



ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

where academics and faith go hand in hand

St. Mary's School Parent Newsletter ~ 2023-2024 School Year ~ Edition 7

Mission Statement: St. Mary's School in Bird Island serves the area students in preschool through eighth grade by providing a Christ-centered Catholic education where academic excellence, self-worth and faith development go hand in hand in a nurturing environment.

Living History Celebration

Mrs. O'Halloran's 5th graders have been working on their Living History day projects. They have been researching their American historical figures for the past two months. They dressed and presented facts about their Americans to the entire school. Way to go 5th graders!



Handbell Choir Performance

The Handbell Choir was a finalist in the Shine On! Performance (a talent performance for all Catholic Schools in Minnesota for grades K-8) on Sunday, Mar 3rd. They were able to enjoy the pool at the hotel and a pizza party the night before their performance. Then on Sunday, the students attended Mass at St. Mary's Basilica (some students had the privilege of bringing up the gifts). They were also able to tour the Basilica following Mass. After their tour, they went to the Benilde-St. Margaret school in St. Louis Park for their Shine On! performance at 3:00 p.m. Their performance was awesome, even the Archbishop Hebda made a comment about how much he loved their music!! The students did a great job representing St. Mary's! Click [here](#) to view the full Shine On! performance.



Kindergarten Round-up



Due to the recent snow storm, our Kindergarten Round-up has been rescheduled to Friday, Apr 12th. All families that are interested in learning more about what St. Mary's School has to offer are invited to attend this special morning on Apr 12th starting at 9:00 AM and continuing until 11AM. This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet our staff and students, learn about our Kindergarten programs, and discover the benefits of a faith-based education at St. Mary's that is open to all of God's children! For more information and to sign-up, please contact Karen at the school office - 320-365-3693.

Play Island Preschool

We are getting ready for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year for our Play Island Preschool. Registration is now open! Spots are limited in both the 3&4 year old and 4&5 year old sections. Contact Karen at the office at 320-365-3693 or email her at ksmith@stmarysbi.com for more information.

Spring Concert Rescheduled!

Mother Nature has decided that winter isn't over just yet. Our K-8th grade spring concert has been rescheduled to Tuesday, Apr 2nd at 7pm in the gym.

Play Island Preschool Calendar

Due to Kindergarten Round-up being rescheduled to Apr 12th, the 4 & 5 year old Preschoolers will NOT be in session until 11:15am. The 3 & 4 year old class is in session as usual.

Grandparents Day

We are excited for Grandparents Day! It will once again be the same day as May Crowning. Grandparents Day will begin with Mass at **10:30am** on Thursday, May 9th with **Ice cream and treats** following Mass. **Sign-UP?**



Bulls & Billygoats

Mrs. McRell's 4th graders will be selling baked goods to all students, staff and Grandparents on May 9th after Mass. Stop by their classroom for a delicious treat! All baked goods will be \$1.00 each. There will also be Massai homemade adjustable beaded bracelets for sale for \$8 each. **All proceeds from this event will go to buying calves & billy goats for the Maasai tribe in Noonkotiak, Kenya. The tribe will raise the animals & sell them for double their purchase price. Half of the money will go towards purchasing animals & the other half will go to feed the school children!**

Parent webinar *Peace* of MIND

If you missed the March Peace of Mind family webinar about Dr. Jules answering parents questions, you can find it on our website. Next month's session is April 16th at 7pm. [Click here to register.](#)

MN VIKINGS PLAYER

The 7th & 8th graders had the opportunity to go over to BOLD school and listen to guest speaker Chad Greenway (former linebacker for the MN Vikings). He spoke about the importance of not only setting goals, but letting your friends/family know your goals so they can support you and help you be accountable in striving to achieve your goals.



MN NHD Regionals!

Mara Strandberg, Charlotte Kaufenberg, Anna Stahl, Abby Brede, Taylor Zupke, Lila Beckler, Brett Henslin & Lilly Bauman all competed at the National History Day in Minnesota Regionals in Mankato on Mar 19th. 5 students were selected as state qualifiers and are moving on to compete at the MN State NHD competition on April 20th at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Those students are Taylor, Brett, and Mara with their individual projects and Lila and Lilly will compete with their group project. We are so proud of all the students who competed! Great job representing St. Mary's!





DOUBLE GOOD POPCORN VIRTUAL FUNDRAISER

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3RD-SATURDAY, APRIL 7TH

Store will open at 5 PM on April 3rd & close on April 7th at 5 PM.
A 4-Day virtual fundraising event.

*If you'd like to purchase use the QR code below to direct you to the store.
*This fundraiser will assist in offsetting the cost of the preschool breakfast and lunch program.
*Popcorn will be shipped directly to your home

CONTACT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING FOR ASSISTANCE

Fawn McNamara - 507.430.1348 Holly Johnson- 320.522.2243
Kelsey Kubesh- 507.829.8894 Tracy Bertrand Sigurdson- 320.365.3693




To place your order
<https://s.dgpopup.com/b9upd595>

Polar Plunge



The 8th grade participated in the Cool School Polar Plunge on Mar 1st to raise money for the Special Olympics Minnesota. After 3 years of asking and asking Ms Lambrecht, it was finally time for them to jump in Lake Nokomis! As a team they raised \$2,478 for Special Olympics and chose a Sharks and Lifeguards theme for their plunging attire!! The students jumped in on a VERY windy afternoon with over 600 other students and teachers from across Minnesota. Great Job 8th Graders!



