

# News from the Cardinal's Nest

March 22, 2024



## St. Mary/McCormick Catholic Academy

The mission of St. Mary/McCormick Catholic Academy is to provide a safe learning environment which fosters academic excellence and spiritual growth in the Catholic faith; mind, body & soul.

### A Letter from our Principal

Easter is only a week away! It's been a fun and busy last few weeks at SM/MCA. Our students and staff have been celebrating March is Reading Month the past several weeks. Many students have begun turning in their Reading Bingo card to get a custom SM/MCA reading cinch bag! Everyone has had a lot of fun participating in the different dress up days this month and doing the different reading activities! This week we had several mystery readers come to our school! On Monday morning, Mrs. Shoudy, our DRE came and read to each class. In the afternoon on Monday, we had 5 Port Huron Prowlers players come read to our Young 5's through 4th grade classes. On Tuesday, we had Mrs. Papinaw, a local author and parent, read to our Preschool through 3rd grade students. Thank you to all our visitors for continuing to spark the joy of reading in our students!

Track season has officially begun! Mr. and Mrs. Nadeau are coaching track this year. We currently have 15 students on our SMMCA/St. Ed's track team! We're looking forward to a great season and are praying for beautiful weather during our track meets and practices!

Enrollment for next year is now open to all! We've had several new families enroll for next year as well as many of our current families, too. The early bird registration discount of \$100 is good through June 7. I encourage all families to register before this date to save \$100! Just a reminder that we have a referral tuition discount as well. Any family that registers from your referral will get you a \$250 tuition discount. Please help spread the word about our wonderful school!

Have a blessed week!  
Mrs. Weaver

*Many students signed their letter of intent to attend SM/MCA next school year at our Preschool, Young 5's, and Kindergarten Open House!*

### **SAVE THE DATE!**

Thursday, April 25th:

**All School Open House 5-6:30 PM**, this open house is for grades Preschool, Young 5's, and K-8.



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### Registration for 24/25 School Year

An envelope was sent home to each family with registration, tuition, and financial aid information for next year. If you need another copy, please email/call the office. Registration for the 24/25 school year is now open to the public.

As a current SM/MCA Family, you only need the following to register your child(ren) for next school year:

- Fill out and sign the Tuition Contract
- Registration Fee (\$300 per family if you register before June 7, \$400 per family if you register after June 7) -cash or check

\*If you're enrolling an additional child (who is not currently enrolled), please come to the office for the additional enrollment paperwork or email/call and request it sent home.

You may return the completed tuition contract along with the registration fee in the envelope that was sent home or drop it off to the school office.

\*\***For K-8 families that are eligible for the in-vicariate rate** (by being registered at a Blue Water Vicariate Parish, supporting the parish with your time, talent, and treasure, and attending Sunday Mass and other days of Holy Obligation), please fill out the top portion of the [Active Parish Verification Form](#) and return it to the school office upon registration.



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**Spring Fever** - SM/MCA Projects



Mrs. Weaver has spring fever and has some school improvement projects she would like help with! If you're in the need of parent hours or just want to help with any of the following projects, please contact Mrs. Weaver or use this [Sign Up Link](#). Thank you!!

- **Painting the sidewalk leading to Preschool** - The vision is for it to say the word PRESCHOOL down the path, stencils could be purchased to make the letters, or if we have any artistic parents that want to decorate the sidewalk with other things (like a sensory path, cardinals, flowers, etc.) along with the word preschool, that would be amazing!
- **Cardinal City** - Last August Mrs. Weaver, Ms. Mary & her family, and Ms. Sue put together Cardinal City by the playground for our Preschool-Kindergarten students. Several playhouses/structures were assembled and set up. This area has been a hit with the little ones but there is still room for improvement. We could use help organizing the storage room next to Cardinal City that houses all the smaller toys they play with (we are in need of a shelving unit donation and storage bins to store the items). We could also use more donations for the city i.e. playhouses, small bikes/tricycles, and other outdoor toys for imaginative play. If someone has a knack for building, we also would love to add a stage for the students to have plays and performances on!
- **Spring Planting** - With last year's title funds we were able to purchase 5 irrigation system planters as well as the potting soil. We are looking for help assembling the 5 planters as well as donations for seeds (preferably quick growing) so that once we have reached warm enough temperatures our classrooms can start planting and tending to the gardens and learn about gardening!
- **Storage Units** - If you like to organize, we also could use help re-organizing several storage units! We are looking for donations of shelving units and totes and/or tubs as well as help organizing and labeling all items. There are sports items, school history, PTO items, decorations for previous events, etc. that could all use re-organizing.



