

**MONTHLY
SCHOOL EVENT GUIDE
2019-2020**



St. Mary School
S W O R M V I L L E

Dedicated to the whole child...serving the entire family.

This guide for parents is just a snapshot of the many school activities and opportunities we offer here at St. Mary School. It is our hope that this guide will give our families a better understanding of our school events. Activities may vary from time to time depending on a variety of factors. We welcome and encourage all ideas to enhance our school community. Please forward suggestions and questions to St. Mary's Home School Association (HSA) via Co-Presidents Kristen Lewis and Kim Colaiacovo:

- Email: HSA@stmaryschoolswormville.org.
- Phone: 716-445-9152 (Kristen Lewis) or 716-866-4631 (Kim Colaiacovo)
- Note to the school office labelled, Attention: HSA

St. Mary's offers a comprehensive variety of extracurricular activities throughout the school year; from community service activities such as scouting and altar serving to course specific clubs such as Art Club and Future City, there is something for everyone! Please refer to announcements distributed by e-mail, weekly newsletter or take-home handouts.

Parent participation is **essential** to our school programs, and we invite everyone to join in our school community. Greater participation in our school activities will keep it vibrant, as well as enrich our community spirit.

All volunteers who interact with children must participate in the Protecting God's Children Workshop through the Diocese of Buffalo. Please register on-line at www.buffalodiocese.org/protecting-gods-children.

Thank you for your commitment to Catholic education and St. Mary School, Swormville.

Rich in tradition...strong in faith.

SEPTEMBER

HSA Meetings: first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

The Home School Association hosts a brief general meeting in September and monthly meetings on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. **Meetings are open to all parents.** These meetings give every parent the opportunity to stay informed regarding Home School Association happenings and fiscal reports. The Home School Association executive committee (4 officers and committee chairs) meets monthly to review the status of the budget as well as discuss upcoming events and happenings.

Special Person Day: Friday, September 13, 2019

We invite grandparents or another special person to join us for our school Mass at 9:00 a.m., followed by a simple reception in the gym. Students are then invited to show their grandparents/special person their classrooms prior to noon dismissal.

Meet the Teachers Night: Monday, September 16, 2019

A parent-only event which provides an opportunity for parents to meet our school faculty. Parents also go to their student's classroom where the teacher discusses classroom guidelines and general curriculum expectations.

HSA General Meeting: Monday September 16, 2019

HSA will review and vote to approve the budget for the upcoming school year at "Meet the Teacher" Night. Consider signing up to volunteer for our upcoming events after the budget proposal. If you do not have a Sign-Up Genius account created or have questions about HSA, we will be happy to help you!

Thank Goodness It's September! ("TGIS"): Friday, September 27, 2019

A social event for all parents to mix, mingle and enjoy a RELAXING night out together! With the kids back in school, this is a great night to reconnect as a community and meet new parents! This **parents-only event** will be held at Santora's, 7800 Transit Road, Williamsville, NY from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Cost is \$10.00 per person.

OCTOBER

Sr. Sheila School Marathon: Wednesday, October 2, 2019

A fun, outdoor, school pride event! All students and teachers walk/run to raise funds for St. Mary School! Parents are also invited to come and walk with your children! Pledge sheets are sent home with each student, who is encouraged to seek pledges from friends and family! We are in need of parent volunteers in order to make the Marathon a success. Consider volunteering before/after your child(ren) is(are) walking, so you can also walk with them. Younger siblings are welcome for this event!

Blessing of the Pets: Friday, October 4, 2019

Since the Sisters of Saint Francis have been involved with the school since 1849, the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi is recognized with this special tradition. Families from our entire St. Mary's faith community may bring their family pets for a blessing on the front lawn of school.

Grades 7-8 Team Building Retreat:

A day-long retreat for our 7th and 8th Grade students that encourages team building and reinforces our Catholic virtues.

Back to School Dance: Friday, October 11, 2019

A social opportunity for St. Mary's students in grades 6 – 8 as well as the previous graduating class (current 9th graders) to have some fun together. Chaperones are needed to support this event.

Picture Day: Tuesday and Wednesday, October 22-23, 2019

An opportunity to capture memories! Fall pictures involve both individual pictures as well as a class photo. Uniforms are worn for the class picture while "Sunday best" is appropriate for individual pictures. The individual snapshot is also submitted for inclusion in the school yearbook. Fall picture packages must be pre-ordered, using the provider's order form or purchased online. Purchases are optional. Parent volunteers are needed to help students look their best!

