,671.20 raised | \$317,328.80 remaining |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|

Meeting – Monday, December 17, 2018

Our next Keep the Doors Open meeting will be on Monday, December 17th at 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Mr. Brookbank will give an update of his meeting with various people at the Archdiocese.

Current Progress

1. Letter were sent out to alumni on Tuesday, November 20th.
2. We need volunteers to help compile a list of small and large businesses that we can solicit for a one-time donation or a pledge amount for the next 3-5 years. At this time, we are asking if you know of someone within an organization or someone in your family does, provide us with a contact name and number (if you have it). This will save us a significant amount of time reaching the correct person within an organization.
3. Below is a summary of information/updates by Beth Legge.

Pending:

1. We need a group of volunteers whose sole purpose would be for fundraising (above what PTO currently does), grant writing, seeking long term pledges, etc.
2. We need a group of volunteers to organize a campaign to recruit more students and marketing for our school.

How student can participate:

History of St. Mary's

St. Mary's School in Aurora, Indiana was founded by parishioners of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church around 1850 with the first school building of four classrooms being built at the site of the present school in 1866. Several male schoolmasters served the students until a school building was constructed, and at that time the school was operated under the auspices of the Sisters of Providence from St. Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana. Beginning in 1880 the school was conducted by the Sisters of St. Frances of Oldenburg, Indiana; the Sisters of St. Francis continued to serve as teachers and administrators of the school through the 1984-85 school year when the last sister/principal resigned to accept a position elsewhere.

In 1959 a new school building was made possible due to a large bequest by a local parishioner and a capital campaign organized within the parish. The 1866 building had outlived its usefulness in terms of age, capacity, and lack of modernization. The new building offered five classrooms for the eight grades, an institutional kitchen, a large cafeteria and meeting hall capable of seating three hundred and fifty and a small library. Built on the site of the old school building, the new building stood as a testimony to generosity and good planning; school had been dismissed in mid-May, 1959, and the new building was operational by August 30, 1959.

We have had many students come to the office to ask how they can help and even several students bring us money from their piggy bank. We asked them to return the money and leave the fundraising up to the adults. However, someone came up with a great idea of asking each student to raise \$19.59. This is based on when we moved into our current school building, August 30, 1959. We ask that they raise the money by working for it by helping others, raking leaves, taking out garbage cans, walking the dog for a neighbor, etc. Once they have raised \$19.59, they may turn the funds into their homeroom teacher by Friday, December 14, 2018.

Adult Voices of Indiana – December 16, 2018 at 3 p.m.

Linda Rehtin

Voices of Indiana was formed to provide quality music education and a challenging choral experience to our community at large. Serving the areas in and around Dearborn County, Voices of Indiana consists of multiple programs for singers of all ages. Voices of Indiana was formed to provide quality music education and a challenging choral experience to our community at large. Serving the areas in and around Dearborn County, Voices of Indiana consists of multiple programs for singers of all ages.

Adult Voices of Indiana will be performing at St. Mary's on Sunday, December 16 at 2 p.m. in the church. Free will donations accepted. All proceeds will be donated to St. Mary's.



November 30, 2018

Parishioners and Parents,

We are starting to make great progress on our Keep the Doors Open endeavor! I am excited to report that we are a little over \$82,000. That is a large amount in such a short amount of time. Thank you to everyone who has donated, participated in fundraisers, attended meetings and have been praying for our school and parish.

I want to give a few updates, announce meeting dates and add clarity to concerns. We haven't had a Bulldog go out for two weeks due to the ice storm and Thanksgiving.

First, I would like to address the money we have in the Keep the Doors Open account. The money we report is what we actually have in that bank account. It is totaled on Wednesday and reported in the Bulldog on Friday and in the weekend bulletin. If money comes in after the Wednesday tally, it will be reported the following week. This is so we can report consistent information. There is also a chart in the school, the church and on our webpage www.mystmarys.com and we do periodic updates on Facebook.

There has been some concern that Mr. Brookbank has removed himself from the "situation." I want to clarify this. He has stepped aside from fundraising. He is very aware of everything that that we are doing for Keep the Doors Open and still gives suggestions, but is very much moving forward with the plans for next school year. He is currently meeting with other teachers and principals of blended classrooms. He has been researching Title 4 money to train teachers in blended learning. The restructuring of the school is as important as raising the money to continue education at St. Mary's. This is all while still doing everyday principal tasks and being a science teacher. So please don't misinterpret him removing himself from fundraising as giving up. He is very involved and going above and beyond our expectations as a first year principal with the challenges he is facing.

With the restructuring of the school, we will have less money to spend on extras. This concerned a lot of parents. We will no longer have paid positions for gym, library, art, ect., but will have volunteers running these programs. We want all the children to have a well-rounded education including these special programs. Many Catholic schools run these programs with volunteers and we know we have many willing to help and support the school by volunteering. If you are interested in being a potential volunteer, please contact the school. Most of these positions would only require one day a week.

Letters have been sent to alumni. Currently working on letters to business owners. We have had very few people turn in contacts and information on potential businesses that might be willing to donate. If you know of anyone, please send in their contact information, so we can get a letter to them. If anyone would like to volunteer to be on a long term commitment committee seeking finances through grants and businesses, please let us know.

Finally, our next meeting date will be December 17th at 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,
Beth Legge, President School Commission
beth@mccabesflowers.com

Calendar of Events:

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|---|--|
| Wednesday, December 5th | Primary Christmas Program at 6:30 p.m. (Grades K-3) Lessons and Carols service at 7 p.m. (Grades 4-8) |
| Friday, December 7th | Christmas Breakfast for all students! |
| Saturday, December 8th | Family Formation Night: Mary: The Yes that Changed the World at 6 p.m. |
| Sunday, December 16th | Adult Voice of Indiana performance at 3 p.m. |
| Monday, December 17th | Keep the Doors Open meeting at 6:30 p.m. in school cafeteria |
| Wednesday, December 19th | 2Q ends |
| Thursday, December 20th, 2018 - Wednesday, January 2, 2019 | Christmas Break – No School |
| Thursday, January 3rd | School Resumes |