

## **The Bulldog Barks**

### **February 23, 2018**

#### **ISTEP/IREAD**

February 26th - March 9th and April 16th - May 4th are the ISTEP windows for this school year. Please do not schedule any appointments or vacations on these dates.

IREAD for 3rd graders will be from March 12 - March 16th. If you have a 3rd grade student, please do not schedule any appointments or vacations on these dates or the ISTEP dates. I apologize for any inconvenience. All of this testing is state mandated and does impact our schools rating.

**Snow days: We have 4 more snow days to make up. They will be made up as follows:**

- **Monday, March 19th (January 12th)**
- **Tuesday, March 20th (January 16th)**
- **Wednesday, March 21st (January 24th)**
- **Thursday, March 22nd (February 7th)**

#### **Young Author and Illustrator Contest**

Books are due today! If a student was absent today, they may turn it in when they return, but otherwise they should all be in by the end of the day. They will be sent off for judging next week. We'll let you know when we get the contest results.

#### **St. Mary's Open House**

We will host a new student Open House for the 2018/2019 school year, on Wednesday, March 7th from 6 – 6:30 p.m. This event is for any incoming Kindergarten or future students. If the incoming student will be in 6-8 grade, you will need to schedule a meeting with Mr. Tush. If you or someone you know would be interested in a tour of the school, please have them call the school office at 812-926-1558. See attached flyer!

#### **PTO – Lenten Fish Fry**

Our next fish fry will be on Friday, March 2nd. Students in the following grades are responsible for desserts:

- Kindergarten
- 3rd
- 5th
- 7th

Pies, cakes and specialty desserts are the best things to bring. Please provide at least 24 servings per student.

Thank you to everyone who has signed up already for the Fish Frys! I want remind everyone to click the link and go to the online signups. We still have quite a few spots open over the next few weeks.

Click link: <http://signup.com/go/sLBJeTE>

Please call, email or text me if you have any questions. If you have not volunteered in the past or are new to St. Mary's, I will be happy to go into more detail about anything so you are sure about what is expected from all of our families.

Thanks for volunteering,  
Michelle Ryan, PTO President  
[859-240-9390](tel:859-240-9390)

#### **Cod With God shirts**

We will have Cod With God t-shirts for sale at each fish fry. Shirts are \$10.00 each.

### **Kindergarten – Mrs. Denning**

[amy.denning@mystmarys.com](mailto:amy.denning@mystmarys.com)

We have finished the identification, sounds, and printing of all 26 letters of the alphabet. Next week we will be working with long vowel sounds (the vowels say their own name). Keywords: a- acorn, e- equal, i- icicle, o- overalls, u- unicorn. We have learned the **v--- rule** : a vowel not followed by a consonant, (within the same syllable) is usually long; (no, me, so, be, he, hi), we code the vowel with a macron. A macron is a straight line over the top of the vowel. We will also get reader #11, *My Pal Bo*. Reading the “pop-up” words on a regular basis will help your child become a more fluent reader. The “Ww” words could use some extra practice!

In math we will begin working with nickels- identifying and giving the value for, and we will be counting by 5's to 100.

Show-n-Tell for the week of 2/26 is Cc (hard sound as in cat).

### **Grade 1 – Ms. McPherson**

[mcpherson.1@mystmarys.com](mailto:mcpherson.1@mystmarys.com)

In phonics we will be reading and spelling words that have the three sounds of **digraph ea** (as in leaf, thread, and steak) and the sounds of **diphthong oi** (as in oil) and **diphthong oy** (as in toy). We will also be learning how to use the “**Dropping Rule**” when we are adding vowel suffixes to the end of words that end with a silent e.

In math we are drawing congruent shapes and using our rulers to measure and draw line segments to the nearest inch. We are also learning how to count pennies, nickels and dimes.

### **Grade 2 – Mrs. Grove**

[annmarie.grove@mystmarys.com](mailto:annmarie.grove@mystmarys.com)

The second grade Young Author and Illustrator entries look great. I bet we will have some winners! We have started very basic multiplication and we are counting quarters. We are learning to trace and write the lower case cursive letters before we tackle the upper case letters. Thank you to all the parents that sent in a dessert for the fish fry last Friday. The next fish fry is Friday, March 2nd.