Burger Bar Fundraiser



The 6th & 7th graders will be hosting a Burger Bar Fundraiser on Apr 27th at the American Legion in Olivia. They will be serving from 4:30-7:30pm. Cost of the meal is \$13. All proceeds will benefit the 2025 DC/NYC educational field trip.

Positions open for the 2024-25 Year

Need info from Tracy/Stacey

Bingo de Cinco!



Come Fiesta with Us!! On May 5th, the 6th & 7th graders will be hosting a Bingo de Cinco at the St. Aloysius Jubilee Center starting at 1pm. They will play bingo for split the pot prizes along with providing snacks and drinks that will be available for sale. It will be a great family event! All proceeds will benefit their 2025 DC/NYC educational field trip.

NWEA Tests

All students in K – 8th grades will be taking NWEA standardized tests during the week of April 29th – May 3rd. These tests are administered to all students in the Fall, Winter and Spring. To maximize your child's test scores, it is recommended that your child be rested and eat a healthy breakfast.

1st Communion



The 2nd graders will be receiving the Sacrament of First Communion on Sunday, May 5th at 10:30 am in St. Mary's Church. Please join them and help them celebrate this special moment in their lives!

Tim Orth Memorial Foundation

The Tim Orth Memorial Foundation will be holding their "Jam the Gym" fundraising event Saturday, April 6th at the BOLD school in Bird Island. Doors open at 3:00pm and opening ceremony starts at 4:30pm. Adult tickets are \$12 and 18 & under are \$10. All proceeds from the ticket sales benefit children with substantial medical expenses. If you are interested in a T-shirt, please contact the office with your color preference and size. T-shirts are \$15.

Prime Rib Dinner

We still have a few tickets left. Tickets are \$75. Contact the Lerud's at 651-247-7116 or the Bremseth's at 320-894-4388. This event will be held on Apr 13th at St. Aloysius Jubilee Center in Olivia. Doors open at 5:30. Dinner will be served at 6:30pm. We thank you for supporting St. Mary's School!

Mr. B's Chocolate Fundraiser

The 6th & 7th graders will be hosting a Mr. B's Chocolates fundraiser. Orders will be due on Apr 25th and will be delivered on May 9th, just in time for Mother's Day! Check out our upcoming Facebook posts for order details! *(Proceeds will benefit the 2025 DC/NYC educational field trip.)*



*May the renewal of life at Easter bring
new blessings of love, hope, peace, good
health & happiness to you and your loved*

Carter Bremseth Memorial Golf Tournament



This memorial event for Carter will be held on Sunday, August 4th at the Olivia Golf Course. Carter lived & breathed golf; and his family wants to keep his memory alive by doing what he loved most! They will be raising money to support area students (through scholarships) at both BOLD, here at St. Mary's School, the BOLD Golf Boosters, the BOLD robotics team, and to raise awareness and support for families whom have lost someone to suicide. This event will be a 9-hole golf tournament, dinner, and silent auction. Save the date!

What's happening at St. Mary's:

- Apr 1st – NO SCHOOL (Easter Break)
- Apr 2nd – School Resumes
K-8th gr Spring Concert 7pm
- Apr 4th – MASS 10:30 (Prepared by Gr 6)
- Apr 6th – TOMF "Jam the Gym" 4:30pm
- Apr 10th – NO P.M. BUSSING
- Apr 11th – MASS 10:30 (Prepared by Gr 2)
- Apr 12th – Kindergarten Round-up 9-11am
- Apr 13th – Prime Rib Dinner 5:30pm
- Apr 18th – MASS 10:30 (Prepared by Gr 4)
- Apr 25th – MASS 10:30 (Prepared by Gr 1)
- Apr 26th – Midquarter - Q4
- Apr 27th – Burger Bar Fundraiser – Olivia Legion 4:30-7:30
- Apr 29th – May 3rd - NWEA testing K-8th gr
- May 2nd - MASS 10:30 (Prepared by Gr 5)
- May 5th – 1st Communion at St. Mary's Church 10:30am
Bingo de Cinco – St. Al's Jubilee Center 1pm

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It is the policy of St. Mary's School to comply with federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and all requirements imposed by/or pursuant to regulations issued thereto, to the end that no person at St. Mary's shall on the ground of race, color, national origin, sex marital status, status with regard to assistance, age, or disability and handicapping condition (if, with reasonable accommodations on the part of the school, the handicapped person could be accommodated) be excluded for participation in, be denied of, otherwise subjected to discrimination under any educational program, or in employment, recruitment, consideration, or selection, whether part or full time, under any educational program, employment or activity by St. Mary's School.