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### Events

Mon. Mar. 25: Cheap Charlie's prepaid lunch; Easter Egg Hunt (weather permitting)

Tues. Mar. 26: **Non Fiction Dress up day**, Jersey Mike's \$ Due

Wed. Mar. 27: **Book Box Parade at 2:45 PM! Parents welcome!**, **Last day to turn in Reading Bingo cards (must complete each task to have a cover all)**, Jersey Mike's prepaid lunch, **No Choir**

Mar. 28 - Apr. 5: **Easter Break/NO SCHOOL**

Mon. Apr. 8: **Classes Resume; NO Cheap Charlie's lunch**

Tues. Apr. 9: Jersey Mike's \$ Due; Track Practice 3:15-4:45 PM

Wed. Apr. 10: Jersey Mike's; Choir practice 9:45-10:45

Thurs. Apr. 11: Mass 8:15 AM; Cheap Charlie's \$ Due; Talent Show Practice 3:15-4:15 PM; Trail Life 6-7:15 PM

Fri. Apr. 12: Free Dress Day; Wellness Walk 7:20-7:40 AM; Track Practice 3:15-4:45 PM

### **Sign up for our School Remind**

Sign up for important updates from the school which include school closings and reminders by picking 1 of the following ways:



1.) If you want to get the mobile app and get push notifications, go to [rmd.at/smmca23-24](https://rmd.at/smmca23-24) and follow the instructions to sign up, you'll be prompted to download the mobile app

2.) If you prefer text notifications, text the message "@smmca23-24" to 81010.



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### Fundraisers

#### Spring Flower Sale

Orders for our Spring Flower Fundraiser are due **April 16th.**

Delivery/Pick-up Day will be May 10th in the gym.

There are various hanging baskets and porch pots that can be purchased ranging from \$15-\$40. Let the office know if you need an additional order form.

#### 10" Hanging Baskets



Geranium Combo \$25.00  
Available in: Red, Pink, and Salmon



New Guinea Impatiens \$25.00 Available  
in: Red, Pink, and Purple,



Rieger Begonia \$25.00 Available in:  
Pink, Red, and Tri Color



Wave Petunia \$25.00  
Available in Assorted Only



Million Bells \$25.00  
Available in Assorted Only



Boston Fern \$25.00

#### Porch Pots



Spring Look



14" Whopper Begonia \$36.00  
Available in Assorted Only

Summer Look



14.5" Geranium Combo \$40.00  
Available in: Red, Pink, and Salmon



10" Geranium \$25.00  
Available in: Red and Pink



10" Rieger Begonia \$25.00 Available  
in: Pink, Red, and Orange

#### Porch Pots-Continued



12" Geranium Combo \$35.00  
Available in: Red, Pink, and Salmon



12" Begonia Shade Combo \$30.00  
Available in Assorted Only



15" Oval Annual Combo \$15.00  
Available in Assorted Only

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### **Parent Hour Opportunities**

**\*\*Please note: To volunteer at our school, you are required to have completed the [Protecting God's Children course](#) OR [take the recertification course if you took Protecting God's Children prior to 2020](#). Please email or call the office for help registering for this free course.\*\***

### **Lunch Help**

There are daily opportunities to help in the lunchroom from 11:15am-12:20pm. Parents will help with warming up food and wiping down the tables after each lunch.

[Link to March Lunch Help Sign Up](#)    [Link to April Lunch Help Sign Up](#)

### **Popcorn Fridays**

Thank you to the volunteers that make this a fun lunch extra for our students!! The students truly look forward to Popcorn Fridays. [Link to sign up to pop, sell, and clean up](#)

Please remember to send in a quarter with your child(ren) to get a bag of popcorn on Fridays!

### **Spring Fever Projects**

Mrs. Weaver has spring fever and has some school improvement projects she could use help with! See page 4 for more information.

### **Talent Show**

Donations are needed for the reception following the talent show as well as volunteers are needed to help set up, serve, and clean up. Please use [this link](#) to sign up to volunteer/donate!



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### **Parent Hour Opportunities (cont.)**

#### **Teacher Appreciation Week Committee**

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 6- May 10th this year. We will be putting together a special week to honor our wonderful teachers and staff at St. Mary/McCormick Catholic Academy.

Sign-Ups will be coming out after Easter Break with food and volunteering. However, if you are interested in being a part of the planning, organization, and coordination of the week, please email Emily Herbert at [ewalker555@gmail.com](mailto:ewalker555@gmail.com) by Wednesday, March 23rd.

