



August 30, 2019

Dear St. Mary's Families,

I hope your family has had a super week and that you all have a fun, safe, and relaxing holiday weekend! September is right around the corner and I know it will be a fun and busy month for us at St. Mary's. Our first [Charity Dress Day](#) of the new school year is this Wednesday, September 4th. For those families who are new to our school, once a month Home and School sponsors Charity Dress Day to support local and national charities. Students, faculty, and staff members may participate by donating a few dollars in return for having a free dress day and not wearing uniform clothes to school that day. Money raised in September will benefit the Joplin Humane Society to support all that they do for our furry friends looking for care and a new home. Charity Dress Days are usually the first Wednesday of each month.

Speaking of dress code, please be sure to be aware of changes to our [school dress code](#) this year. Please ensure that your child is in dress code when they leave your house in the morning. Students may wear a St. Mary's or JACS top with uniform bottoms on Spirit Mondays, but should be in dress code all other days except on monthly Charity Dress Days and Dress Down Days. A [Family Handbook](#) was included in your Communicator Envelope last Friday and it's the perfect light reading for the holiday weekend (s). In addition to a few dress code changes, please be sure to be aware of a [new cell phone and smart watch policy](#) at St. Mary's. These policies are also in the Family Handbook and details can be found on pages 14 and 29. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns about these changes.

[School Picture Day](#) is coming soon! St. Mary's uniform school picture day is [Monday, September 16th](#), with [September 17th](#) being a make-up day in case any students are absent on Monday. We ask that students wear either a navy or red uniform shirt to school for photos, in addition to any normal uniform bottoms. School picture re-take day is scheduled on Monday, October 21st just in case photos don't turn out as well as planned. School picture order forms will be sent home in next Friday's Communicator Envelope. Additional order forms will also be available in the school office.

Don't forget to make plans for [Home and School's fabulous and fantastic Fall Festival](#) being held on Saturday, September 21st from 5:30-8:00 p.m. This will be a fun night filled with all kinds of games and activities for children and adults, delicious food, and a beer/margarita garden for adult refreshments. More information and details will be included in next week's newsletter. All proceeds raised at the event will be used for playground improvements on our back playground for Kindergarten-5th graders to enjoy for years to come! St. Mary's is blessed to have such a wonderful and active Home and School Association, thank you!

I have missed being at school the last few days and hope to be back in the school groove soon. I had knee surgery on Thursday morning to repair an injury and I'm looking forward to being back to school, even for a little while, on Tuesday. Thank you for all that you do for your child, including sending them to St. Mary's. We are all blessed to have such an incredible school that can educate, nurture, and love the whole child.

God bless and take care,

Joanne Lown

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[Important Dates to Remember:](#)

Monday, September 2nd

Labor Day, **NO SCHOOL**

Wednesday, September 4th
Humane Society

Charity Dress Day benefitting Joplin

Friday, September

6th 3rd-5th

Graders attending Pep Assembly at
McAuley- permission slips will be sent home
on Tuesday, September 3rd

Monday, September

16th School

Picture Day! Red or navy uniform shirt,
please

Tuesday, September

17th School

Picture Make-Up Day

Thursday, September

19th Free Dress

Day

Tuesday, September

24th Mercy Day

Mass with Bishop Rice at St. Mary's