Pumpkin Carving: Thursday, October 24, 2019

An event sponsored by Spoth Farms and Dengler, Perna and Roberts Funeral Home. Each student who attends can carve a pumpkin with their family and friends. Donuts, cider, popcorn and treats are served while fun is had by all! A fun corn maze and Halloween theme are tons of fun for young students and their siblings!

Fall Fest: Friday, October 25, 2019

Fall Fest is a fun family social event for Halloween—so please come in costume! The 8th grade students provide games and activities for all who attend. We have costume contests for Montessori through Grade 4 and a Haunted House for 5th-7th grade. As this is an event for the whole family, no scary costumes/masks, please. Snacks and refreshments will be provided as well. There is a minimal charge per family. This event is open to parish families as well.

Halloween

The children in grades K through 2 bring their costumes to school for participation in a Halloween parade. The parade visits all of the other classrooms and many classes are provided with a sweet treat from the room parents.

NOVEMBER

All Saints Day: Friday, November 1, 2019

A special celebration is held during the 9 a.m. Mass on All Saints Day. Prior to the celebration, each 3rd grade student chooses a saint about whom they are interested in learning more. At the Mass, each student is dressed to reflect the saint they chose and speaks about a highlight of the saint's life.

Scholastic Book Fair: Tuesday, November 5, 2019 and Wednesday, November 6, 2019:

An annual fundraiser that benefits the library and classrooms' book collections. The book fair gives students and teachers the opportunity to create wish lists and shop during assigned class times. It's not too early to think about Christmas shopping!

Catholic High School Entrance Exam: November 2019

This date is on the calendar as a reminder to parents of students considering a Catholic High School. Students apply for the entrance exam via <https://www.wnycatholicschools.org/catholic-high-school-application-for-admission>. Financial aid and scholarships forms are available at Catholic High Schools and vary from school to school. Parents considering a Catholic High School are encouraged to attend Open Houses when a student enters 6th grade. This allows parents and students time to tour many schools before taking the placement test. Prep courses are also available at many high schools. Students are encouraged to take the test at their school of choice as many scholarships are awarded from this test.

St. Mary's Meat Raffle: Saturday, November 16, 2019

This is the BIGGEST (and MOST FUN) fundraiser hosted by the HSA! Join us in the School Gymnasium for a night of fun and fellowship as we gather together in hopes of winning some amazing prizes! The event also offers a 50/50 raffle and basket raffle.

Thanksgiving Luncheon: Tuesday, November 26, 2019

A family-style buffet lunch is held for all students and faculty by parent volunteers! This delicious meal of traditional Thanksgiving favorites is prepared by our dedicated cafeteria staff. Older students buddy up with the younger children to help fill their plates with a turkey feast! Volunteers are needed for this event, so please check Sign-Up Genius.

DECEMBER

St. Agnes Christmas Families:

In early December, each grade adopts a family in-need for Christmas. The students and parents purchase gifts to ensure a “Merry Christmas” morning for this adopted family. Parent and student volunteers are needed to deliver the gifts to the Sisters of St. Francis at the St. Agnes Convent in Buffalo.

Parent Teacher Conferences: Friday, December 6, 2019; No School

Please take advantage of this opportunity for parents and teachers to meet one-on-one at the end of the first trimester. Report cards are sent home with the students prior to conference day. Grades and any concerns can be discussed. This brief meeting (10 minutes or so) is scheduled in advance. Although this is a pre-set day for parent teacher conferences, parents are asked to stay up to date on student grades via the school’s parent portal and communicate with their child’s teacher on an as needed basis throughout the school year.

Evening of Code:

At *Evening of Code*, parents pair up with their young children at this evening school event to do an hour of coding, together. Led by Mrs. Federowicz, Parents and students will complete self-paced coding challenges – fun, game-like puzzles – while being at the forefront of computer-science education!

Tony Walker Shopping Gift Gathering: Thursday, December 12, 2019

Join the St. Mary’s Faith Community for a day and night shopping extravaganza. The HSA hosts this event to help with the purchase of items for the Spring Auction and Dinner Gala. All St. Mary’s faith community members will receive a 10% discount on items and 10% of purchases are donated back to our faith community.