#### **Other**

Do you have a talent or special skill set that could help our school? Parent hours can be earned in a variety of ways, not just the specific sign ups that we share. If you have a talent/skill with graphic design, marketing, carpentry, art, sports you can earn parent hours by helping the school! You can host an extracurricular club/sport, or help our school with marketing.

The opportunities are endless!



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### Extracurricular activities

#### **Children's Choir**

Choir is open to our 3rd-8th grade students. Students will rehearse with St. Mary parish music minister, Mrs. Doherty, for an hour each Wednesday, and will sing at most of our Thursday school Masses. The students have done a wonderful job singing at our school Masses!

#### **Trail Life**

Trail Life is every Thursday from 6-7:15 PM in our gym. This is a boys troop that is open to K-12 students. [Link to find our troop and register](#) If you have any questions, please contact Gerry McClelland at 248-431-6722.

#### **Other Extracurriculars**

If any parents are interested in starting another club, please contact Mrs. Weaver. Parents would receive parent hours for leading a club.

Some ideas are:

- Tennis
- Dance team, which could perform at the school talent show
- School newspaper club, which could be featured in newsletters!

SM/MCA would love to offer additional clubs throughout the year!



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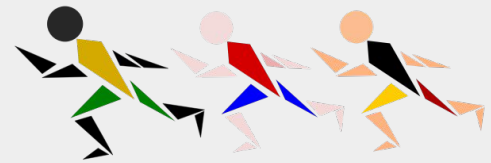
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### Sports/Athletics/Extracurriculars

#### Track

Mr. and Mrs. Nadeau will be coaching Track this year! Practices just started this week. Track meets have been scheduled for April 24, May 1, & May 15. If your child is interested in joining track, please email Mrs. Weaver at [principal@stmarymccormick.com](mailto:principal@stmarymccormick.com).



#### Talent Show

Only 2 more practices before our big show **taking place on April 18th!** If your child is interested in being part of the Talent Show, please let Mrs. Weaver know!

## ST. MARY/MCCORMICK CATHOLIC ACADEMY *April 18th* **TALENT SHOW** *2024*

#### Practices:

March 7, 3:15-4:15

March 21, 3:15-4:15

April 11, 3:15-4:15

**Dress Rehearsal: April 17th, 3:00-4:30**

All students in all grades are welcome to participate. If you did not fill out the interest survey last month, send an email to Mrs. Weaver to let her know what you plan to do. All acts must be approved by Mrs. Weaver.

We will have the students complete a short biography for the program at the first meeting and talk about their ideas for acts.

The next meetings will be rehearsals for the acts but students should be working on them at home as well. We had an epic show last year. We are hoping to make it even better this year.

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### **SM/MCA School Committee**

Each month our school committee meets to discuss various school topics (marketing, tuition, academics, concerns, etc.). The committee is made up of Father Zbig, Mrs. Weaver, a different teacher representative each month, and parent/parish members (listed below). If you have any questions or topics you would like to present to the committee, please contact one of our members below. Thank you!

### **March Meeting Synopsis**

The School Committee members met on Tuesday, March 12th. The committee reviewed ongoing marketing efforts and will reassess them after the enrollment and open house season to gauge their effectiveness. Word of mouth from satisfied existing families continues to be the strongest referral channel.

Possibilities for bussing and after school care options were discussed and will be further explored. Nothing is set in stone currently.

Campus security will be updated over the next several months with the rekeying of all doors, adding key scan ability to additional doors, and updating the walkie talkie and classroom emergency kits.. Mrs. Weaver obtained a \$17,000 grant to continue to enhance security.

Jennie McClelland, Chair - [jenniemcclelland@yahoo.com](mailto:jenniemcclelland@yahoo.com), 810.241.0392

Carrie Nadeau, Vice-Chair - [canadeau74@yahoo.com](mailto:canadeau74@yahoo.com)

Kellen Elliott, Secretary - [kellenelliott@gmail.com](mailto:kellenelliott@gmail.com)

Chantel Lasky - [d\\_lasky@hotmail.com](mailto:d_lasky@hotmail.com)

Mike Schommer - [mikeschommer@gmail.com](mailto:mikeschommer@gmail.com)

Marilyn Netter - [netter@tir.com](mailto:netter@tir.com)

Veronica Campbell - [campbell.veronica.r@gmail.com](mailto:campbell.veronica.r@gmail.com)



# Go Cardinals!