



November 23, 2019

Dear St. Mary's Families,

**Happy Thanksgiving!** I hope your family is able to enjoy Thanksgiving Break and be surrounded by those you love. We have so many things to be thankful for! One of the many things I am thankful for is our wonderful school filled with loving students, families, and faculty and staff. I hope you are able to spend time treasuring memories of Thanksgiving and enjoy making new ones with your family and friends.

St. Mary's is collecting boxes of gelatin/Jello again this year to support the **Newton County Food Basket Brigade**. This group of volunteers prepares 1,000 Christmas food baskets to help those in need have a nice meal on Christmas, and we are trying to collect 2,000 boxes to include in the baskets. Jello is added to the food baskets each year because it is a dessert that needs no additional ingredients other than water for those who may not have milk or other dessert ingredients available to them. Any flavor or brand of **gelatin/Jello** may be donated. A box for Jello donations is set up on the north wall of the Commons, and all donations are greatly appreciated! Donations will be taken through Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>.

When we return to school the Monday following Thanksgiving it will be December! December is always a busy time of the year at St. Mary's and I have included a list of events and activities through the end of 2019 to help everyone keep up with this busy

time. Please note important dates like Christmas programs for your child and make plans now to attend. **Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> is our next Charity Dress Day.** Home and School is trying something different this year for the December charity dress day and details about this month's selection should have been included in your Communicator Envelope this week.

Next week is a shortened week due to the **Thanksgiving holiday.** We will have a full day of school on Tuesday and After-School Care and the afternoon bus **WILL** be available.

### **Important Dates to Remember:**

Wednesday, November 27 <sup>th</sup> - Sunday, December 1 <sup>st</sup>	Thanksgiving Break
Sunday, December 1 <sup>st</sup>	First Sunday of Advent
Tuesday, December 3 <sup>rd</sup>	First Tuesday at Club 609
Wednesday, December 4 <sup>th</sup>	Charity Dress Day
Friday, December 6 <sup>th</sup>	Feast Day of St. Nicholas Home and School Meeting, 7:45 a.m.
Wednesday, December 11 <sup>th</sup> - Thursday, December 12 <sup>th</sup>	Secret Santa Shop at St. Mary's

Thursday, December  
12<sup>th</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> grade  
Christmas Program, 6:30 p.m. in Church  
with Cookie & Hot Cocoa Reception  
following in Parish Hall

Monday, December  
16<sup>th</sup> Early  
Learners-Kindergarten Christmas Program,  
10:00 a.m. in Parish Hall

Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup>

Ugly Sweater Day and Free Dress Day

Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup>  
a.m.

Early Dismissal for Christmas Break at 11:00

No After-School Care

No Afternoon Bus Service

December 21<sup>st</sup> – January 5<sup>th</sup>

Christmas Break

Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup>

Classes Resume