### **Grade 3 – Mrs. Rector**

[kim.rector@mystmarys.com](mailto:kim.rector@mystmarys.com)

Since we begin the first round of our ISTEP testing next week, students need to bring in number two pencils and a good eraser if they do not already have them at school. They will also need to be prepared by getting a good night's rest and having a healthy breakfast in the morning. When you are tired and hungry, it's difficult to concentrate. The third graders will not have written homework next week, and we will not have a spelling test so they should have plenty of time to rest up.

Unless something changes in our schedule, the plan is that we will complete the practice test on Monday, have one math and one language arts test on Tuesday, and one language arts test on Thursday. Third graders are not tested on social studies or science. We should be able to finish everything on those three days and have a little break from testing before we have to take the IREAD test the week of March 12th. Have a terrific week!

### **Grade 4 – Mrs. Meyer**

[amanda.meyer@mystmarys.com](mailto:amanda.meyer@mystmarys.com)

It is ISTEP week! Fourth graders are required to take math, language arts, and science ISTEP tests. We will test on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Please encourage your student to do their best!

Students will continue reading *Stone Fox* this week. I will give them more class time to ensure they can get their work done at school. This will provide more rest time for ISTEP. February reading logs are due Thursday! Have a great week!

### **Grade 5 – Mrs. Baker**

[leslie.baker@mystmarys.com](mailto:leslie.baker@mystmarys.com)

Fifth graders will start ISTEP testing next week. We will test Tuesday through Friday in the morning each day. Please make sure your child has #2 pencils to use for the test. Also, students should get plenty of rest and eat a good breakfast. We will take a snack break each day as well. Please make sure your child has a snack.

We will not have spelling or vocabulary next week because of ISTEP. We will continue learning about fractions in math and the 13 original colonies in social studies. In reading we will be finishing our novel, *The Indian in the Cupboard*. Have a great week!

## **5th/6th Grade Academic Team:**

The meet is Saturday, March 3rd, at Oldenburg Academy!

### **Grade 6 – Mrs. Rice**

[suzy.rice@mystmarys.com](mailto:suzy.rice@mystmarys.com)

ISTEP testing is planned for Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday for the 6th grade. Lego Robotics will be in the afternoons over the next 2 weeks. The 6th grade was the first class to all turn in their money for robotics. This week grades 6-8, all had math tests. The quarter is going fast, so now is the time to do your best! Have you corrected your math test, or will you when it is returned? There are only 3 weeks left in the quarter after ISTEP. Don't put off until tomorrow what you can do today!

### **Grade 7 – Mr. Johnson**

[brady.johnson@mystmarys.com](mailto:brady.johnson@mystmarys.com)

6th Grade - We have been discussing the eastern portion of South America. We have discussed Brazil and the Amazon Rain forest. Somethings discussed have been the landforms, climate, economy, and culture of Brazil and their neighboring countries. As part of our study of Latin America, I am having the students create a PowerPoint presentation over different countries found in this region and give reasons why people should visit those locations.

7th Grade - This past week we have focused on the 3 primary religions that have roots in the Middle East. We have compared and contrasted the formation of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam and how they have spread from there to have a worldwide impact. We also have discussed the role of OPEC, which is the collection of oil producing nations that have a cartel on the world oil supply.

On Tuesday, February 27th, we plan to begin the ISTEP test. We will test, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

8th Grade - Chapter 8 will focus on George Washington and the precedents he set as our first president. To go along with our study on Washington, I am having students produce power points over different presidents in history. They will present these the week prior to Spring Break.

### **Grade 8 – Ms. Stemler**

[stemler.8@mystmarys.com](mailto:stemler.8@mystmarys.com)

6th grade: The sixth graders learned about character traits this week. They also learned new literary terms such as personification, foreshadowing, and hyperbole. We'll finish up Hidden Figures next week. In English we're working on finishing up our expository essays.

7th grade: The seventh graders just took a quiz on character traits. The class average was a 95—Great job! Next week we will continue reading Hidden Figures. We will also wrap up our essays and begin editing and revising them.

8th grade: The eighth grade finished up theirs essays this week. Overall, they did extremely well on them—great work! They also learned about connotation, denotation, and diction. Next week we will begin Argumentative writing.