Christmas Band and Chorus Concert: December 19, 2019

Celebrate the spirit of the Christmas season at the annual Christmas Concert! Students must be present as it forms part of their music grade. Students are encouraged to wear their “Sunday best” in Christmas colors.

JANUARY

Parents' Night Out: January 17, 2020

Unwind from the holidays and escape the winter blues with a fun, parent-only event! Further details will be provided!

Open House: Sunday, January 26, 2020

Come join us for St. Mary's Open House as we show prospective families all that our St. Mary's Faith Community has to offer! The Open House is the "kick-off" for Catholic Schools Week. Join us for Mass at 11:15 a.m. (students wear uniforms) then come over to the school to visit with prospective school families! Parent volunteers are needed for checking in visitors and leading tours.

Catholic Schools Week: January 26, 2020 – February 2, 2020

A week-long celebration of what makes Catholic education important and unique! Fun events are planned throughout the week for the students including *Bring a Guest to Lunch Day!*

FEBRUARY

Catholic Schools Week Family Breakfast: Sunday, February 2, 2020

Celebrate the end of Catholic Schools Week with breakfast with the St. Mary's Faith Community! School families attend the 9:00 a.m. Mass (students wear your uniforms!) and afterwards gather in the School Gymnasium for a delicious Pancake Breakfast! Food donations are collected for St. Luke's Mission of Mercy. Volunteers are needed to make this event a success!

Ice Skating Party: Friday, February 14, 2020

An event for all St. Mary's students and their parents, held at the Northtown Center following noon dismissal. Participating families enjoy 1 ½ hours of ice time with their friends on a rink reserved for St. Mary's families! Proceeds collected will be donated to SABAH and \$1 Jeans Day Passes may be purchased with proceeds going to Catholic Charities. Nominal fee per family to attend.

St. Valentine's Day

In celebration of Valentine's Day, students are allowed to wear a red shirt with their uniform. Students in the lower grades also exchange cards, and all students may have a snack provided by room parents.

MARCH

Literacy Night: Monday, March 2, 2020

Join us for an exciting night as we celebrate the joy of reading. Hop into a giant game of Scrabble, go on a book scavenger hunt, visit the book fair and our book swap table, test your skills at the literacy games and enjoy a bedtime story! Door prizes and other surprises await you at this fantastic event!

Spring Scholastic Book Fair: Tuesday, March 3, 2020 and Wednesday, March 4, 2020

An annual fundraiser that benefits the library and classrooms' book collections. The book fair gives students and teachers the opportunity to create wish lists and shop during assigned class times.

New York State ELA (English Language Arts) Assessment:

Wednesday and Thursday, March 25 and 26, 2020

This assessment measures each student's performance with respect to the Learning Standards defined by the state. Students are prepared for the exam ahead of time in the classroom. The exam is given in grades 3 through 8. Students should have a good night's rest and breakfast before the test!

APRIL

Pray and Play: Friday, April 3, 2020

The *Living Stations of the Cross* are presented by the 5th grade students on the school stage. Each Station of the Cross is presented with a special reflection. After we reverently pray the Stations, everyone gathers for an ice cream social and cake walk. All proceeds benefit Catholic Charities. What is a cake walk you ask? The students play a version of musical chairs and the person seated in the "lucky" seat wins a cake to bring home! The creatively decorated cakes are provided by parent volunteers.

New York State Math Proficiency Tests: Tuesday and Wednesday, April 21-22, 2020

This assessment measures each student's performance with respect to the learning standards defined by the state. Students are prepared for the exam ahead of time in the classroom. The exam is given in grades 3 through 8. Students should have a good night's rest and breakfast before the test.

Father/Daughter Dance: Saturday, April 25, 2020

An annual tradition where each girl in grades K through 8 invites her dad (or special adult man) to a formal evening out. The gym is beautifully transformed for the evening, and refreshments are provided and served by volunteer mothers. This is an opportunity to dress up and spend time with that special someone!

8th Grade Class Trip: April 30 – May 3, 2020

Each year, our 8th graders work together to raise funds to defray the cost of a class trip. Grade 8 parents need to volunteer to supervise these activities and all 8th graders must participate in the fundraising events. Please support our graduating class as their events arise throughout the year!

