



September 4, 2020

Dear St. Mary's Families,

Happy Labor Day weekend! I hope your family has a safe and relaxing weekend together. We have finished our second full week of school and things are going well. Students are in the groove of school and doing a great job remembering all the new school policies that are in place as COVID-19 precautions. I am so proud of our school community working together during this time...adjusting to new school policies, drop-off and pick-up procedures, lunch periods, and keeping the school atmosphere filled with joy, discovery, and love. One thing you can do to help your child throughout the school day is to make sure they come to school each morning with a freshly laundered cotton face mask. Not only does this provide a clean mask for your child to wear each day, it also helps the mask to fit properly. Masks become stretched out and baggy when worn several days in a row, causing the mask to fit improperly and compromise its effectiveness. **Children who ride the JACS bus, regardless of age and/or grade, MUST wear a facemask while on the bus.** It is a parent's responsibility to ensure that their child is wearing a face mask before they board the bus, even if the child is an early childhood student (Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten). Students without a mask will not be able to ride the bus for the health and well-being of both the passengers and driver. Thank you for your careful attention to this.

**Next Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, is our first Early Dismissal Day of the school year.** School will dismiss once a month at noon to provide faculty and staff with time for professional development. Lunch will be served on Early Dismissal Days and After School Care will be available from Noon to 5:30 p.m. for those parents who need it. We will dismiss through the car line starting at noon and those students not picked up promptly will be checked into After

School Care. Early Childhood students (Early Learners – Pre-K) who stay half-days will still be dismissed as usual at the 11:00 a.m. dismissal time. The JACS bus route will still run in the afternoon on Early Dismissal Days with the time adjusted each month for the noon dismissal time.

If you have not already done so for the 2020-2021 school year, please update your child's safety and health information. Even if you are a returning St. Mary's family, your child's information needs to be updated each year. Updating the information is quick and easy, and can be done online at [JACSS.myschoolapp.com](https://JACSS.myschoolapp.com). There are several important forms that need to be filled out including a media release, bus information (this MUST be filled out if your child rides or may ride the JACS bus), and health forms. Please take a few moments to update this information so the school has the most current health and safety information for your child.

Last night St. Mary's Home and School met for our 2020-2021 school year kick off. Thank you to the parents who attended the meeting! Each month Home and School will meet to discuss fun school events, plan special days for our students and teachers, and enjoy each other's company. Home and School will be sending out a parent survey asking if there are specific days and times that work best for meetings this year. If you attend a Home and School meeting you will receive a coupon for your child to have a free jeans/JACS spirit shirt dress out day on a day of their choice! All you have to do is attend the meeting, receive a coupon, and then send the coupon to school with your child on a day they choose (this can not be a Friday or other special day when we attend Mass). We hope to see you at the next meeting in October!

The Booster Club is a proud supporter of JACS athletics. Each year the Booster Club pays for and provides support to JACS athletics with things such as uniforms, referee fees, equipment purchases, St. Mary's youth basketball support and maintenance. This is accomplished without charging any activity fees to families. We recognize that this could never be accomplished without the support of JACS family and friends. Yearly Booster Club Membership costs \$100 per family. Booster Club members are admitted into all home sporting events free for your immediate family, including McAuley, St. Peters and St. Mary's, as well as receiving two booster club shirts. Please consider joining and supporting our JACS athletes. You may fill out the attached membership form and return it to St. Mary's office with your

membership fee. Also, come out and support the volleyball team for the first home game of the year next Thursday at 6pm. The Booster Club is selling mums this fall and has a limited number of yellow mums still available for sale. The plants are 22-24 inches wide and are \$20 each. Delivery is planned for some time around September 24th. Text Ryan Taffner (417-439-9650) if you would like to order. The Booster Club would like to sincerely thank everyone for your support!

**Congratulations to Mrs. Lone's 5<sup>th</sup> grade class for winning Charity Dress Day for September!** The class will enjoy a frozen treat on Tuesday as a special bonus for their efforts. St. Mary's raised \$317 for the Joplin Humane Society this month, thank you! Learning and modeling the love of God, the love of Country, and the love for others is not only part of our school's mission, but also important for our students to learn and practice. Our monthly Charity Dress Days, in addition to the many other service project St. Mary's completes during the school year, help students to understand the importance and joy in helping others, modeling Christ's love and compassion in all that we do. 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 Dates to Remember:

Monday, September 7 <sup>th</sup>	Labor Day, No School
Friday, September 11 <sup>th</sup> provided until 5:30 p.m.	Noon Dismissal, After School Care will be
Monday, September 14 <sup>th</sup>	Moe's Monday
Thursday, September 17 <sup>th</sup>	Free Dress Day
Thursday, September 24 <sup>th</sup> Mary's, 1:30 p.m.	Mercy Day Mass with Bishop Rice at St.
Monday, September 28 <sup>th</sup> - Tuesday, September 29 <sup>th</sup>	Interstate School Photos