



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

135+ Years of Tradition

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Jan. 11, 2018

Upcoming Events

Jan. 11: Boys BB vs St. Pat's at 5:30

Jan. 12: VB at Pontiac St. Mary's at 5:00

Jan. 15: *No School – Martin Luther King Day*

Jan. 16: Boys BB at Christian Life Academy at 5:30

VB at South Pekin at 4:15

Jan. 17: Boys BB vs Peoria Academy at 5:30
VB at Dunlap Middle at 4:15

Jan. 18: Boys BB at Lowpoint at 5:30

Jan. 22: *PTO meeting*

Jan. 23: VB at St. Pat's at 4:30

Jan. 25: VB at Washington Central at 4:15

Jan 29: VB at 4:15 at Washington Middle

Feb. 1: VB at Lowpoint at 6:00

Feb. 3: VB 7th grade Tournament at Lowpoint

Feb. 5: VB at Roanoke - Benson at 4:00

Feb. 6: VB at Rankin at 4:00

Feb. 8: VB at Brimfield at 5:00

The E-Falcon Newsletter

WOOF Therapy Dogs

For the past 7 years, second graders at St. Mary's have had the opportunity to read to the WOOF Therapy Dogs. Now, WOOF is also partnering with the Illinois Prairie District Library. Children of all ages will be able to read to a therapy dog each month. WOOF will be at the Germantown Hills branch at 4:00 on Tuesday, January 16 and at the Metamora branch at 4:00 on Tuesday, February 20. No need to sign up! Come say hello to our furry friends!

Buses

No afternoon buses on Friday, Jan. 12. Please make other arrangements for afternoon pick-up. Thank you.

St. Mary's Boosters Dairy Queen Night

Dairy Queen will donate back to our group 15% of money spent. When: 4 p.m. to 9 p.m., Tuesday, Jan 30. Where: Dairy Queen, 622 E. Mt Vernon St., Metamora, IL 61548. Dine in, Drive Thru, and/or Carry Out. Contact Dave @ (803) 840-5053 with questions.

Calendar Change

Please mark your calendar to make Friday, March 23 and Tuesday, April 17 as in school session days.

Lunch Menu

(Subject to change)

All lunches include milk (Jan 15-19)

Mon., Jan 15 – No School – Martin Luther King Day

Tues., Jan. 16 – Pancakes, sausage link, potato smiles, strawberries

Wed., Jan. 17 – Pulled pork on bun, fries, corn, mandarin oranges

Thur., Jan. 18 – Chicken noodle soup, turkey sandwich, Fritos, peaches

Fri., Jan. 19 – Fish fillet on bun, mashed potatoes, peas, pineapple

BUSY, BUSY, BUSY

Yes indeed the second graders are off and running as we begin 2018. We are starting Cursive this week, which they are so very excited about. We are beginning to work on our annual Kolbe the Moose Play, which they are really excited about. We are starting a dinosaur unit in science, which they do not know about quite yet but will be excited about. Finally, we will be working on chapter books in groups with the final result of doing a report and making a diorama. Whew! So much excitement in the second grade and learning abounds.

The Poetry in our Constitution

Down in the middle school wing we are starting our Constitution Unit with the 7th graders. They are learning about our government is structured and works together, even though there are many levels, departments, and people involved. We are aiming to take the Constitution Test sometime mid-Spring. We have also begun a Poetry unit in the 7th grade class and hope to inspire them to think of language a little differently than they may have up until this point.

In the sixth grade we are just starting a new chapter for social studies: Ancient Rome!! We will revisit the mythological gods and learn about their Roman counterparts. In Literature, we are wrapping up some last minute things from last quarter, but will soon be beginning another novel unit!

In 8th Grade we are finishing up our chapter from last quarter and will be spending a lot of this week reviewing and trying to remember what we forgot while we were gone for 2 ½ weeks on Christmas Break! We will have our test on Thursday. We are also finishing our novel: Sherlock Holmes The Hound of the Baskervilles, after our brief-pause in the middle for Christmas Break. We plan to finish by the end of the month. Hopefully our skills of deduction will be useful in future units!!

Spalding Scholarship Grants 2018-2019

Your child can attend a Catholic School Financial Assistance Available

Tuition assistance scholarship grants from the endowment fund established as a result of the Diocese of Peoria ROOTED IN FAITH Campaign and named in honor of Archbishop Spalding, the first Bishop of Peoria, will be available for the 2018-19 school year for students enrolled in

or intending to enroll in grades Kindergarten through 12 in any Catholic school located in the Diocese of Peoria whose families are active members of a Catholic parish in the diocese. All grants will be based on financial need objectively assessed.

Information about the grants and application materials may be obtained from any Catholic elementary or secondary school in the Diocese of Peoria or on the Diocesan website [www@cdop.org](http://www.cdop.org) under **Catholic Education** and then under **Financial Assistance**. Consult the detailed protocols and procedures and checklist for all requirements necessary to be eligible for an award.

Parents are encouraged to apply online at: online.factsmgt.com/aid. Families of students currently receiving grants are reminded that all grants are for one year only, and anyone seeking to renew a grant for the 2018 - 2019 year must reapply. Deadline date for the completed application is **April 15, 2018**. Notification of grant awards will be made by May 30, 2018.

Another funding opportunity is also available due to legislation recently enacted in Illinois. Students may be eligible for up to 100% of tuition and fees under a new program for tax credit scholarships (TCS). Details on how to apply and who qualifies are available on the Empower Illinois website at www.empowerillinois.org. Students who receive a TCS are ineligible to receive a Spalding award.

Winter Wear

With the cold weather comes the snow and the student wanting to play outside in the piles of white fluff. Please be sure that student have snow gear, including snow pants, coats, boots, hats and gloves. If they are not prepared for the snow, they will need to just walk or sit outside and miss all the fun!

Bingo – January 20th – Come One Come All



St Mary's PTO invites one and all for an evening of fellowship. **Saturday, January 20th**, we will open the doors at 5pm for a hearty Chili meal and preparation for the main event. Bingo activities will run from 6-8pm with various prizes and entertainment provided. All proceeds will be used for various PTO activities around the school. Come for the food, come for the bingo or come for both, but mainly come for the fellowship.

Some background for newer families to St. Mary's, many years ago Bingo was a required activity with the school. Families were required one Saturday a month to work at a Bingo hall in Peoria to help raise funds for the school. An unintentional outcome of this activity was that families were intermixed and you met new people every Saturday you worked and served as one of the best ways for new families to meet other families at St. Mary's. We are again hoping to use Bingo to focus on fellowship and connecting the families of St. Mary's.

As always we are looking for volunteers to help setup/cleanup, serve food, take tickets and help with bingo. Interested in helping please contact Casey Behringer 608-347-0591.

Speech

With the start of a new year, Speech is gearing back up. The Bishop O'Rourke Speech League contest is at St. Vincent de Paul on March 13. For those wishing to take part, please contact Mrs. Behringer by January 16 to let her know your interest or if you have any questions. Please email smcrhit@hotmail.com.