MAY

May Crowning:

This Catholic tradition continues at St. Mary's Parish. All families are welcome to submit their name to be selected to crown the statue of Mary located in the special garden outside the Church. This is a Parish event.

Mass of Hope & Reception: Friday, May 8, 2020

This all-school Mass is a special occasion for the 7th 8th graders and their parents. The graduating class plans and executes the liturgy with our Pastor. Then, the 8th graders "pass the torch" to the 7th graders. A brief social for the 8th graders and their parents is held after Mass. Seventh graders and their parents plan and serve the event.

Kindergarten and Montessori Mother's Day Teas: Friday, May 8, 2020

A special opportunity for our Montessori and Kindergarten students to celebrate with their Mom's! Following 9:00 a.m. Mass, the students gather with their mothers (or grandmothers or other special person) for a brief program followed by "tea"!

"Spring for Success" Parish Auction: Date To Be Determined

Join the St. Mary's Faith Community for a special evening of music, dinner and fun to benefit educational and spiritual opportunities at St. Mary School. Hundreds of items are available for silent and live auction! Volunteers and gift donations are essential to make this event a success, so please check out Sign-Up Genius to see how you can contribute!

Spring Musical: Friday and Saturday, May 15 & 16, 2020

You will be amazed by the talent of our St. Mary's Drama Club! Our students have presented such classics as *Cinderella*, *Peter Pan*, *James and the Giant Peach*, and more!

New York State 4th and 8th Grade Science Assessment: May 18, 19 and June 1, 2020

This science test consists of written and performance components. It is designed to measure the content and skills covered in the science curriculum for grades K through 4 and grades 5 through 8.

Mother-Son Picnic: Saturday, May 30, 2020

This is a special opportunity for mothers and sons to go out on a weekend and enjoy time with each other! More details will be provided as the date approaches.

JUNE

Spring Band and Chorus Concert: Friday, June 5, 2020:

Celebrate the sounds of Spring at the Spring Band and Chorus Concert! Students must be present as the concert counts as part of their grade. Students are encouraged to wear their “Sunday best.”

HSA Volunteer Appreciation Night: Friday, June 6, 2020

HSA sponsors this event to thank all volunteers for their time and effort during the school year! Location to be determined.

Moving Up Day & Talent Show: Monday, June 8, 2020

In the morning, students “move up” to spend time getting to know the teacher they will have for homeroom the following year. In the afternoon, St. Mary’s students who have auditioned demonstrate their many talents to the school and parents. Students’ gifts have included playing the piano, dancing, singing, as well as interesting, unique talents. A student may present an act individually or as part of a group.

8th Grade Retreat:

Students make a group retreat each Spring. Time is spent at St. Jude’s Parish Center to reflect on how they have grown individually and as a class. They also look to the future as each student now will enter on a new path into high school.

Montessori Children’s House End of Year Picnic: Friday, June 19, 2020

Our Montessori friends and their parents celebrate a year of fun and learning. Last day for Montessori Children’s House students.

Kindergarten Graduation: Friday, June 19, 2020

A celebration of the end of a very special year for our Kindergarteners! Last day for kindergarten.

8th Grade Dinner Dance: Saturday, June 20, 2020

A long-standing St. Mary’s tradition where the 7th grade parents host a special dinner for the 8th graders, their parents, and faculty. This enjoyable evening has a special theme which is reflected in the decorations and food. After the meal, the 6th and 7th grade students join the 8th graders for an evening of dancing.

School Picnic: Monday, June 22, 2020

The whole school enjoys a picnic at the end of the year. Teams are arranged with students from every grade and are assigned a team t-shirt color to compete in end of the year fun. Many parents are needed to organize this event and assist on the day of the picnic! Please check out Sign-Up Genius to find out how you can participate!

Last Day of School: Tuesday, June 23, 2020

Celebrate the last day of school for Grades 1 through 8 by joining us for 9:00 a.m. Mass, followed by awards in the Church! Third Trimester Report cards will be handed out before noon dismissal.

8th Grade Graduation: Friday, June 26, 2020

Our graduation ceremony fittingly includes Mass and takes place in our church. Graduating 8th graders may invite as many friends and families as they like. Our entire school community is also invited.

