



November 16, 2019

Dear St. Mary's Families,

THANK YOU! With the **generosity and thoughtfulness** of our school community, St. Mary's collected 94 coats and jackets, 88 hats, 79 pairs of mittens and gloves, and 14 scarves to donate to this month's charity, **Children's Haven**. In addition to winter outerwear, we were able to donate over \$200 to Children's Haven for their specific needs, cozy blankets, and backpacks filled with school supplies. Children's Haven provides temporary shelter to area children in a safe, secure environment while their parents resolve a family crisis. Children's Haven is the only shelter in our area where children can stay, ages birth to 17, with no cost to families and without a parent while parents retain custody, preventing them from going into temporary foster care. You may find out more about Children's Haven and the wonderful work they do by visiting their website, www.childrens-haven.org. In addition to taking items to Children's Haven, we were also able to take outerwear items to **Crosslines** due to their critical shortage of warm clothing for children right now. Thank you for your generous and caring donations and for helping our students learn and appreciate the importance of "Being the **Good**" in this world!

On Thursday of this week, PE students participated in the **Stack-Up Event**, which is an attempt to break the **Guinness World Record** for the most people stacking cups in multiple locations in a twenty-four hour period. Whew! St. Mary's students have helped break previous records in years past and we will find out in a few weeks if the goal of 650,000 stackers was met. Regardless of the outcome, our students had a lot of physical activity and fun being part of the event. Cup stacking is an exciting sport that requires using both your right and left

hand at the same time. This activity engages both sides of the brain and helps improve hand/eye coordination, focus and concentration. St. Mary's has cup sets available for \$20 and a mat/timer/bag combo for \$25. They make terrific Christmas gifts! There is a limited supply here at school, so please do not wait too long! Once they are gone, they are gone! Please see Mrs. Black if you are interested in purchasing any of the cup stacking equipment. Special deliveries can be arranged if you are looking for a fun and engaging Christmas gift.

As some of you may know, Mrs. Hosp, a longtime and recently retired St. Mary's teacher, and her husband Chris, lost their home due to fire. Their home and its contents were declared a total loss and they are courageously rebuilding their lives. Please continue to keep Mrs. Hosp and her family in your thoughts and prayers. If you would like to help with a monetary or gift card donation you may bring them to the school office for us give to the Hosp family. Mrs. Hosp attended Mass on Friday morning and enjoyed seeing the St. Mary's school community. She left a note for our school:

To St. Mary's Faculty, Staff, Parents and Students,

You are beyond wonderful! Thank you so very much. Your gifts have really helped, and your prayers have lifted out hearts. You are a blessing to me, and I thank God for you.

Love and thanks,

Kim and Chris Hosp

Please remember that **we do not have school on Monday, November 18th** for a JACS faculty professional development day. If you are one of the many families who are ordering food from **Chavela's** each Monday for your family to enjoy for dinner, please note that the meals will be delivered on Tuesday afternoon this week due to not having school on Monday.

It appears that fall weather is back this weekend and I hope your family is able to enjoy some time outdoors during the long weekend before Mother Nature brings winter weather back again. The coming weeks are going to be very busy at St. Mary's and I have listed many

upcoming events so you can make plans to attend or participate. Thank you for all that you do for your child and our school community!

God bless and take care,

Joanne Lown

jlown@jacss.org

Important Dates to Remember:

Monday, November 18 th	NO SCHOOL - Teacher PD Day
Thursday, November 21 st	Free Dress Day
Monday, November 25 th	Buffalo Wild Wings Fundraiser
Wednesday, November 27 th - Sunday, December 1 st	Thanksgiving Break
Tuesday, December 3 rd	First Tuesday at Club 609
Wednesday, December 4 th	Charity Dress Day
Friday, December 6 th	Feast Day of St. Nicholas Home and School Meeting, 7:45 a.m.
Wednesday, December 11 th - Thursday, December 12 th	Secret Santa Shop at St. Mary's

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

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

Thursday, December 19th Ugly Sweater Day and Free Dress Day

Friday, December 20th Early Dismissal for Christmas Break at 11:00
a.m.

No After-School Care

No Afternoon Bus Service

December 21st – January 5th Christmas Break

Monday, January 6th Classes Resume