



SAINT MARY'S BUZZ



September 11, 2020

REMEMBERING THE DAY...

Vol. 1

SEPTEMBER'S VIRTUE: *RESPECT*

**Father, grant that our children may show proper respect to everyone,
as Your Word commands.**

1 Pet. 2:17

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We welcome back our “veteran” students and their families, our 40 new families and 65 new students, and extend special wishes to all for a great year ahead!

Our theme for the year is **GIVE CAREFUL THOUGHT TO YOUR WAYS (Haggai 1:5)** – a theme that seems so apropos in this period of our lives when we endeavor to give special attention to protecting ourselves and others: physically, emotionally and spiritually.

Please keep the Saint Mary School family in your prayers for continued safety and health in our “New Year” ahead!

PARENT COMMUNICATIONS

As we kick off our new year, we encourage you to stay in touch with your children’s teachers and with the office whenever you have questions or concerns. We are here for you and the children! Likewise, we’ll keep you updated with information via the newsletter, email blasts, and – when needed – our SchoolMessenger system, which will reach you via phone, text and email. Please also be sure to keep us posted should you experience any COVID-19 symptoms in your home, or direct contacts with an infected person. Using kid-friendly wording, we are required to query the children 2 to 3 times a week, but we depend upon you for details! Thank you!

MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT

We’ll be re-scheduling Meet the Teacher Night (originally scheduled for Monday, 9/14) to set up virtual chat rooms, and advise you in next week’s newsletter of the date/time/schedule.

PICK –UP

We’re “tweaking” our way to a more rapid and efficient pick-up line at dismissal time. Thank you so much for your patience as we get there! There are so many more families dropping off and picking up this year than ever before! Our drop off has been going as smooth as silk ☺, but we still need to tighten up our pick up – and we will! Thanks again for your support!

MASKS: ONE TO SHOW AND ONE TO GO

This is a great big THANK YOU for supporting the wearing of masks among the children! They've been doing wonderfully here at school! We ask that you be sure to pack an extra mask in case there's a need to make a change during the day. Next week, our special lanyards that will attach a mask should be in, and every student will receive one.

OPENED DOORS AND OPENED WINDOWS

We're opening the windows and doors, have exhaust fans in every classroom, and are taking the kiddoes out doors for as many classes as is possible! We'll be doing this for as long as the weather allows to help assure the healthiest possible environment for your children!!

UNIFORMS

We are very aware that many of your Flynn O'Hara and French Toast uniforms are back-ordered, so please don't fret if your child isn't yet in full uniform! We're just thrilled to have the kiddoes HERE!!!

PE UNIFORMS

We want to reiterate that changing into PE uniforms will be OPTIONAL this year. Even though we are limiting use of the locker room for changing to four students at a time (masks must always be worn in the locker room), you may be more comfortable having your child participate in PE in his/her regular clothing – as long as sneakers are worn! We advise all our girls to wear shorts under their skirts on PE days.

TEAM UPDATES

Under the auspices of the Diocese, we are endeavoring to open up as many sports this year as can be safely done. Currently, we are in search of players for a **JV Boys' Baseball (grades 5 & 6) team**, which we are able to muster right now! Please complete the athletics permission form on the website and return it to school. We've gotten the word that Girls' Volleyball is tentatively scheduled for March 1, rather than as a Fall sport, and that the Neumann Swim program will take place as soon as we can find open pools! The "new normal" may not look so bad after all!!

MASSES

We will commence weekly class Masses on the first Friday in October, taking classes in 3-year groupings to assure social distancing. That means that, initially, we'll have Grades 6 through 8 students at Mass; another week we'll have Grades 3-5 attend; and yet another week we'll have Montessori Kindergarten through Grade 2 in attendance.

PEANUT BUTTER SANDWICHES AND BIRTHDAY TREATS

Yes! Your little one can bring that peanut butter sandwich for lunch! Even though we're a peanut/tree-nut safe school, because the children are eating at separate desks, we can assure safety for any child who has a peanut allergy. We are requesting, however, that you refrain from sending additional peanut snacks – just to help minimize unnecessary exposures or dusts from packaged nuts. Thank you so much!

Regarding birthday treats, we require only packaged goods from the store with a listing of ingredients on the label. Cupcakes and ice cream bars are often brought in for birthdays. We do not allow home-made, or home-packaged treats.



Pack 92
St. Mary's Swormville

COME JOIN CUB SCOUTS!!!!

Dear Family Member:

Welcome to another year at St. Mary's! Cub Scout Pack #92 begins a new year as well and we are looking for new scouts! No prior scouting experience is necessary! We are looking to grow our pack, one new scout at a time!

This year will be somewhat different due to COVID-19. However, our den leaders are preparing for meetings with appropriate social distancing policies or virtual events. Scouting is a great experience that will safely continue despite the circumstances we find ourselves in.

In Cub Scouts, your son or daughter will have lots of fun, learn new things and make new friends. Scouting is a family oriented organization which helps boys develop character, leadership, communication skills and good citizenship.

If you are interested in joining our local Pack please contact Geoff Charland (GCharland2001@yahoo.com) or Emilio Colaiacovo (emilio190@gmail.com).

Thank you!

Cardinal O'Hara

HIGH SCHOOL

You Belong Here

Fall Open House

In-person:

Thursday, October 1: 4-8pm

Friday, October 2: 4-8pm

Sunday, October 4: 9am-1pm

By appointment only

Virtual

Tuesday, October 6: 6:30pm



Cardinal O'Hara is a co-ed Catholic high school in the Franciscan tradition —but it's so much more. Come learn about our Regents Curriculum with College Placement classes, Award-Winning Fine Arts, Championship Athletics, and more! ***You Belong Here*** at COHS.

Registration is required for both in-person and virtual Open Houses.

Visit cardinalohara.com to register.

39 O'Hara Rd - Tonawanda, NY - 14150 - (716) 695-2600