ONGOING

HSA Meetings: first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

The Home School Association hosts a brief general meeting in September and monthly meetings on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. **Meetings are open to all parents.** These meetings give every parent the opportunity to stay informed regarding Home School Association happenings and fiscal reports. The Home School Association executive committee (4 officers and committee chairs) meets monthly to review the status of the budget as well as discuss upcoming events and happenings.

Just for Kids (JFK) After School Care:

On campus after school care is available until 5:30 p.m. each day St. Mary School is in session. Montessori four year old – grade 8 students may attend. This service is offered through our partner, Just for Kids. To request after school care, call: 716-639-8500, or email: info@justforkidsonline.org. A link to the JFK website can be found on our school web page.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Home School Association

St. Mary's Home School Association (known as HSA) is a parent/guardian organization whose mission is to coordinate fundraising opportunities, connect families through social and spiritual events in our St. Mary's Faith Community and to provide a forum of discussion between home and school which aids St. Mary's in its mission to benefit our children. It operates within the framework of all policies and guidelines of the school and the Catholic Diocese of Buffalo.

School Website www.stmaryschoolswormville.org

The school website contains the most up to date news. Parents should be in the habit of checking the school website at least weekly when the school newsletter is posted. Important forms and resources as well as quick links to the parish and SignUp Genius are also posted here.

"St. Mary's Buzz"

Our weekly school newsletter, "St. Mary's Buzz," is published each Thursday afternoon, when school is in session. Parents are expected to review this newsletter and are responsible for the information that is communicated in the newsletter each week.

Email Blasts

An effective and timely way to communicate important/time sensitive information with our school families. Be sure that your email address is current in our data base.

School Messenger:

The School Messenger notification system is utilized specifically for school closings/ cancellations, or emergency alerts. A test is run at the beginning of each school year to ensure that all families are reached by email, voice call, and/or text

School Closing Information

St. Mary's follows the school closing announcements for the Williamsville School District. In addition, the Principal may close school due to weather or site specific situations. Such cancellations will be communicated via the School Messenger system and listed on local TV stations. Please note: If you do not live in the Williamsville School District, you are responsible for transportation on days when Williamsville is in session and your district is not. Your district only provides transportation on days that its schools are in session.

Student / Parent Handbook

Available via the school web site's menu, under "*Parent Resources*", this document is a great reference for various policies and procedures at St. Mary School. A parent and pupil must sign and return a form that indicates that the handbook has been read by parents and reviewed with students.

Parent Mentor Program

Parent volunteers who assist in helping current, new or prospective parents with questions they may have about the school. Ambassadors will help ensure a smooth transition for families into life at SMS.

Parent Portal: Grades 3 - 8

It is very important that parents are aware of their child's grades and homework status. This can be done through the Parent Portal. In addition, mid-trimester Progress Reports and each trimester's Report Card may be accessed via the portal. Each family is assigned a user name and password that is used to access the on-line portal at <https://parentportal.eschooldata.com>. Questions on the portal should be directed to the school secretary.

8th Grade Fundraisers

The parents of the 8th grade class work together to plan and implement fundraisers to help defray the students' portion of the 8th grade trip cost. Planning and fundraising begin early to help ensure a successful outcome. Please support our 8th graders.

Specials

A term which refers to the following enrichment subjects that are integral to educating the whole child: Art, Music, Physical Education (PE), Technology, Makerspace, Spanish and Library.

Band

An after school program is available for students in grades 3 through 8. Small group band instruction is provided by an instructor based on experience and instruments. The fee associated with this program is determined by the company offering the lessons, Paul Effman Music. The band performs at our Christmas and Spring Concerts. Select students may perform with the Diocesan Honor Band.

100-day Celebration

Some classrooms enjoy the countdown to the 100th day of school. When this milestone arrives, room parents may be requested to coordinate with the teachers for a small celebration. It may be snacks which form the number 100 or making necklaces from 100 small items. Whatever the activity, it is always a fun celebration!

Birthday Celebrations

Birthdays are special days and deserve a celebration! On your child's birthday, a small treat may be sent in to share with their classmates. Please contact the teacher in advance so that arrangements can be made to accommodate the classroom schedule. Montessori has a specific snack list. All others should follow the Safe Snack List on the school website/teacher instruction.