### **Jim Waldon**

[jim.waldon@mystmarys.com](mailto:jim.waldon@mystmarys.com)

Congratulations, Saint Mary's School Choir! Our school choir was a hit in Indianapolis last night as Catholics from around the archdiocese gathered to celebrate Catholic school values at Union Station. The group's stage presence and musicianship represented the best of everything at St. Mary's. Before they ever stepped on stage, the students were receiving compliments for their behavior, and they left a lasting great impression on everyone who was present. One of the evening's highlights was a visit from Archbishop Thompson after they had eaten dinner. The archbishop and the students enjoyed chatting followed by a visit from Father John Meyer, who grew up in Aurora and is pastor of St. Mary's in Greensburg. Heartfelt thanks go out to all of the choir members and to alumni Justine Stenger and William Townsend who joined them to make their presentation absolutely beautiful. Thanks, too, to Michelle Ryan, Jessica Wismann, and Mr. Tush for providing our transportation!

**7th & 8th Grade Science – Mr. Brookbank****brookbank.science@mystmarys.com**

7th & 8th Grade Science: We completed the work on the circulatory system & blood transfusions.

**ATTENTION 8TH Grade parents!** Wednesday, 2/21, I introduced strategies to improve techniques concerning completing the ISTEP testing procedures. The area of testing that is difficult is the essay writing section. I introduced essay skills early in January with this part of the test in mind. We will cover brainstorming ideas, logical order of writing the ideas, and concentrating on being diligent in our writing style. I emphasized the importance of paying attention to the instructions and small details (i.e punctuation, spelling, etc.). Small errors can add up and count against their score. The 8th grade students ISTEP scores are used to place students in honors classes their freshmen year. ISTEP is not the sole tool used for placement in classes, but it does carry a substantial amount of weight in academic placement. We will test on Tuesday, 2/27. Math & English are the subjects that will be tested. I will be administering a state practice test on Friday and reviewing this test for weaknesses on Monday. We would appreciate your help in continuing to stress the importance of testing and your child is rested and ready to do their best!

**Connie Powers, CRE****connie.powers@mystmarys.com**

Save the Date! The Joyful Mysteries Vacation Bible School is set for June 25 – 29th. 1-3 pm.

Join the fun by volunteering! Just drop me a line!

Confirmation Preparation Sessions for 7th and 8th grades are on Sundays at 6 pm in the Parish Office.

Dates are February 25th, March 4th, 11th and 18th.

**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.

**Cafeteria Volunteers:**

02/26 – Carolyn Robers, 02/27 – Barb Langdon, 02/28 – Marge Waldon, 03/01 – Barb Maness, 03/02 – Patty Kent, 03/05 – Pat Scharf, 03/06 – Marge Beinkemper, 03/07 – Marge Waldon, 03/08 – Barb Maness, 03/09 – Patty Kent, 03/12 – HELP NEEDED, 03/13 – Barb Langdon, 03/14 – Marge Waldon, 03/15 – Barb Maness, 03/16 – Patty Kent, 03/19 – Pat Scharf, 03/20 – Marge Beinkemper, 03/21 – Marge Waldon, 03/22 – Barb Maness

**Playground Volunteers:**

02/26 – Carolyn/Bernadine, 02/27 – Meghan Oatman, 02/28 – Monica Ramsey, 03/01 – Chris Strzok, 03/02 – Chris Strzok, 03/05 – Bernadine/Carolyn, 03/06 – Meghan Oatman, 03/07 – Monica Ramsey, 03/08 - Chris Strzok, 03/09 - Chris Strzok, 03/12 – Bernadine/Carolyn, 03/13 – Meghan Oatman, 03/14 – Monica Ramsey, 03/15 - Chris Strzok, 03/16 - Chris Strzok, 03/19 – Bernadine/Carolyn, 03/20 – Meghan Oatman, 03/21 – Monica Ramsey, 03/22 - Chris Strzok

**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**

| <b>Monday</b>   | <b>Tuesday</b>   | <b>Wednesday</b>   | <b>Thursday</b>   | <b>Friday</b>   |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| 26  | 27   | 28   | 1   | 2   |
| French Toast Sticks<br>Sausage Links<br>Hash Browns<br>Green Beans<br>Fruit<br>Milk | Petite Chicken<br>Strips<br>Corn<br>Green Beans<br>Buttered Noodles<br>Fruit<br>Milk | Hamburger or<br>Pizza Burger<br>French Fries<br>Baked Beans<br>Fruit<br>Milk | Taco<br>(Beef or Chicken)<br>Refried Beans<br>Corn<br>Fruit<br>Milk | Cheese Pizza<br>Veggie Sticks with Dip<br>Tossed Salad<br>Fruit<br>Milk |

