



February 21, 2020

Dear St. Mary's Families,

I hope your family had a good week and that you have all enjoyed the sunny days. March is just around the corner and things always get hopping with the spring months. It's hard to believe the end of the third quarter is just a couple of weeks away!

If you or someone you know would like to learn more about [St. Mary's Early Childhood and Kindergarten programs](#), please hop in for our [Open House on Saturday, February 29<sup>th</sup>](#) from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. This is a great morning to visit with our talented faculty, learn more about each class's specially designed curriculum to develop and enrich academic, emotional, spiritual, and social skills, enjoy a school tour with refreshments, and help your child make a Leap Day craftivity to take home. This Open House is for families have a child who will be 2 years old by July 31<sup>st</sup> (Early Learners), 3 years old by July 31<sup>st</sup> (Preschool), 4 years old by July 31<sup>st</sup> (Pre-Kindergarten) and 5 years old by July 31<sup>st</sup> (Kindergarten). Hop on in for a Leap Day morning filled with fun and discovery! The Open House was originally scheduled for tomorrow, but was postponed due to a few conflicts. Please stop by or call the office for more information or if you have any questions.

St. Mary's will be holding a [Penny War](#) this week with the proceeds going to the JACS Annual Appeal. A penny war is a fun class competition to see which class can raise the most money with pocket change. Pennies are positive points and silver coins (nickels, dimes, quarters, etc.) and paper money can be placed in other Classroom Change bins to cancel out pennies. Money will be collected, counted, and tallied each day during the week, and the

winning class will get a week's worth of jeans days (except Mass on Friday) from Mrs. Lown as a grand prize. Thank you for your support!

St. Mary's Youth will be serving breakfast this Sunday morning from 8:30-10:15am. Scrambled eggs, sausage, biscuits and gravy, breakfast burritos, fruit, coffee, milk and juice will be served. Special artwork by St. Mary's 4th graders will be on display at each of the tables! The Youth Group appreciates your support.

St. Mary's students are doing a FANTASTIC job with the Kids Heart Challenge! To date, 73 students have registered online, and we have collected \$3,478.75! Our school has already earned a \$300 gift certificate from US Games to purchase new PE equipment, so THANK YOU for helping our students get signed up! Our fundraising goal is \$5,000 and if we reach that, we will receive a FIVE HUNDRED DOLLAR gift certificate to purchase more PE equipment as well!! Keep up the good work! All online donations and envelopes are due Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup>. If your child may need an additional envelope, Mrs. Black has extras! During the Heart Challenge, students learn about many heart-healthy habits. Students in K-1-2 are learning about reading nutrition labels. The 1st and 2nd graders were given four blank nutrition labels. They have been asked to pick four different foods at home and fill out the labels accordingly. They will probably need a little assistance with this. Please send these back to school on Monday. Students in grades 3-4-5 are bringing home a Heart Healthy Bingo sheet with a variety of activities to do together as a family. Please choose at least 10 of the activities, mark them off and have students return the sheet on Monday. Thank you for your support of the Kids Heart Challenge!

It may still be chilly outside, but the Spring Fling is getting close and you won't want to miss the fun! Please mark this year's date, Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> on your calendars now, and make plans to attend! Formal invitations will be sent out in March, but planning has been going on for months for this fun and important evening benefitting JACS. If you or your company has an item or service to donate to the auction, you may start to bring these in to St. Mary's, and donation and sponsorship forms will be available in the office soon. Raffle tickets for incredible cash prizes will be sent home next week in your child's communicator envelopes. The tickets are \$10 each and students will win incentive prizes based on how many raffle tickets they sell. More information will be given in next week's newsletter.

God bless and take care,

Joanne Lown

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

### Important Dates to Remember:

February 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>

St. Mary's Penny War!

Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup>

Abraham Lincoln visits K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade

Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>

Mardi Gras Celebration and King Cake

Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>

Ash Wednesday, School Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Saturday, February 29<sup>th</sup>  
a.m.

Early Childhood and Kindergarten Open House, 9-11:00

March 2<sup>nd</sup> – March 6<sup>th</sup>  
next week)

Read Across America Week! (More information to come

Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>

First Tuesday at Club 609

Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>  
Campaign

Charity Dress Day benefitting Bishop Rice's Lenten