Jeans Days*

An opportunity provided by the Principal at various times throughout the year where students can wear jeans/dress down for a day. All attire must adhere to St. Mary School's policy of modesty and appropriateness as well as to the guidelines for the specific Jeans Day. Students may participate in exchange for a donation of at least \$1.00. Jeans Day passes may be available at special events for a specific date or students will be asked to bring the donation to school. All Jeans Day money is donated to a charity. *Note: we may also have dress-up days.

Yearbook

A collection of school year memories! Each year a color book is published which every student has the opportunity to purchase. All students, Montessori – Grade 8, are represented on class portrait pages as well as a collage page.

SPIRITUAL

Daily Prayers*

Each morning the entire school stands (in their respective classrooms) to begin the day with a morning prayer which is offered for the benefactors of our school and any requested intentions from our school family. Prayer requests may be made by the children themselves or be sent in by parents.

In addition, a prayer is said prior to each passed class and before meals/snacks. Every school day is ended with the entire school praying the “Hail Mary.”

*During the seasons of Advent and Lent, the whole school gathers in the gym for morning prayer and announcements.

Weekly Mass

To further the spiritual development of students at St. Mary School, the students attend 9 a.m. Mass on Fridays and Holy Days of Obligation.

Monthly Virtues and Service Projects

A different Christian virtue is highlighted each month via morning announcements, in class discussion, and service projects. Parents are encouraged to reinforce these virtues at home and to participate as a family in each service project.

First Penance

Students in 2nd grade and have completed the grade 1 Catholic religion curriculum are eligible to learn more about this sacrament. Students and parents work along with the Faith Formation staff at their respective parishes for sacramental preparations.

First Holy Eucharist

Students who have completed the Catholic religion curriculum for grades 1 and 2 are eligible to learn more about this sacrament. When the parents and Faith Formation staff feel the student is ready, they begin sacrament preparations. Once the preparations are complete, a date can be selected for the celebration of First Holy Communion. If a student is a parishioner of a parish other than St. Mary’s Swormville, arrangements should be made with the student’s home parish for sacramental preparation.

Prayer Partners

Each student and staff member receives the name of another student as a “prayer partner” for the school year. Children are encouraged to say a prayer for this student during school and prayer time at home.

Parish Prayer Requests

If you have a special prayer request for which you would like the St. Mary’s Parish Prayer Team to pray, go to our parish website and click on “Prayer” in the menu.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

Fall Sports

Swimming – co-ed for grades MK - 8, runs September through November (must turn 5 years old by 12/1)

Boys' Baseball – Grades 5 - 8

Girls' Volleyball – Grades 6 - 8

Winter Sports

Basketball – teams for boys and girls in grades 3-8, runs from November through March

Bowling – co-ed intramural for grades K-8, students need a partner and additional fees apply

Boys' Volleyball – Grades 6-8

Spring Sports

Softball – for girls in grades 5-8, runs April to June

Track – co-ed for grades K-8, runs from April to May

Soccer – co-ed for grades 1-8, runs April through June

Sports Requirements

Kindergarten students must turn 5 years old by December 1 of the current school year. Student must have a current health physical on file in the health office. Student will be well behaved in school, on the playground, on the bus and follow the rules in the Student/Parent Handbook. Student will have homework completed on time. Student will be working diligently and participating in class. Student will show good sportsmanship and behavior at all times. Student will respect teachers, classmates, coaches and teammates.

School Clubs

St. Mary School's faculty offer additional clubs that run for specified time frames throughout the school year. Examples are Science Club, Art Club, Drama Club, and Homework Club, and Advanced Choir. New clubs will be announced through the "St. Mary's Buzz."

Future City Team

A wonderful opportunity for 7th and 8th grade students to learn more about science and engineering while also working together as a team. Each year the students are given a theme and are asked to create their city of tomorrow based on the topic. They are mentored by a faculty member and volunteer engineer from our parish. In January, the students compete for local awards and the opportunity to continue to the national competition in Washington DC. This program is sponsored by National Engineers Week.

STREAM Academy Opportunities

Fun after school programs in **S**cience, **T**echnology, **R**eligion, **E**ngineering, **A**rts, and/or **M**athematics that encourage cooperation, teach and expand critical thinking, and develop creative minds. Watch "St. Mary's Buzz" for STREAM Academy announcements.