# Calendar of Events:

- 02/23 St. John's Fish Fry  
- There is no fish fry at St. Mary's tonight
- 03/02 Fish Fry (2 of 5)
- 03/03 5th/6th Grade Academic Team Meet at Oldenburg Academy
- 03/07 Open House for 2018/2019 School Year from 6 - 6:30 p.m.
- 03/09 Fish Fry (3 of 5)
- 03/15 Athletic Banquet (Activity Center)
- 03/16 End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter
- 03/16 Fish Fry (4 of 5)
- 03/19 School will be in session to make up the snow day from 01/12
- 03/20 School will be in session to make up the snow day from 01/16
- 03/21 School will be in session to make up the snow day from 01/24
- 03/22 School will be in session to make up the snow day from 02/07
- 03/23 Provisional Spring Break Day (possible snow make up day)
- 03/23 Aurora Fire Department Fish Fry
- 03/26 – 03/30 Spring Break
- 03/30 Fish Fry (5 of 5)
- 04/02 School Resumes
- 04/14 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Spaghetti Dinner
- 04/28 Celebrate St. Mary's at Dearborn County Club

## Safe and Sacred

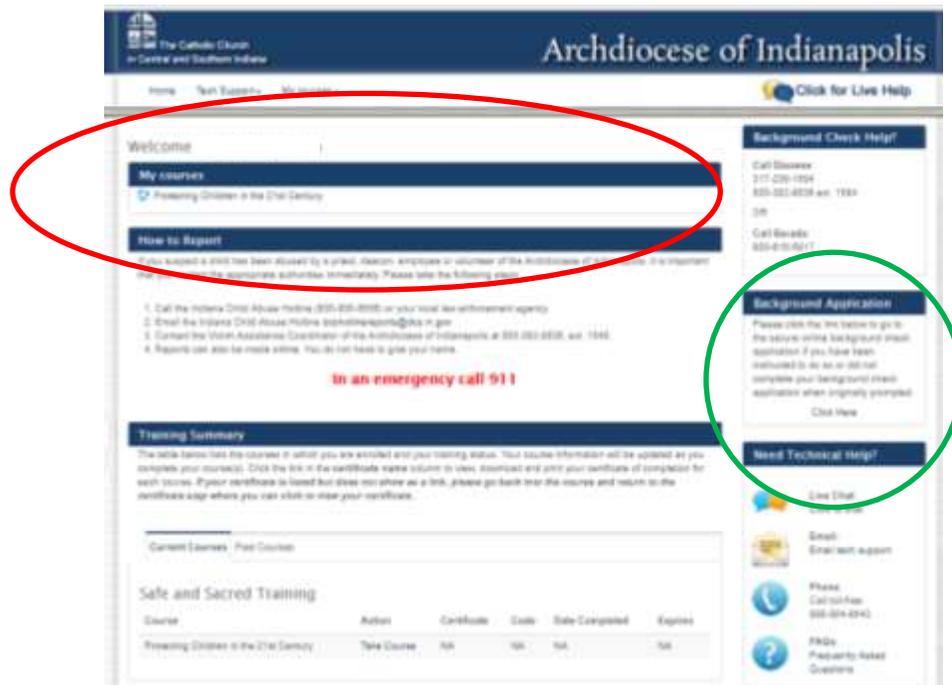
The Archdiocese of Indianapolis is sending out reminders to people that need to take or update training and/or their background check. Your certification will expire every three (3) years. You can either click on the link in the email you receive or you can go to [www.safeandsacred-archindy.org](http://www.safeandsacred-archindy.org). Please see below for a screen shot of what your screen will look like.

### Steps:

Log into your Safe and Sacred account. If you need any assistance with logging in, please contact tech support as directed on the site. You may be asked to update your profile.

1. You will need to take the course (or courses) that are listed under the “My Courses” on the left side of the screen.
2. You will also need to request a background check. You can do this by selecting the “Click Here” under “Background Application”

1. Take the class or classes that are at the top of the page.
2. Go to the right side of the screen and click on the “Click Here” under the Background Application



St. Mary’s will receive notification that you have completed the training and in about 1 week, we will receive your background check.