



February 26, 2021

Dear St. Mary's Families,

St. Mary's Self-Study is right around the corner! The visiting team will arrive in Joplin on the afternoon of Sunday, February 28th and will be leaving on the afternoon of Tuesday, March 2nd. It will be a busy and important time for our school, a time to shine with all the great things that happen each day, and a time to learn of how we can do things even better to serve our students and school community. **St. Mary's will have a noon dismissal on Tuesday, March 2nd to allow the visiting team to present their exit report to our faculty and staff.** After School Care will be provided and the afternoon bus route will arrive at St. Mary's around 3:15 p.m. for students who need to be transported between campuses. Please realize that St. Peter's Middle School and McAuley High School will not dismiss at noon this day. If you have an elementary-aged child and a child in our Early Learners, Preschool, or Pre-K class, you may have your younger child stay in their classroom until noon in order for you to have one pickup time. Starting with our March 2nd noon dismissal, this is an option for parents. If you still would like your child to be picked up at the normal 11:00 a.m. Early Childhood dismissal time, please let your child's teacher AND the school office know. If your Early Childhood child will be staying until noon, he or she will be dismissed from the normal school care line (last names starting with A-M out front, names starting with N-Z from the 32nd Street side parking lot), so ensure that you have your laminated car line sign with you in the car to pick up your child.

Can you believe that March is just around the corner? The first week of March is always an exciting and fun week at St. Mary's as we celebrate **Read Across America!** March 2nd is Theodore Geisel's birthday and Read Across America Week is celebrated throughout the

country to celebrate his books and love of reading. Each Class at St. Mary's will be celebrating the fun with lots of reading and activities in their classrooms. To help celebrate the week, we are having themed days, each inspired by a different Dr. Seuss book. Here is the schedule for the week:

Monday: "Fox in Socks Day" – Wear silly or mismatched socks and shoes

Tuesday: "Green Eggs and Ham Day" – Wear green clothing

Wednesday: "Dr. Seuss's Sleep Book" – Wear your pajamas and slippers (pajamas should be modest in design, no stuffed animals)

Thursday: "The Lorax" – Wear a mustache and orange and yellow clothing

Friday: "The Cat in the Hat Day" – Wear your favorite hat and lots of red and white (uniform bottoms for K-5th grade students attending Mass)

Students may be out of dress code Monday - Thursday if they participate in the day's theme. If a student does not choose to participate in a day's theme, he or she must be in school uniform. On Friday students need to come dressed in school uniform bottoms for Mass, but they can wear any red or white shirt, it does not have to be a uniform shirt. Students will leave their hats and/or any other accessories in the classroom before heading to Mass.



Congratulations to 4 St. Mary's teachers who have been nominated for the Golden Apple Award this year! Mrs. Lorrie Estrada and Mrs. Judy Bashor have been nominated in the Kindergarten – 2nd Grade division, and Mrs. Mary Ann Turk and Mrs. Debi Staton have been nominated in the 3rd – 5th Grade division. Being nominated for the Golden Apple Award is a

tremendous honor, and we are proud of these outstanding educators and the parents and students who took the time and care to nominate them. Thank you!

Included in your family's Communicator Envelope today is information about a special 5th Grade fundraiser sponsored by Jennifer Williams and her wonderful Freshies. **Freshies are air fresheners made with premium fragrance oils and aroma beads.** There are 2 sizes and 5 amazing scents available to order. 50% of the proceeds will be donated to 5th Grade's fundraising efforts for their annual Spring Trip. An order form with a photo of the fresheners and more information is attached to this newsletter. The Freshies smell wonderful and are a fun way to support our 5th graders.



Congratulations to the St. Mary's 5th Grade basketball team for a wonderful season! The team did an outstanding job and finished the season with a 6 – 2 record. Congratulations, Warriors!

I hope you have a special weekend with your family and enjoy the beautiful weather that is forecasted for Saturday. Thank you for all that you do for your child including sending him or her to St. Mary's.

God bless and take care,

Joanne Lown
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Important Dates to Remember:

February 28th – March 2nd

St. Mary's Self-Study

Monday, March 1st –
Friday, March 5th

Read Across America Week!

Tuesday, March 2nd

Noon Dismissal for St. Mary's students

Wednesday, March 10th
10:30 a.m.

Reconciliation for 3rd – 5th Grade starting at

Wednesday, March 17th
to school!

St. Patrick's Day! Wear your green clothes

Thursday, March 18th

Noon Dismissal

Parent-Teacher Conferences, 12:30 – 6:00
p.m.

March 19th – March 28th

Spring Break!

Monday, March 29th

Classes Resume