



January 10, 2020

Dear St. Mary's Families,

**Happy New Year!** I hope the New Year finds your family happy, hopeful, and healthy, and that you have a year filled with infinite blessings. We have had a great week at St. Mary's and everyone seems to be getting back in the school routine very well. The nice weather earlier this week helped get out the extra wiggles at recess, and we started the year practicing school safety with fire and tornado drills while the temperatures were warm and mild. I am happy to be back to school and be surrounded with delightful students, caring parents, and a wonderful faculty and staff each day. We truly have a special school community!

The McAuley Cheerleaders are sponsoring a **Junior Cheerleading Camp** from January 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> with a special performance during the McAuley Homecoming halftime on Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup>. The Cheer Camp will be held in the Cafeteria at St. Mary's after school from 3:15 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. Monday through Wednesday. The campers will learn a cheer and short dance to perform during the **varsity boys' basketball homecoming game** on January 31<sup>st</sup>. Students in grades Preschool – 8<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join the fun! The \$25 fee covers a t-shirt and snacks each day, and helps to support our McAuley Cheerleaders. If your child would like to attend, please print out the permission slip/registration form and return it to our school office with payment no later than Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Coach Madison Parrigon at [Msohosky@jacss.org](mailto:Msohosky@jacss.org) for more information or with any questions you might have.

Speaking of basketball, **Youth Basketball night at McAuley** is Tuesday evening, January 14<sup>th</sup>. All youth players will be recognized at the McAuley home game during the varsity girls'

halftime. Students should arrive by 5:30 p.m. and should wear their jersey with jeans. [ALL](#) St. Mary's kids are invited to attend the game, too! Wear your St. Mary's t-shirt and don't forget to stop by the concession stand for a [FREE](#) treat!

This coming Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup> begins the "[Kids Paint the Darndest Things](#)" [art exhibit](#) on the famous brick wall at [Club 609](#). Student artists from 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grades will be displaying their artwork at the restaurant for the next four weeks. All of the art is for sale and the proceeds will go towards building a St. Mary's marquee in front of our school. The digital marquee will help to keep the students, parents, parish members, and the general public updated on all the amazing activities and events that take place at St. Mary's. Opportunities to purchase bricks for the marquee are still available and information sheets are available in the school office. This is a colorful and creative to support our students and our school!

[Catholic Schools Week](#) is quickly approaching and will be held nationally from January 26<sup>th</sup> – February 1<sup>st</sup>. This is a meaningful and fun week for our school community as we highlight and celebrate special aspects of our school each day. More information will be included in next week's Communicator Newsletter that will detail the dress themes for each day, special activities, and fun events. It's a great week that celebrates the mission and beauty that a Catholic education provides.

The [St. Mary's spelling bees](#) will begin in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades next week with the final spelling bee taking place in the Commons on January 31<sup>st</sup> starting at 9:00 a.m. The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students were given a complete list of the official Joplin Globe Spelling Bee words before Christmas Break. Classroom bees will begin next week, the first bee on January 14<sup>th</sup> and the second on January 21<sup>st</sup>. The 6 winners (2 from Mrs. Lone's class, 2 from Mrs. Staton's class, 2 from Mrs. Sullens' class) from both classroom bees will compete in the St. Mary's Spelling Bee during Catholic Schools Week. Parents will not attend the classroom bees, but all parents are invited to the final spelling bee.

Don't forget the [Early Learners – Kindergarten Christmas program](#) is this coming Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall. The students practiced today in the Commons and their performance will melt your heart. Refreshments will be served afterwards and I hope you are able to attend.

I hope your family stays warm and cozy this weekend as we experience a smorgasbord of weather conditions. To start the school week with warm, spring-like weather and end it with tornado watches, flood warnings, and winter storm watches is proof that we live in Missouri! Thank you for all that you do for your child, including sending them to St. Mary's.

God bless and take care,

Joanne Lown

[jlown@jacss.org](mailto:jlown@jacss.org)

#### Important Upcoming Events:

Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup>  
Hall

Early Learners-K Christmas Program, 10:00 in the Parish

Moe's Monday

Kids Paint the Darndest Things art exhibit opens at Club

609

Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup>

NO SCHOOL- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Faculty PD Day

Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>

Free Dress Day!

January 26<sup>th</sup> – February 1<sup>st</sup>

Catholic Schools Week

Thursday, January 30<sup>th</sup>  
House

Fifth grade morning of service at the Ronald McDonald